

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Minister: Rev. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Allan Morgan, B.Mus, J.D.
Choir Director: Carolyn Hatt, B.Mus, B.Mus Ed, M.Ed. Guest Pianist: Vivian Ni

January 1, 2017 11 am
CELEBRATING THE EIGHTH 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. Merry Christmas to you all!

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never
been!* Rainer Maria Rilke

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.

*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*INTROIT: Angels We Have Heard On High (#38 VU, v.3)

Come to Bethlehem and see, Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King!
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis Deo! Glo-ri-a, in excelsis Deo!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The circle of the year has turned again.

People: Endings and beginnings, changes and transitions.

Leader: The circle of the year has turned again.

People: But in all of the change there is one certainty: God is present.

Leader: God is present.

People: We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Leader: Thanks be to God! Let us worship the Lord together!

***HYMN# #36 VU Angels From the Realms of Glory**

OPENING PRAYER (unison:)

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.**

***HYMN #35 VU Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-23

SERMON: *The New Life that Awaits*

***HYMN #71 VU 'Twas In The Moon Of Wintertime**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE 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!**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN#79 VU Arise, Your Light is Come!**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: (#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.**