



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
SCOTIA

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SCOTIA

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17th, 2026

Bold invites you to join in the reading.

* invites you to rise in body or spirit, as you are able.

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Be Not Afraid

*Bob Dufford (b.1943)
acc. Theophane Hytrek*

Welcome & Announcements

Votum

* Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 93

The Lord reigns - robed in majesty and armed with strength!

God has established the world; it shall never be moved!

The Lord's throne was established long ago; God is from all eternity!

God has established the world; it shall never be moved!

The seas have lifted up their voice!

God has established the world; it shall never be moved!

More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea!

Majestic on high is the Lord!

God's decrees are very sure - holiness befits the house of the Lord now and forevermore! Let us worship God!

* Hymn No. 280

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Lord, we confess our prejudice. We know that we have judged people based on appearance and stereotypes.

Change our hearts, we pray. Let us love and accept both the young and the old, both men and women, both black and white, both rich and poor. Help us respect all people as the beloved children of God that they are. Call us to greater things as we reject hatred and fear.

~ Silent Personal Confession ~

O Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Summary of the Law

Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you!

And also, with you! (Please greet those around you)

Call to Gratitude

Offering

Offertory - 8:00

Down to the River to Pray *keyboard acc. by Scot Crandal*
American Folk Song "The Good Old Way"

- 10:00

Crown Him The Lord Of Life!

by Lloyd Larson

*Crown Him the Lord of life! Crown Him the Lord of life!
Christ triumphant over the grave and rose victorious for those He came to save.
Crown Him the Lord of life! Crown Him the Lord of life!
The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From sin's dominion free,
Our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth its songs begin,
The world resound in triumph, and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.
Crown Him the Lord of life! Crown Him the Lord of life!
Then praise we God the Father, and praise we Christ the Son,
With them the Holy Spirit, Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number fall down before the throne,
And honor, power and glory ascribe to God alone!
Crown Him the Lord of life! Crown Him the Lord of life!
Crown the risen King the Lord of life!*

Response

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

- Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant
- Welcome

By the Holy Spirit we who believe and are baptized receive a ministry to witness to Jesus as Savior and Lord, and to love and serve those with whom we live and work. We are ambassadors for Christ, who reconciles and makes whole. We are the salt of the earth; we are the light of the world.

Welcome brothers and sisters in Christ. We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God, And in bearing God's creative and redeeming Word to all the world!

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Come from east and west! From north and south, come! This is the table of the Lord! Come every race and people! All who seek Christ are welcomed and received in love. Come and be fed by the loving hand of God!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Truly it is very good and right to always give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You make us in your image and call us each by name. And so, with all creatures on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you. And blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, who by his baptism of death and by his resurrection gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and evil, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations.

In remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer to you our very selves in praise and gratitude, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's sacrifice for us. And so, let us proclaim the great mystery of faith:

Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

O Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon this sacred fellowship, upon this feast of love. By your Spirit unite us with Christ, so that through him we might be born anew. Therefore, in thanksgiving, we lift our voices united as a saved people using the prayer Jesus taught us, saying...

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

We give you thanks that, on the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

“This is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me.”

~ Receive the Bread and Cup ~

Voluntary

Let us go to the Altar

Dan Schutte (b.1947)

O God, You Search Me

Bernadette Farrell (b.1957)

~ Partake in the Feast ~

Prayer After Communion

O Creator, we give you thanks for this holy feast, in which we remember Christ's saving death and resurrection – in which we experience Christ himself. We remember your greatest gift of love embodied by Jesus Christ and we rejoice. May your Spirit renew us and transform us for your service. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We are Sent Out to Serve God

* Hymn No. 525

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

* Charge & Benediction

Postlude Festive Voluntary on “Crown Him with Many Crowns” *Phil Lehenbauer*
“DIADEMATA” *by George J. Elvey*



Worship Leadership at 8:00am

Preaching: Rev. McCloskey
Pianist: Michael Linke

Worship Leadership at 10:00am

Preaching: Rev. McCloskey
Organist: Michael Linke
Choir Director: Diana Ackner
Accompanist: Iida Nyman
Liturgists: Rylan Beauchemin &
Ryan Makrin
Ushers: Bob & Barb King, Russ Garrison

Copyright Information:

Lloyd Larson; “Crown Him The Lord Of Life!”; ©1997 Alfred Publishing Co.
Bob Dufford; “Be Not Afraid” Acc. Theophane Hytrek ©1975, 1978 Robert Dufford SJ and OCP
American Folk Song “The Good Old Way” attr. To George H Allan; Down to the River to Pray;
Keyboard acc. By Scot Crandal: ©2015 OCP
Dan Schutte; Let us go to the Altar ©1997 Daniel L. Schutte, Published by OCP
Bernadette Farrell; O God, You Search Me ©1992 Bernadette Farrell, Published by OCP
Phil Lehenbauer; Festive Voluntary on “Crown Him with Many Crowns “DIADEMATA” by
George J. Elvey; ©2026 Lehenbauer
Reprinted & Streamed with permission under One License #700695-A. All rights reserved.



Announcements:

Our Life in Worship

WELCOME! We are so glad that you have joined us this morning to worship God! We strive to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people who seek to follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ in all that we do. You are encouraged to introduce yourself to the pastor and to those around you.

IF YOU ARE VISITING US FOR THE FIRST TIME - We encourage you to fill out a visitor card which you can find in each pew with the offering envelopes. Once completed these can be given to an usher so we can contact you. If you would rather, there is also a QR Code on the narthex bulletin board, which will allow you to digitally submit to us the same information. We also have a welcome bag for you, please speak to an usher to receive one.

LISTENING DEVICES & LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS - are available for those who need them. Speak to an usher if you would like to try one.

RESTROOMS - There is one restroom just off the narthex. Other bathrooms are through the door on the right-hand side of the sanctuary then to the left or down the long hall to the right.

FLOWERS - in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Norma Hamm in honor of her mother Ruth “Lefty” Wilson.

FAITH FORMATION - Will **NOT** meet today. Youth are asked to stay in worship for communion and confirmation.

NURSERY CARE - Nursery care for children, infant through 4 years old, is available every Sunday from 9:30am to 11:30am. The nursery is located in the first room on the right as you exit the sanctuary down the education wing. Parents are welcome to stay in the nursery with their little one(s) if they would like. We ask that a parent stay with babies younger than six months old.

CONFIRMATION & CELEBRATION - *TODAY*, Sunday, May 17th, at the 10am service we will welcome Rylin Beauchemin, Annabella Brunette and Ryan Makrin as members of the church. Following the 10am service we will have a special celebration in Brink Hall.

Our Life in Community

PASTOR CHRISTOPHER'S OFFICE HOURS - Rev. McCloskey will be available in his office this Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00-4:00pm for anyone who would like to drop by. If you would like to schedule an appointment with him outside of this time please email him at pastorchristopher@firstreformedscotia.org. For pastoral emergencies, please call his cell at (203) 430-1990.

THE CHURCH OFFICE - will be open this week from 9am-1pm Monday through Friday.

RENEW BIBLE STUDY - The group will be reading The Upper Room, a devotional booklet available for free at church. There are daily readings, suggested scriptures and a discussion guide to assist our discussion. The group meets Tuesdays at 12 noon via Zoom. For questions and a Zoom link, contact Sunny Baldwin, at 518-320-4562 or csunnyb53@gmail.com

BIBLE STUDY - Led by Miss Diana: “Christianity and World Religions” Tuesdays at 6:30pm from April 14th - May 19th. Please let us know if you wish to join us so that we can order a book for you.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES - In next month's issue of *The Messenger* we want to publish the names of everyone in our church who graduates this spring from high school, college, graduate school, and trade school programs. Please help us make sure we don't miss anyone. Email the church office, (office@firstreformedscotia.org) **by May 20** and tell us the name of your graduate, the school issuing the diploma or certificate, and what the graduate's future plans are. Thanks for your help!

Our Life in Service

MISSION OF THE MONTH: RCA Global Mission exists to strengthen and grow the global church by supporting ministries of compassion, developing leaders, and sharing the good news. Through RCA Global Missions, this congregation specifically supports JJ Tenclay and Felipe & Janelle de Waard-Silva.

This congregation annually purchases a Partnership-in-Ministry 'share' with half going to JJ and the other half de Waard-Silvas. A Partnership in Ministry share is currently \$7,000. Your contribution to the Mission of the Month in May will go towards covering this commitment. Thank you!

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD UPDATE How wonderful it is to see so many people helping to restock the Community Cupboard! We are happy that more of us are experiencing the joy of placing food items in the cupboard to help lift others in our community! Grocery and personal care items as well as monetary donations are always welcome. If you have questions, please see Cindy Taft or Karen Wentworth.

FOOD OF THE MONTH: Meals - Ready-to-eat cans or pouches, Rice - microwaveable pouch varieties, and Granola Bars.

This Week's Calendar

SUN, May 17	8:00 & 10:00am	Worship Service in the Sanctuary
	9:00am	Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Brink Hall
	9:30am	Choir Assembles, Sanctuary
	11:15am	Confirmation Celebration, Brink Hall
MON, May 18	7:00pm	Consistory Meeting, Library
TUES, May 19	12:00pm	Renew Bible Study, Zoom
	6:30pm	Bible Study, Diana's Classroom
WED, May 20	9:00am	Backpack Packing, Brink Hall
	7:00pm	Building & Grounds Council, Church Office
THURS, May 21	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
SAT, May 23	10am-4pm	Open The House, Camp Fowler
SUN, May 24	8:00 & 10:00am	Pentecost Worship Service in the Sanctuary
	9:00 & 11:15am	Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Brink Hall
	9:30am	Choir Assembles, Choir Room