



# A Good Friday Liturgy & The Seven Last Words of Christ

March 28, 2024 • 10:00am • 10:30am  
Christ Church, Dartmouth

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*Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted. Hymn books are at the back of the church if you wish to use (Blue Common Praise, 1998)*

## The Celebration of the Lord's Passion and The Seven Last Words of Christ

Opening Hymn: *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery* CP 179

Tree of Life and awesome mystery,  
in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of history,  
still you rise with every morn,  
still you rise with every morn.

Seed that dies to rise in glory,  
may we see ourselves in you;  
if we learn to live your story  
we may die to rise anew,  
we may die to rise anew.

We remember truth once spoken,  
love passed on through act and word;  
every person lost and broken  
wears the body of our Lord,  
wears the body of our Lord.



Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,  
come inflame our hearts anew.  
We may all your joy inherit  
if we bear the cross with you,  
if we bear the cross with you.

Christ, you lead and we shall follow,  
stumbling though our steps may be;  
one with you in joy and sorrow,  
we the river, you the sea,  
we the river, you the sea.  
Hold us close through each tomorrow,  
Love as near as ev'ry breath

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## **The Ministry of the Word**

*When the congregation has assembled and the ministers, having entered in silence, are in their places, all shall stand.*

*Celebrant* All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned every one to their own way,

*People* **And the Lord has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.**

*Celebrant* Christ the Lord became obedient unto death,

*People* **Even death on a cross.**

## THE COLLECT

*Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family,  
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed,  
to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross;  
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,*

one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**PSALM 22** Response (R) is: **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

**My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I find no rest.**

Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**Our ancestors put their trust in you, they trusted, and you rescued them. R**

They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

**But as for me, I am a worm and not human, scorned by all and despised by the people.**

All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips; they shake their heads.

**“Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver; let God rescue him if God so delights in him.” R**

Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb, and kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

**I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.**

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

**Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me. R**

They open wide their jaws at me, like a slashing and roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death.

**Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me; they pierce my hands and my feet. R**

I can count all my bones while they stare at me and gloat.

**They divide my garments among them; for my clothing, they cast lots.**

But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

**Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.**

Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

**I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you. R**

You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations. R**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

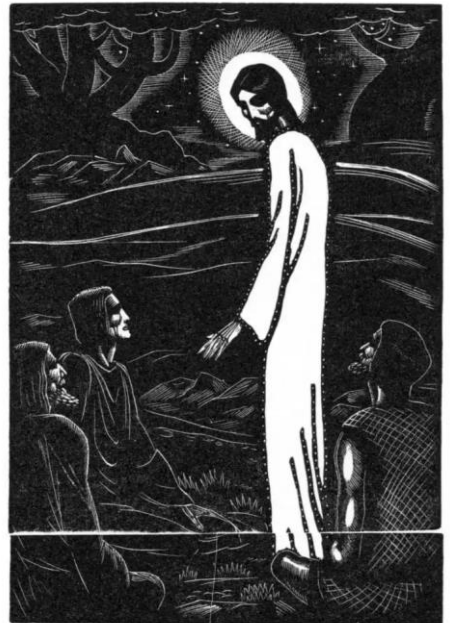
They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!" **R**

Hymn: *O Sacred Head, Surrounded* CP 198

O sacred head, surrounded by crown of piercing thorn;

O royal head so wounded, reviled, and put to scorn,  
Death's shadows rise before you, the glow of life decays,  
Yet angel hosts adore you and tremble as they gaze!

Your youthfulness and vigour are spent, your strength is gone,  
And in your tortured figure I see death drawing on:



What agony of dying, what love, to sinners free!  
My Lord, all grace supplying, O turn your face on me!  
Your sinless soul's oppression was all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression, but yours the deadly pain:  
I bow my head, my Saviour, for I deserve your place;  
O grant to me your favour, and heal me by your grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest friend,  
For this your dying sorrow, your mercy without end?  
Lord, make me yours forever: your servant let me be,  
And may I never, never betray your love for me.

## BIDDING PRAYERS

Let us pray dear friends, for the holy church throughout the world.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have shown your glory to all  
nations in Jesus Christ.  
By your Holy Spirit guide the church  
and gather it throughout the world.  
Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim  
your name,  
and bring the good news in Christ to  
all people.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



Let us pray for *Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury, Archbishop Linda Nichols our Primate, Archbishop David Edwards Metropolitan*, our diocesan bishop *Sandra*, For Fr. Kyle our Rector, for The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke (Honourary Assistant and Theologian-in-Residence) and all servants of the church, our Parish Administrator John Gallant, our Wardens, Barbara Hart, John MacDonald, Dwight Corbin, members of our Parish Council, our Lay Licensed Ministers Gail Teixeira and Vanessa Turner, our Music and Choir Director Tessa Short and accompanist Joey Dowell, our food bank volunteers, our Pastoral Ministry Committee, for members of the Dartmouth Community Fridge, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.  
Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors,  
other ministers, and lay leaders.  
Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church,  
and help each of us in our various vocations  
to do faithfully the work to which you have called us.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism...

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church.  
Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity.

Look with favor upon the whole world and all who follow Jesus your Son.

Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith,

and keep us united in the fellowship of love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.



*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names.

Bring an end to inter-religious strife throughout the world, particularly at this time in Israel, Gaza, the Middle East, Ukraine, and Haiti

and make us more faithful witnesses

of the love made known to us in your Son.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity

so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.

Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace

in the world and in the lives of all people,



and lets us joyfully acknowledge you as our God.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the creator of a magnificent universe.  
Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care  
and bring all things to fulfillment in you.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them: for Charles our King and all the Royal Family, for Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, and for the government of this country. For Tim Houston the premier of this province of Nova Scotia, and the members of the legislature. In our districts Susan Leblanc MLA for Dartmouth-North, Claudia Chender, Leader and MLA for Dartmouth-South, for Darren Fisher MP for Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, for Mike Savage the mayor of this municipality and those who serve with him on the council including Sam Austin, for all who serve the common good, that by God's help they may seek justice and truth and live in peace and concord.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the champion of the poor and oppressed.  
In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority,  
so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom,  
and a share in the goodness of your creation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those in need.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you give strength to the weary  
and new courage to those who have lost heart.  
Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,  
free those unjustly deprived of liberty,  
and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.  
Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble,  
that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

*All pray the Lord's Prayer.*

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.



Hymn: Were you There

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

## MEDITATION ON THE CROSS

*A large cross is before the assembly. The assembly stands and faces when invited.*

*Minister* Behold the life-giving cross,  
on which was hung the  
Savior of the whole world.

*People* **Oh, come, let us worship  
him.**

*Minister* Behold the life-giving cross,  
on which was hung the  
Savior of the whole world.

*People* **Oh, come, let us worship  
him.**

*Minister* Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

*People* **Oh, come, let us worship him.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

*Minister* O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People* **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**



*Minister*      O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way; I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*            **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*      O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire, but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate; I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*            **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*      O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit; I made you branches of the vine and never left your side, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*            **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*      O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink; I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*            **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*      O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of

thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*           **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*        O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*           **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*        O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear; I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*           **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*        O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross; I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*           **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*        O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I grafted you into my people Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*           **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*Minister*        O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People*         **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*After a brief silence, the presiding minister continues.*

*Minister*        We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

*People*         **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*During this time, worshipers may come to the large cross to make a sign of reverence. Reverencing the cross may include actions such as pausing before the cross, bowing, kneeling before it for prayer, or touching it.*



## The Seven Last Words of Christ begins at 10:30am

*Introduction: The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner, Rector*

*The Seven Last Words of Christ* provide us with framework for devotion and reflection. What we call “The Seven Last Words” of Jesus are based on the final seven phrases drawn from the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John that record what Jesus said before his death.

Our theme this year is compassion. Compassion literally means “to suffer together.” Compassion can be defined as the feeling that arises when one is confronted with another’s suffering and feels motivated to relieve that suffering.

There is an old saying that you can’t have Easter without Good Friday. Many people today express the desire to have an open heart, a loving heart, a compassionate heart. Good Friday gives us an opportunity to ask ourselves “how well do you open your heart?” Usually, hearts are broken open. Jesus on the cross breaks your heart. He breaks it open. You cannot experience the crucifixion without having an experience of compassion. Only a heart broken open – one that can have compassion for those who suffer – can truly appreciate the new life represented by Easter.

On this Good Friday, we recognise the Passion of Christ, and the compassion we have for him and for one another.





*Ubi caritas et amor* (CP 553), a hymn of trust from the Taizé Community of France is sung between each reflection.

*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

**Doubt** “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” - Matthew 27.46.  
Samuel Landry

Prayer:

How long, O LORD?  
Will you forget me for ever?  
How long will you hide from me?  
How long must I bear pain in my soul,  
and have sorrow in my heart? All day long?  
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?  
Answer me, O LORD, my God!  
Let me understand  
I trust in your steadfast love;  
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.  
(Based on Psalm 13)

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*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

**Faith** “Into your hands I commend my spirit” - Luke 23.46 Shawn LePage

Prayer:

God,

Teach us your ways.

Teach us not to grasp so tightly to the things we think are important  
but to cling to what you hold dear.

Teach us to release our plans and thoughts and things to you.

Teach us to follow your pathways.

For you know the plans you have for us, plans to give hope and a future.

Amen.

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*Ubi caritas et amor,*

*Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

**Live in charity and steadfast love;**

**Live in charity, God will dwell with you.**

**Forgiveness** “Father forgive them; for they know not what they do” - Luke 23.34

John MacDonald

Prayer:

God, of grace,

generous in love,

filled with mercy,

I am aware of my sins;

erase them and wash away my guilt.

And God, start in me a new way. Amen

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*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

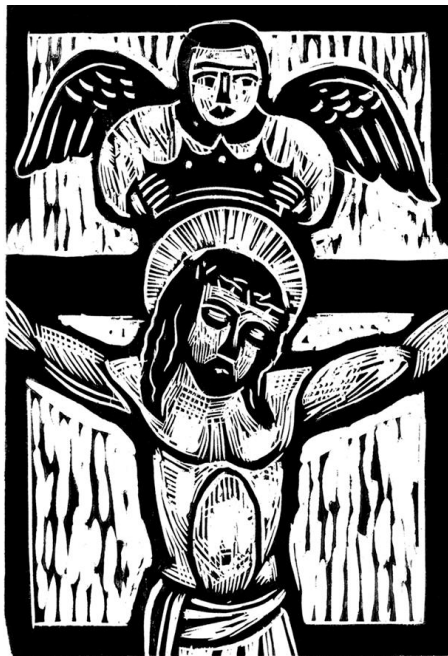
Need "I thirst" - John 19.28. Susan Leblanc

Meditation (a poem written from the perspective of the Trinity)

Incarnation

We tried in so many ways  
To communicate our love.  
If communication is not  
What you say but  
What people hear,  
Then what we said  
Was warped and wrenched  
Into distancing prescriptions  
That had no heart.

You asked for food.  
We sent manna.  
You asked for drink.  
Water flowed from the rock.  
You asked for directions.  
Moses brought the law.  
And on and on.  
Still you grew  
More distant,  
More deaf,  
More blind.  
Memories dulled.



Speech slurred.  
Dreams dissolved  
Into wander dust.

And so we did  
What families do  
When confronted with calamity.  
We drew straws.  
Shorty lost.  
He came to share  
Your plight,  
Your fight,  
Your night,  
And point you  
Toward tomorrow.  
(Michael Moynihan, SJ)

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*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

**Love: The bonds of family, friends and community** “He said to his mother: ‘Woman, behold your son’ then he said to the Disciple: ‘Behold your mother’.”  
John 26.27.           Dwight Corbin

Prayer:  
Sing to God,  
sing in praise of God’s name,  
extol the One who rides on the clouds;

rejoice before God—his name is the LORD.

A father to the fatherless,

a defender of widows,

God dwells in holiness.

God sets the lonely in families.

God gives strength to the people;

Blessed be the name of God.

Amen

(Based on Psalm 68)

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*Ubi caritas et amor,*

*Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

**Live in charity and steadfast love;**

**Live in charity, God will dwell with you.**

**Fulfillment** “It is finished” - John 19.30 Jo-Ann MacNeil

Prayer:

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything

To reach the end without delay.

We would like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something

Unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress

That it is made by passing through some stages of instability—

And that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you;

Your ideas mature gradually—let them grow,

Let them shape themselves, without undue haste.  
Don't try to force them on,  
As though you could be today what time  
(That is to say, grace and circumstances  
Acting on your own good will)  
Will make you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit  
Gradually forming within you will be.  
Give our Lord the benefit of believing  
That his hand is leading you,  
And accept the anxiety of feeling yourself  
In suspense and incomplete.  
(*Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ*)

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*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

**Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.**

**Grief** “Surely he was the Son of God!” – Matthew 27:54

Cynthia Manley

Prayer:

Let our mourning be:  
For the earth that is blasted and burned.  
For the olive trees that are bare and for the vines that do not bear fruit.  
For the children who are lost and for the parents whose arms are empty.  
For those who seek refuge and do not find peace.  
Jesus said, “Stay with me. Watch and Pray.”

Let our mourning be:  
Like an ocean that cannot be emptied.  
Like a river that cannot be stopped.  
Like the strong summer rain that puts an end to drought.  
Jesus said, "Share my baptism. Drink my cup."

Amen

*(From Liturgies from Below, 15 216)*

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*Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*

Live in charity and steadfast love;  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

*We leave the church in silence.*



## Directory of Parish Officers of Christ Church

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### Rector

The Rev. Dr. Kyle Wagner, BA, MDiv, DMin

### Parish Administrator

John Gallant, BA

### Music Leadership

Tessa Short BMus, MMus, Joey Dowell, BMus

### Sexton

Mark Murphy

### Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke  
(Theologian in Residence)

The. Rev. Canon David Greenwood

### Divinity Student

Samuel Landry

### Lay Licensed Ministers

Vanessa Turner, Gail Teixeira

### Wardens

Barbara Hart, John MacDonald, Dwight Corbin

### Altar Guild

Marg Seaman

### Chair of Finance

John MacDonald

### Parish Contacts:

**Office Phone:** (902) 466-4270

### **Email:**

christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.c  
om

### **Web:**

www.christchurchdartmouth.com

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday–9am–  
4pm\*

Tuesday–Thursday 1pm–5pm\*

\*Please call as hours may vary

**Church Hall:** 61 Dundas Street

**Postal:** 61 Dundas Street,  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia,  
B2Y 4H5



**CHRIST CHURCH, DARTMOUTH**

A People United in Justice and Love