

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Minister: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div, D.Min Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Allan Morgan, B.Mus, J.D.
Choir Director: Carolyn Hatt, B.Mus, B.Mus Ed., M.Ed

December 10th, 2017 11 am
ADVENT II: White Gift & The Children's Pageant

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy 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 in this Holy Season of Advent!

Thought for Meditation:

And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes, or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'til his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more? Dr. Seuss

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME

*Introit: O Come All Ye Faithful, #60 VU, v.1 and refrain

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come, ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The joy of Advent be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

***HYMN #158 MV Dream A Dream**

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Leader: Advent God, we journey together towards Bethlehem's stable and our newborn King.

People: Attune our ears to the songs of the angels.

Leader: Focus our eyes on the light of the star.

People: Fill us with amazement at your coming.

Leader: Emmanuel: God in human likeness. Born among us.

People: Again.

Leader: Still. Even here, and now, and so we dare to pray together, 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 LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES:

Amber Knorr, Jessica Tupling & Emma Knorr

Reader 1: In the middle of one ordinary, dark night,

Reader 2: Burst a holy commotion of noise and light.

Reader 3: The shepherds in the field had no idea what was happening.

Reader 1: But they rose to the occasion.

Reader 2: They got themselves up, and went. Along with their sheep.

Reader 3: The Wise Ones felt the nudging of the stars, and they went too. Along with their camels.

Reader 1: Everyone left whatever they were doing, to come to Bethlehem.

Reader 2: They all brought gifts.

Reader 3: Some brought gold,

Reader 1: and frankincense

Reader 2: and myrrh.

Reader 3: Some brought a lamb.

Reader 1: Some brought a hug.

Reader 2: They all came, just as they were.

Reader 3: With whatever they had.

All 3: BUT THEY WERE NEVER THE SAME AGAIN!

[The Second Candle of Advent, The Candle of Giving, is lit.]

Sing: (#36 VU Angels, From the Realms of Glory, v. 2)

Shepherds from the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing,

Yonder shines the infant Light:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn King!

ANTHEM: *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. C. Courtney

The Pageant: *White Gifts, Odd Characters & the Best Story of All!*

Introduction: Rev. Kelly

Prepare! A Visit from Santa and John the Baptist

The Holy Story:

~ **Luke 2: 1-7:** Emma Knorr

~ **Enter Mary and Joseph:** Aria MacDonald and Dean MacDonald

~ **All Sing:** What Child Is This #74 VU, v.1 and refrain

What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?

**Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this, is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard,
and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

~ Luke 2:8-14: Amber Knorr

~ Enter the Angel of the Lord: Evey Minor

~ Enter Angelic Host: Hunter Ward, Mia Minor

**~ All Sing: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #48 Vu, v.1 and refrain
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born King!**

~ Luke 2: 15-16: Amber Knorr

~ Enter Shepherds: Lily Nelson & Ella Nelson

**~ All Sing: Go Tell It On The Mountain #43 VU, refrain, v.1, refrain
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.**

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

~ Matthew 2:1-6, 9-11: Jessica Tupling

~ Enter the Magi: Declan Selwah, Charlie Selwah, Abby Tupling

~ All Sing: We Three Kings

**We three Kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O-o, star of wonder, star of light, star of royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light. 4.**

~ White gifts are collected and brought to the manger

~ Luke 2: 19: Jessica Tupling

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY (#81 VU As With Gladness Men of Old, v.3)

**As they offered gifts most rare, at the manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ to you our heavenly King!**

***HYMN #69 VU Away In A Manger**

***BLESSING: Lily Nelson, Evey Minor, and Declan Selwah**

Reader 1: Go forth as the shepherds: amazed!

Reader 2: Go forth as the angels: singing and glorious!

Reader 3: Go forth as the Wise Ones: daring and humble!

All 3: AMEN!

***CHORAL BLESSING: While Shepherds Watched #75, v.6 VU**

All glory be to God on high,

And to the earth be peace.

Goodwill to all from highest heaven,

Begin and never cease!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

E-Mail: nmuc@nb.aibn.com

Website: www.newmarylandunited.ca

If you know of someone in hospital please notify the Church. Please forward items of prayer and celebration to the Minister. For emergencies, you may call Rev. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.

Greeters This Week: Lorna and Keith Ball

Trustees On Duty (Dec): Jim Merrill and Ann Urquhart

LOOKING AHEAD:

**Sun., Dec. 10th - 11:00 am - Advent II - White Gift Service &
Sunday School Pageant
12:00 noon - Official Board Meeting following service**
Wed., Dec. 13th – 6:30 pm - UCW Christmas Get Together
Sun., Dec. 17th - 11:00 am - Advent III – Sunday Worship
**Sun., Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve - No morning service
7:00 pm - Family Service
10:00 pm - Candlelight & Communion Service**

To Official Board Members – There will be a short Official Board Meeting after the Church service today to discuss one agenda item. Please try to attend.

Today is White Gift Sunday. Items will be picked up from you by the Sunday School children during the service.

The **U.C.W.** will hold their Christmas meeting/party on **Wed. Dec. 13th** in the home of Janet Merrill (**63 Daniel Drive**) at the earlier time of **6:30**. Everyone will bring a wrapped gift for our Yankee Swap and a finger food to share. This yearly event is a guaranteed fun-filled evening and all women of the congregation would be very welcome to join us. For more info, call Dorothy at 457-9795.

U.C.W. – 2018 United Church calendars are now available for purchase for \$6.00. Sue Morrison is the contact person.

It's that time of year Our **MITTEN TREE** is now in place and ready to receive any knitted items you would like to contribute. By Christmas, these items will be distributed wherever the need exists.

GREEN TIP: Plastic Straws This Christmas season, please refrain from using plastic straws. Plastic straws are made from a petroleum-based plastic called polypropylene, a product that requires fossil fuel extraction, which, in turn effects climate change. Also, many plastic straws end up littering the oceans, endangering wildlife. If you must use a straw, use a paper, glass or stainless steel straw.

NOTECARDS designed by Pam Gonnason and featuring the artwork of the church are now available to purchase. Each package has 4 cards / envelopes and sell for \$10. All profits will go to NMUC. There are limited quantities in the church office but they can be ordered at any time through Pam or Trevor (tpgonnason@gmail.com)

New copies of “Our Daily Breads” (Dec/Jan/Feb) are now available at both doors of the Church. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Price Class is available.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE - For the month of **December**, we will focus on **school snacks: puddings, fruit cups, granola bars, and juice boxes**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

STORM NOTICE

In the event that Church service is cancelled due to inclement weather, you will be informed in the various manners, but **not before 8:30 am**.

1. E-mail notification: If you have e-mail, this is the most direct method.
2. Radio Stations: CBC, JOY-FM, CAPITAL
3. Website: <http://www.newmarylandunited.ca/> It will be on the scrolling feeder on the Home Page.

The answering machine on the church telephone (459-3313).