



# St. Margaret of Scotland Anglican Church

Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

3751 Robie St. Halifax, Nova Scotia B3K 4T3

The Rev. Marian Conrad Priest-in-charge

*Open minds and Loving hearts*

Dear friends in Christ:

Blessings to each one of you. We can all appreciate the challenges we face as a community. We can maintain some perspective by focusing on the blessing of our shared life as a faithful congregation. Once again we are dealing with some COVID-19 restrictions in terms of our worship services. We are playing our part in minimizing community spread. Let us be thankful for our contribution to the common good of our broader community. This Advent let us listen to a bit more music, read or watch inspirational works and maintain some quiet and prayer.

Also, tune in to our Sunday worship at 9:30. We are blessed in our music ministry, our Wardens, our readers, those who tape our services and our Lay Ministers. We will continue to offer Morning Prayer on Sunday mornings on Facebook at St. Margaret of Scotland Anglican Church. Worship bulletins will continue to be posted on our website.

Special thanks to our Altar Guild who have put our blue altar hangings up. They are beautiful and so represent an early tradition in our church. Blue hangings in our church remind us that the Season of Lent and the Season of Advent give us different spiritual gifts. We have purple hangings for repentance in Lent and blue hangings for hope in Advent. Blue is often the sign of hope. Shades of blue remind us of night before dawn, the waters of creation, the images of Mary clothed in blue. Blue often represents open space and big skies.

Many of us are keenly aware of the challenges before us and we can take some time to give thanks for the gift of music even if it only distracts us for awhile. Willie Nelson wrote a song called Blue Skies. "Blue skies smilin' at me. Nothing' but blue skies do I see. Bluebirds singin' a song. Nothin' but blue skies from now on." It may be that listening to joyful music does not change our situation but gives us some moments of peace in the midst of it.

Blue is also a color of sadness. We have often used the phrase, "just a little blue". We hold in our prayers those who are grieving this Advent Season. We have had two parish families grieving the loss of a loved one. Let us keep Norma Pompa and her family and George and Dorothy Isaacs and their family in our thoughts and prayers.

Please know that we will have office hours as usual and that we will be checking our office emails and voicemail. We will have up dates from time to time. Please do not hesitate to call our parish office if you have concerns or questions (902-455-2451) and Rev. Marian for pastoral calls (902-445-0719)

