

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

February 18th, 2018 11 am
Lent I

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:

No one really knows why they are alive until they know what they would die for.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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 LENTEN CANDLES**

***Introit: Tree of Life And Awesome Mystery, #121 VU v. 4**

Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
Come inflame our hearts anew,
we may all your joy inherit
if we bear the cross with you,
if we bear the cross with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

***HYMN #142 VU Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross**

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: And so our Lenten journey begins, Jesus. The way to your cross is not a path we enter lightly.

People: The way is like a rocky path, on a mountain pass, through cloud and shadow....

Leader: Open our eyes and ears, our minds and our hearts,

People: that we might be attentive to the gift, the challenge, the mystery of the cross.

Leader: Bless our intentions.

People: Bless our perseverance.

Leader: Bless our discoveries as we make our way,

People: as we journey together to the Cross.

Leader: And now we pray, 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: This Little Light of Mine (trad spiritual)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, (O, Brother).

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, (O, Brother).

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, all the time.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

HYMN: This Little Light of Mine (trad spiritual)

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, (O, Brother).

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, (O, Brother).

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, all the time.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 15:16-25

ANTHEM: *My Lord What a Morning* Traditional Spiritual

SERMON: *The Conundrum of the Cross: Part I*

*HYMN # 149 VU When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: Spirit Open My Heart #79 MV refrain

Spirit, open my heart, to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart!

THE LENTEN PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy upon us.

**Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your steadfast love,
according to your abundant mercies.**

Wash us of our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit
within us.**

Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit
from us.

**Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing
spirit.**

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within
us.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ASSURANCE

***HYMN #The Old Rugged Cross**

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

Refrain

In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above
To pardon and sanctify me.

Refrain

***THE LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT**

Leader: Greater love hath no one than this: than to lay down one's
life for one's friends.

People: For God so loves the world,

Leader: For God so loves *you*,

People: That He laid down his life, for us all.

[The first purple candle is snuffed]

Leader: And all for Love's sake. Amen and Amen.

***CHORAL BLESSING: Stay With Us Through The Night (#182 VU, v.1)**

**Stay with us through the night
Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us, blessed stranger,
Till the morning breaks again.**

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: Ann Urquhart

Trustees On Duty (Feb): Lloyd Penney and Jim Merrill

The bulletin today is dedicated in memory of the life of Dawn Watson.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun., Feb. 18th – 11:00 am - Worship Service - Lent I

Thur., Feb. 22nd - Rev. Kelly goes to Presbytery

Sat., Feb. 24th - 8:30 am - NMUC goes to F'ton Community Kitchen

Sun., Feb. 25th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent II

Tue., Feb. 27th - 7:00 pm - Trustees Meeting

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Mission & Service Project -To help out with our church's annual Mission and Service fund contribution, the Sunday school has organized a fundraiser for 2018. "spare-change-jars" have been decorated by the children, one for each family to take home. We ask that you place the jar somewhere in your home, and then, throughout the year drop in your spare change. Every little bit helps and you would be surprised how it adds up! You may recall we did this fundraiser a couple of years ago and it was quite successful. Of course, if you feel like dropping in other monetary items, we will also accept paper money in any amount and cheques. We will be collecting the jars at the end of the year. If you haven't picked up your jar, please take one from the upper foyer. Thanks for donating to the Mission and Service Fund.

MEN'S CLUB CHILI NIGHT: Our annual 'Chili Night' will be held on **Wednesday, March 21st at 6 pm.** More details will be forthcoming once finalized. **Please mark this date on your calendar!**

EASTER PLANTS – The **Worship Committee** is taking orders for Easter tulips, daffodils, and hydrangea. The purpose of this project is threefold: to beautify our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, can be placed as memorials, or to take home or give to a friend or shut-in after the service. Cost is as follows: tulips and daffodils are \$10 each and hydrangea is \$20. **To order your Easter flowers, contact Loraine Ward at 455-8208.**

GREEN TIP: The safety of air fresheners was examined by the scientific community about 15 years ago. It was found that with each “puff”, chemical by-products, such as formaldehyde, are released. Electric air fresheners release significant formaldehyde on their own, 17% of the Critical Exposure Limit (CEL). That, combined with the all-purpose cleaning agents we use, the exposure rate could be 34% in thirty minutes.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE - For the month of **February**, we will focus on **canned soups of all kinds**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

- * **2017 tax receipts are available for pick up today in the main foyer.**
- * **February edition of “The Observer” is available to borrow.**

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 Home Page.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

World Day of Prayer for 2018 is being held on Friday, March 2. The theme is “All God’s Creation is Very Good!” and is prepared by the women of the Republic of Suriname. For a list of locations of services, see our bulletin board in the main foyer.