**The United Church of Canada**

**First Dawn Eastern Edge**

**Bay Roberts – Shearstown Community of Faith**

**Central United Church**

**Worship Leader: Mr. Ford Allen**

**Organist: Mr. Clarence Mercer**

**Third Sunday of Easter - April 14th, 2024 @ 11:00 AM**

***\*All Hymns from the Songs of the Gospel***

***The Gathering***

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit:**

***Open our hearts, open our minds.***

***Open our lives to you O loving God.***

***Open our hearts, open our minds.***

***Open our lives to you O loving God,***

***Open our hearts.***

Words and music: Jim and Jean Strathdee

**Call to Worship: (responsive)**

Leader: Come, people of God! Let us offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and lift up His name in the presence of His people.

**Congregation: For God is gracious and merciful, full of compassion and love.**

Leader: While we were still helpless, He came to save us.

**All: Let’s worship God together!**

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn: S of G # 150** “I Will Sing the Wondrous Story”

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**Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon:**

**Leader:** Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts

and fears override our hope and faith.

Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of Your love and

instead fall into despair and gloom.

**Congregation: Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now, not just the hope of resurrection for the future.**

**Leader:** We give thanks for Your Son, Jesus the Christ, who

continues to offer us new life, who continues to turn us around

and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of

death in our own life.

**Congregation: Forgive us, restore us and renew us.**

**All: In the name of our risen Savior, Jesus the Christ, we**

**pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

**ALL: The tomb is empty. The stone is rolled away.**

**There is no darkness now, only light. God continues to**

**renew us and restore us. We are forgiven, loved and restored, receiving the gift and promise of new life and resurrection now. Go and share the wondrous news of God’s love in Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Children’s Moment**

**Hymn: S of G # 132** “I’ll be a Sunbeam”

**Hymn: S of G # 179** “More About Jesus”

***The Word of God***

**Scriptures:**

Acts 3: 12 - 19

Responsive Psalm # 4 (VU Page 727)

1 John 3: 1 – 7

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**Anthem: “Come and Be King”,** Lyrics and Music by Jack Williams Hayford

**Gospel:**

Luke 24: 36 - 48

**Message: ‘**You are Witnesses’

**Hymn: S of G # 123** “Jesus Is All the World to Me”

**Prayers of Intersession:**

Leader: Lord, hear our prayer;

**Congregation: And let our cry come unto Thee.**

**Hymn: S of G # 169** “Only Trust Him”

**Offertory and Doxology:**

***Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.***

***Praise Him, all creatures here below.***

***Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.***

***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**Offertory Prayer**

**Minute for Mission:** Supporting a Rights-Based Approach to Growing Food

***Sending Forth***

**Hymn: S of G # 129** “Jesus Loves Even Me”

**Benediction**

**Musical Postlude**

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**PASTORAL CHARGE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DEADLINE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

If you want an announcement printed in the bulletin, it must be received by Wednesday evening. Any announcements received after this time may not be published. Thank you for your understanding.

**SCENT FREE POLICY:**

Due to allergies of some of our parishioners, we ask that everyone refrain from using scented products when attending worship, we thank you for your cooperation with this sensitive matter.

**HELPING HAND:**

The first Sunday of every month is designated as Food Bank Sunday. Please bring along a non-perishable food item. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**COMMUNION NOTE:**

For those unable to attend church for any reason, Session elders can offer home communion in 2024. If you would be interested in receiving communion at home, please speak to a church elder or contact the church office to initiate a visit. More details to follow.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

If you want to have a person's name mentioned in our prayers of intercession, because of illness or other need, please contact Michelle at the office 786-3178 or mention it to the minister

before the service. If you are making a prayer request on behalf of someone else, please make sure you have their consent.

**CENTRAL CE CENTER:**

For bookings or use of the CE center at Central (hall / building) please contact Ashley Bishop @ ashleylewis746@hotmail.com or by phone at 709 788-2156.

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

We are looking for volunteers, or to form a volunteer list that can help with the breakfast program at Amalgamated Academy, as a community outreach project coordinated by Ashley & Sheldon Bishop. Dates will be communicated as soon as we have them. To volunteer with this event, please contact Ashley Bishop at 709-788-2156 or email: ashleylewis746@hotmail.com

**CENTRAL CIRCLE OF FRIENDS:**

**Circle of Friends is hosting Floor Curling at the C.E. Centre on Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.** Refreshments to follow. This event is open to all ladies on the pastoral charge. FloorCurl equipment has been specially designed to allow participants of all abilities to play. Pusher sticks allow anyone who cannot bend to floor level or with limited mobility to play the game. We are inviting participants to bring along an item for O'Shaughnessy House in Carbonear. Presently, they are in need of face cloths, towels and pillows. O'Shaughnessy House provides shelter for women and their children experiencing domestic violence or abuse. We hope to see you there!

**TRINITY:**

**Trinity United Church, Shearstown is having a Roast Beef Dinner & Dessert on Tuesday, April 30th.** Take Outs available from 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Dine in at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are $15.00 each and available from any Board member or call 709-786-1858 or 709 786-2490. Thank you for your support!

***\*Next Worship Service April 21st @ 11:00 a.m. at Trinity United, Shearstown. All are welcome😊.***

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**MEMORIAL DONATION:**

*In Memory of* **Audrey Sparkes,** with love from Ardith’s Family

(Audrey’s sister).



**A Five Week Study on “The Christian Sacraments”, led by Dr. Gary Badcock will begin on Wednesday April 17th, alternating between Trinity and Central (7:30 - 8:45 p.m.).**

**This first session will be at Trinity, commencing at 7.30 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend one, two or all of the sessions.  We hope to see you there!**

*Week 1: What is a sacrament?
Week 2: The meaning of baptism.
Week 3: Baptism is for the whole of life, not just its beginning.
Week 4: The Lord’s Supper as sum of the gospel.
Week 5: The real presence of Christ.*