NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Minister: Rev. Dr. 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.

Pulpit Supply: Heather Donnelly

Supply Pianist: Vivian Ni

June 25, 2017 11:00 am Third Sunday of Pentecost

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Grace and peace to you all.

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

The trouble with deep belief is that it costs something. And there is something inside me, some selfish beast of a subtle thing that doesn't like the truth at all because it carries responsibility, and if I actually believe these things I have to do something about them. It is so, so cumbersome to believe anything. And it isn't cool. — Donald Miller, Blue Like Jazz: Nonreligious Thoughts on Christian Spirituality

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*INTROIT Come Touch Our Hearts (#12 MV)

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion, from failing embers build a blazing fire; love strong enough to overturn injustice, to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: The sun shines more brightly.

It's warmth stays with us for so many more hours.

All: So we shake free of our routines.

One: We wander about the wilderness:

Hoping God will open our eyes

Praying God will make us worthy

Wanting to grow with God.

All: Let us grow together in the wild ways of our God.

OPENING PRAYER:

One: Wild God, you do great and wonderful things.

All: It's what makes you our God.

One: There is nothing else in this world like you.

All: There's nothing else like your love.

One: Wild God, come be with us in our worship.

All: Help us to grow in your love.

*HYMN VU#271 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

SOUL SEARCHING

One: Abraham was very distressed.

All: Because his son was cut out.

One: Because Sarah could no longer tolerate Hagar.

All: So Sarah threw her out into the wilderness.

One: And this is distressing. We are distressed whenever relationships are broken.

All: Still, we confess to God that there are family and friends we have cast out.

One: Knowing this, you are invited to offer your silent confession to God...

SONG OF ASSURANCE – (VU#602 v.1)

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.

HYMN MV#136 When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace vs.1&2 A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN HYMN MV#136 verses 3,4&5

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON(S):

Genesis 21: 8-21

Psalm 86 Voices United page 803

Romans 6: 1b-11

ANTHEM "Bamboo Forest Under The Moonlight" by Vivian Ni on the Chinese flute

REFLECTION

*HYMN MV#148 Hope of Abraham and Sarah

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY 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 hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

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

DEDICATION

Grow these gifts in your love, Wild God.

Bless our offerings, our hearts and our hopes in your love

To make us worthy of your work in this world.

Fill these gifts and each of us with your goodness. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN #28 MV God of the Bible

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BLESSING: Go, Make a Diff'rence (209 MV)

Go make a diff'rence.

We can make a diff'rence.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

Go make a diff'rence.

We can make a diff'rence.

Go make a diff'rence in the world.

3.

"Growing in the Wilderness" prayers written by the Rev. Elsa A. Cook, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, a budding spiritual director and wandering interim minister. Copyright 2017 Local Church Ministries, Faith Formation Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

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. Jane Johnson at 440-9981.

Tellers This Week: Lloyd Penney and Bob Watson

Trustees On Duty (June): Dave Ward and Lloyd Penney

Summer Worship: Worship services for the summer months at NMUC will be at 10:30 am from July 2nd to September 3rd (inclusive). Note also that the church office will be closed for the months of July and August.

GREEN TIP: When your pillow becomes flat, place it in the sun for 40 minutes. The sun absorbs moisture and plumps it up.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE - For the month of **June**, we will focus on **canned fruits or vegetables**. Please note that condiments always come in handy as well. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

LOOKING AHEAD! MEN'S CLUB SALMON SUPPER - We would like to serve homemade pickles at our supper in October. If you make your own pickles, would you consider putting aside a couple of jars for this? Many thanks... Dave Ward

4.

The latest edition of "*The Beacon*" is available for pick-up at the back door.

The **June edition** of "*The Observer*" is available for you to borrow from the library area.

Don't forget to pick up some summer reading material from our library. There are lots of great choices!

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH (183 Gibson St.) will be hosting a "Steak & Chicken BBQ" on Wednesday, June 28th – 4-6 p.m. Adult: \$14 and Child \$3. Please call 457-1951 to reserve your tickets.

ST. PAUL'S Organ Academy - If you are a piano student . . . young or old... . . and would like to try your skills on a three-manual pipe organ, come along to St. Paul's United Church, 224 York Street on Saturday, July 8th. Dr. Sharon Pond, organist at St. Paul's and Dr. Willis Noble, formerly at Christ Church Cathedral, are offering a day-long workshop where you will get a turn at the organ and learn the basics of performing Baroque music. The session starts at 9 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The fee for the day, including lunch, is \$25. You can register in advance with either instructor at spond@bellaliant.net or willis.noble@gmail.com