

# **NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH**

## **THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

**875 Route 101 Hwy.                      Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1                      Phone:506-459-3313**  
**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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017    10 pm**  
**CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD**  
**A Christmas Eve Service of Candlelight and Communion**

**Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy night! If you are visiting or new to the congregation, we hope you feel at home in our midst. Grace and peace to you all on this Christmas Night!**

### **T H E     G A T H E R I N G**

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

#### **THE WELCOME**

#### **THE COMING OF THE CHRIST LIGHT & CALL TO WORSHIP**

**One:** Do you think Mary knew that her baby boy would one day sacrifice his life?

**ALL:** Could she have loved him anymore, if she did?

**One:** Did Mary know, as she gazed at her newborn, that she was looking into the very face of God?

**ALL:** But then, doesn't every mother feel that?

**One:** No wonder she treasured all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

**\*HYMN#62 VU Once In Royal David's City**

#### **PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace: be born in us again this night. Still us, that we might hear the angels sing, the footfall of shepherds, and the cry of a newborn, who has come to save us all. In wonder, we 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.**

**GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:1-19**

**REFLECTION: *The Treasures The Heart Holds***

**SOLO – Carolyn Hatt**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY (#81 VU, v.3)**

**As they offered gifts most rare, at that 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#76 VU See Amid The Winter's Snow, v.1, 2 and 5**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**The Invitation**

**The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

**++++++*We Share the Feast*++++++**

**Prayer After Communion:**

**No love that in a family dwells,  
No carolling in the frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
can with this single truth compare:  
That God was man in Palestine  
and lives today in bread and wine. Amen.**

## SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

A choir member will come down and light the candle of the person at the end of the row. They will say: *The Light of Christ!* The response may be: *Amen!* This continues as you light the candle of the person next to you, and so on. When everyone's candle is lit, we will sing together: *Silent Night.* (*Note: slide the cup down the candle for the purpose of lighting. Once lit, slide the cup up to fully enclose the flame. The person with the lit candle should hold it upright, and the unlit candle can be tipped to receive the light.*)

### \*HYMN# 67 VU Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.

Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:  
glories stream from heaven afar  
heavenly hosts sing hallelujah,  
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord, at thy birth.

### \*BENEDICTION

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

All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace;  
Good will to all from highest heaven, begin, and never cease.