

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: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

December 8th, 2019 11 am
ADVENT II: Hearing Anew The Old, Old Story
WHITE GIFT SUNDAY & THE MITTEN TREE

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this sacred morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation

In a world where faith is often construed as a way of thinking, bodily practices like making and sharing food or knitting a pair of mittens for someone you will never meet, remind the willing that faith is a way of living.

Barbara Brown Taylor

THE GATHERING

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

*THE WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

Choir sings: *Born In Human Likeness*

Voice 1: Through this season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth,

Voice 2: the tiny baby, born long ago, in a village far away.

People: The One called Emmanuel, "God with us".

Voice 1: Every Christmas story, ancient or modern, includes someone bringing gifts to the Christ child.

Voice 2: As if our impulse to give, is evidence in itself, of the presence of the Divine:

Voice 1: The presence of the Divine in both the one who gives, and the one who receives.

People: To become human, is to become generous.

Voice 2: And so we light a Candle of Generosity
(Light the Second Blue Candle)

Voice 1: Let us pray:

**All: As we recall the old, old stories of your birth, Lord,
we look for new stories, written in the lives of all humanity.
Open our lives to your Spirit. Be born in us, today.**

All Sing: (MV #47) Born in Human Likeness

**Born in human likeness, found in human form:
Jesus, “God is with us”, we proclaim your glory!**

Voice 2: And now let us pray together, as the Light of the World taught us, 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.

CHILDREN’S HYMN #69 Away In A Manger v.1

PRESENTATION OF WHITE GIFTS & MITTEN TREE

CHILDREN’S HYMN# #69 Away In A Manger v. 2

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

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON: The Epistle of James 2:14-17

***HYMN #55 VU In The Bleak Midwinter**

SERMON:

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & A GIFT OF MUSIC:

Moon Joyce: *Abide* words/music: Carrie Newcomer and Parker Palmer

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#81VU 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!**

***HYMN #95 VU Born In The Night, Mary's Child**

***BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL BLESSING: (#64 VU verse 4, alt tune)**

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell,
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

Advent 2 - Today is White Gift Sunday. Items will be picked up from you by the Sunday School children during the service.

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. Dr. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.

Greeter This Week: Tina Glenn and Declan & Charlie Selwah

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

Tellers On Duty: Loraine Ward and David Ward

Sunday School Teachers: Krista Tupling and Shannon Phillips

Nursery: Emma Knorr

Mon., Dec. 9th - 6:00 pm - Men's Club Christmas Dinner (see over)

Wed., Dec. 11th - 6:30 pm - UCW Christmas Get Together (see over)

Sun., Dec. 15th - 11:00 am - Advent III: The Children's Pageant

Sun., Dec. 22nd - 11:00 am - Advent IV: Holy Communion

Tue., Dec. 24th - 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Family Service

10:00 pm - Candlelight Service & Holy Communion

MEN'S CLUB – Tomorrow night at 6:00 pm, the Men's Club will be holding their annual **Christmas dinner** at **Wetmore's**. This outing is open to all men of the congregation. Please confirm your attendance with either Keith Ball (455-1948) or Dave Ward (455-8208).

U.C.W. will hold their Christmas/Meeting Party on **Wed., Dec. 11th** at the earlier time of **6:30 pm** in the home of Dorothy Webster, 215 Bradshaw Drive. We will have our annual Yankee Swap and all will bring a finger food to share. All women of the congregation would be very welcome to join us. Call Dorothy at 457-9795 for further details.

Copies of the latest edition of "*The Beacon*" are available in the foyer.

The **2020 United Church calendars** have arrived and are being sold by the UCW for \$8. See Lorna Ball or call the church office at 459-3313.

It's that time of year.... Our **MITTEN TREE** is now in place next week and ready to receive any knitted items you would like to contribute. By Christmas, these items will be distributed wherever the need exists.

New copies of **“OUR DAILY BREAD”** (Dec/Jan/Feb) are now available at both entrances of the Church. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Bible Class is available.

The **Fredericton Community Kitchen Schedule** for **Saturday, the 21st of December** has not been filled. If anyone is available to attend please let someone on the Outreach committee know. Also, the schedule for the 2020 is posted. We are looking for 4 volunteers for the 4th Saturday of each month from **8:30am until 1pm**. Please sign up on the board in the foyer.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE

For the month of **December**, we will focus on **1 litre juice for Christmas hampers**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated. We are always looking for plastic grocery bags as well as we use them for packing.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH- “Out Of The Cold” As you may have heard, Fredericton's Out of the Cold Shelter for 2019/20 is expected to open on Friday, December 6 at 332 Brunswick Street. Donations of various items are needed in order to provide a welcoming space for the guests who will use the shelter. The list of items that are currently needed can be found at <https://www.roadhomefredericton.com/out-of-the-cold.html>. Donations can be dropped off at Wilmot United Church, Carleton Street door, Monday thru Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm until Friday, December 20. Financial donations are also appreciated. Any support you can provide for the most vulnerable in our community will be greatly appreciated.