

# 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  
Guest Musician: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 11 am  
The Seventh Day of Christmas

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 may it be in these turning days  
that time will spiral with joy, with ordinary grace,  
and may light spill from every window  
to welcome the stranger home.*

Jan Richardson

## THE GATHERING

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

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

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

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 Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

\*HYMN #35 VU Good Christian Friends Rejoice

## **OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**O God of new beginnings, instigator of Christmas and New Year, start something new in me today. Reopen my soul to hope, and give my will a new direction. Set before me today the face of Jesus, that I might have new life through him. And set within me your Holy Spirit, that I might walk a new path with you. This we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace, who taught his friends 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.**

## **T H E W O R D O F G O D**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2: 22-40**

**ANTHEM: *Were You There***

**Natalie Sleeth**

**SERMON: *On Anna and Simeon: When Joy Cometh In The Evening***

**\*HYMN #44 VU It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

## **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!**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN #530 VU All Beautiful the March of Days**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BLESSING: Auld Lang Syne**

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne!**

**For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.  
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.**