

**Covenanting Service**  
**Mountain View Pastoral charge**  
**and the**  
**Reverend Jacob Shaw**  
**and the**  
**Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region**  
**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

*\* Please stand as you are able*

**Chair of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region:**  
**Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson**  
**Speaker: Danny Compton**

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**We begin with God**

**Gathering Music/Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Danny Compton**

We joyfully gather to mark a new ministry relationship in the St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region between Reverend Jacob Shaw and Mountain View United Church. We welcome guests who are a part of our wider community. Today we commit to and celebrate how we are the church together.

## **Opening Prayer**

**Loving God, we ask this day for your guidance as you have called us into this ministry as we follow the pathways that you set down for us. We pray that the ministry of this pastoral charge will be strengthened and nurtured by your life-giving Spirit. May this time fill us with gratitude and hope. All glory and honor is yours. Amen.**

## ***Lighting of the Christ Candle***

**\*Hymn    Come and Find the Quiet Centre                    VU#374**

**1    Come and find the quiet centre  
          in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
          find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter,  
          clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
          be at peace, and simply be.**

**2    Silence is a friend who claims us,  
          cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
          knows our being, face to face,  
making space within our thinking,  
          lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
          finding scope for faith begun.**

**3 In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare!**

**The Word**

**Genesis 28: 10-22 read by Ken Draper**

**Romans 12:9-18 read by Danny Compton**

**Reflection “The Frustrated Idealist” Danny Compton**

**\*Hymn I Have Called You by Your Name MV#161**

**I have called you by your name, you are mine;**

**I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.**

**I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.**

**You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.**

**I will help you learn my name as you go;**

**Read it written in my people, help them grow.**

**Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul  
can claim, offer Jesus' body given long ago.**

**I know you will need my touch as you go;  
Feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.  
Like the woman reaching out,  
choosing faith in spite of doubt,  
Hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.**

**I have given you a name, it is mine;  
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.  
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded  
children whole;  
Go and tell my precious people they are mine.**

### *Covenanting Action*

#### **Presentation of New Minister**

**Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson**

#### **Statement of this New Ministry**

**Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson**

*(Rev. Jacob Shaw comes forward)*

We are here to join into a covenantal relationship with God and between Rev. Jacob Shaw, Mountain View United Church community of faith, and the wider United Church as represented by Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council. Although God's covenant with us never changes, our covenants with one another evolve as we seek ways to faithfully deepen our commitment to Jesus and live into our call to embody God's love in the world.

## **Search Committee      Ken Draper**

After prayerful discernment, and the approval of Mountain View United Church community of faith, we present Rev. Jacob Shaw who has been called to a ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care. We believe that his skills and talents complement our faithful witness, ministry needs, and community context.

### **.Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson:**

Rev. Shaw, you are here in response to the call of Mountain View United Church community of faith and Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council. We come together to mark this new relationship within our regional council for the sake of our shared ministry.

Rev. Shaw, you are about to undertake the ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in this place. You, the members of this faith, are called to join Rev. Shaw in worship, study, prayer and action. We, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council, will be responsible for supporting this ministry. Let us pray for God's grace as we covenant together.

### **Promises of the New Minister      Rev. Dr. Elizabeth**

**Stevenson** Reverend Shaw, do you, in the presence of this community of faith,                      take on the new trust and responsibility of ministering with Mountain View United Church?

**I do.**

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Will you accept the guidance of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council and, together with its other members, be responsible for the health of the Mountain View United Church community of faith?

**I will.**

Will you share in the ministry goals and faith story of this community of faith? **I will.**

Will you accept the support and encouragement of this community of faith and this regional council?

**I will.**

Will you work cooperatively with the wider church and wider community to embody God's love in the world?

**I will.**

**Promises of the Pastoral Charge –**

**Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson**

Will you join with The Reverend Jacob Shaw in the ministry of this pastoral charge and the wider church?

**We will.**

Will you support him as he serves among you in this ministry?

**We will.**

## **Promises of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region**

Will you, as members of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region, join with Reverend Jacob Shaw and Mountain View Pastoral Charge in the ministry that is both theirs and ours?

**We will.**

Will you exercise oversight for their work and witness, and support and encourage them in this ministry?

**We will.**

**\*Hymn      Be Thou My Vision      VU#642**

- 1    Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;  
naught be all else to me save that thou art,  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.**
  
- 2    Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;  
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;  
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.**
  
- 3    Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight  
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.**

- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.**

**Presentation of Symbols**

**Bible - Hal Mullin**

Take this Bible. Be with us as one who teaches and proclaims the Word.

**All: Amen.**

**Water - Regina Cote**

Be among us as one who baptizes and welcomes all in the name of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

**Towel, Basin: - Donna Love-Melanson**

Be among us as one who leads by example, and who reminds us of the servant hood of Jesus, that we in turn might be servants to others.

**All: Amen**



## **Bread and Wine - Mary Hebert**

Be among us as one who breaks the bread and pours the cup and invites us to the table.

**All: Amen.**

### **Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson:**

Rev. Shaw and members of the Mountain View Pastoral Charge, these are signs of the ministry that is yours and ours in this place.

**All: Amen.**

### **\*Hymn I See a New Heaven**

**VU#713**

**I see a new heaven.**

**I see a new earth**

**as the old one will pass away,**

**where the fountain of life flows**

**and without price goes**

**to all people who abide in the land.**

**1 There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,  
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,  
the Tree of Life will be. R**

**2 There, there where death dies and our  
lives are born again,  
body and soul, struggling but whole  
like flowers after the rain. R**

- 3 There, there where the darkness brings  
visions from above.  
There where the night, bearing new light,  
reveals the promise of love. R**
- 4 There, there where we work with the  
love of healing hands.  
Labour we must, true to our trust  
to build a promised new land. R**

### **New Minister's Prayer**

*Response to Covenant*      *Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson*

Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made.

### **Thanks to the Search Committee**

**Hal Mullin**

**\*Offertory Hymn What Can I Do?      MV#191**

**What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

**\*Offertory Prayer (unison)**

**We give thanks O God, that we are privileged to be able  
to make an offering. May these gifts be a symbol of our  
gratitude to You. May we have the courage to live our  
lives to the fullest, always listening for your voice and  
direction. Amen.**

**\*A New Creed**

**VU Pg.918**

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others  
by the Spirit. We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's  
presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and  
serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim  
Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**\*Communion Hymn We Are One Vss 1-3 VU#402**

**1 We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.**

- 2 We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.**
- 3 We are one as we feast,  
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;  
in the bread and the wine  
there's a sense of love divine.  
We are one as we come,  
as we feed, we are fed;  
and we feel God's refreshing grace  
as we meet at table in this place.**

### **Celebration of Communion**

#### **The Sacrament of Communion**

##### **Invitation**

Go out into the streets and lanes,  
**bring in the poor, the blind, and the lame.**  
Go out into the roads and alleyways,  
**compel people to come in,**  
that my house may be filled.  
**and my feast may be complete.**

*Luke 14:21-24*

## **Call to Give Thanks**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Thanksgiving**

It is indeed right that we should praise you,  
gracious God, for you created all things.

You formed us in your own image:  
male and female you created us.

When we turned away from you in sin,  
you did not cease to care for us,  
but opened a path of salvation for all people.

You made a covenant with Israel,  
and through your servants Abraham and Sarah  
gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.

Through Moses you led your people  
from bondage into freedom;  
through the prophets you renewed  
your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints  
who have served you in every age,  
we give you thanks and raise our voices  
to proclaim the glory of your name.

## **Song of Creation**

**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.**

## **Remembering Jesus at Table**

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your child Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the Mother and Father of us all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the Good News of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will. On the night he was betrayed our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. And said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and after giving thanks, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

## **Prayer of Self-Giving**

Gracious God, by the death of your child you have destroyed the power of death, and by raising him to life you have given us life for evermore. Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

## **Affirmation of Memory and Hope**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## **Prayer of Transformation**

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, O God, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body, one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## **Concluding Praise**

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

With Jesus, we pray together, saying:

## **Breaking of the Bread and filling of the Cup**

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

## **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God**

## **Prayer after Communion**

**We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.**

**Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

**\*Communion Hymn    We Are One    Vs 4    VU#402**

**4    We are one as we hear,  
          as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive  
          there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave,  
          as we love, we are loved;  
and we seek justice in God's ways  
          as we move together from this place.**



*\*Blessing and Sending Forth*

**VU#963**

May the grace of Christ attend us, and the love of God surround us, and the Holy Spirit keep us, now and forever. Amen.

*Postlude*      † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

You are invited to a time of fellowship and refreshments downstairs in the Boardroom following the service.

Thank you to all who participated in this service and all those who helped in the preparations.

