

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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July 31st, 2016 10:30
Summer Worship
Celebrating The Holy Sacrament Of Baptism

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this joyful morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Burke. Grace and peace to you all!

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

A baby is God's opinion that life should go on!

Carl Sandburg

THE GATHERING

*Please rise in body or in spirit for sections marked with an asterisk.

***WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

***INTROIT: Spirit of Life (#381 VU)**

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in the land, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: The joy of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:

On this day of sign and sacrament, of water and word; on this

day of faith and family, of promise and praise: may we recognize your presence here O God, with us and amongst us. And so, in trust and confidence, we pray the words that came through Jesus, our brother and Saviour, 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 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, the power and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

***HYMN # 442 VU Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters**

Introduction to The Sacrament (From: *A Song of Faith*):

In grateful response to God's abundant love,
we bear in mind our integral connection
to the earth and one another;

we participate in God's work of healing and mending creation.

To point to the presence of the holy in the world,

**the church receives, consecrates, and shares
visible signs of the grace of God.**

In company with the churches
of the Reformed and Methodist traditions,
we celebrate two sacraments as gifts of Christ:

Baptism and Holy Communion.

In these sacraments the ordinary things of life

—water, bread, wine—

point beyond themselves to God and God's love,

teaching us to be alert to the sacred in the midst of life.

**Before conscious thought or action on our part,
we are born into the brokenness of this world.**

**Before conscious thought or action on our part,
we are surrounded by God's redeeming love.**

Baptism by water in the name of the Holy Trinity
is the means by which we are received, at any age,
into the covenanted community of the church.

It is the ritual that signifies our rebirth in faith
and cleansing by the power of God.

**Baptism signifies the nurturing, sustaining,
and transforming power of God's love
and our grateful response to that grace.**

The Presentation of the Candidate:

Jesus said: 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to them that the kingdom of God belongs. And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

On behalf of the congregation of New Maryland United Church, I present **Charlotte Sophia Bethell** for initiation into the body of Christ through Baptism.

Profession of Faith and Promises

Questions to Parent, Sevanna Cook:

Do you believe in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit/
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words and by your actions?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you live in the knowledge and love of God, resisting evil, living with respect in creation, and loving and serving others?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you continue to grow in faith, so that being strengthened by the Holy Spirit and nurtured at the Table of the Lord, you may go forth to serve God faithfully in the world?

I will, God being my helper.

(Congregation will stand)

As the congregation of New Maryland United Church, do you commit yourself to support and nurture **Charlotte and her family**, within this community which worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

We do, by the grace of God.

Prayer Of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you!

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word.

Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.

In the time of Moses your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom, and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the Promised Land.

You have come to us through water in the stories of Jesus, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the Jordan, and became Living Water to a woman at the Samaritan well. Jesus washed the

feet of his disciples, and sent them forth to baptize with water and the Spirit.

By your Holy Spirit O God, bless this water we pray. May it be a sign of new life in Christ. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

Baptism in the name of the Triune God:

Marking with the sign of the cross

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Aaronic Blessing

Declaration and Presenting her to the Congregation

Presentation of Certificate and Candle

A Song For Charlotte: *God Claims You*

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 12:13-21

SERMON: *What is it that Charlotte – and any of us – Truly Need?*

***HYMN #232 VU Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY (#191 MV)

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN #420 VU Go To The World**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: When You Walk From Here (#298 VU)**

When you walk from here

When you walk from here

**Walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care.**

Today we welcome into the family of faith through baptism, Charlotte Sophia Bethell, daughter of Sevanna Cook and Charlie Bethell. Charlotte is the doted upon granddaughter of Emma and Dan Geneau and the adored great-granddaughter of Sandra and the late David Cook.

Rev Kelly is away on vacation and study leave from August 1-Sept 12. For pastoral emergencies in August, please call her at 470-9634 .

For pastoral emergencies Sept 1-12, please call Rev Jane Johnson 440-9981

In Rev Kelly's absence we welcome to the pulpit:

Aug 7: Mr. Bob Miller

Aug 14, 21, 28, Sept 4 and 11: the Rev. Brian DeLong