

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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March 31st, 2019 11 am

Companions On The Lenten Way: Lent IV: The Criminal On The Cross

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 friendship with its people. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

Stop. Breathe. And remember how many times you were saved at the last moment.

Bryant H. McGill

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

*Introit: Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying, #400 VU

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

*HYMN # 151 VU Lift High The Cross

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Our Lenten journey continues, O God. Our Forty Days - days of dimming light, and deeper attention;

People: Days of stories that lead us to Jerusalem.

Leader: Days of Nicodemus and Zacchaeus, Judas and today....Dismas, the Criminal on the Cross.

People: Like us all, they are battered and glorious; Ordinary and brave; Frightened and fascinating.

Leader: *Simul Justus et Peccator*: at the same time: Saint and sinner...like us all.

People: And so we gather together:

Leader: For this is the House for us ALL. And now as Jesus taught his companions, we say:

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: #595 VU We Are Pilgrims, v. 5

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: Lenten Story Boxes

CHILDREN'S HYMN: #595 VU We Are Pilgrims, v. 6

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 23: 26, 32-43

SERMON: *Do We Remember Dismas?*

***HYMN #559 VU Come, O Fount Of Every Blessing**

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING: Duet: *Jesus Christ Is Waiting*~ Dorothy Webster & Cheryl Faseruk

OFFERTORY: As We Journey Together (Kingsbury/Bowman ©2015 Tidal Bore Music. All rights reserved. Lyrics reprinted by permission.)

**As we journey together on the path of faith,
May our hearts be attentive to Christ's plan,
And may we be responsive to our broken world,
Off'ring freely the talents that we can.
May all we bring, be blessed and shared
With those who need a helping hand.
May all we bring, be blessed and shared
creating justice through the land.**

THE LENTEN PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

[Choir: Together We Pray]

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.**

For what we have done that breaks your heart, forgive us.

**For what we have failed to do, that breaks your heart,
forgive us.**

And remember us Jesus,

Remember us, when you come into your Kingdom.

[Choir: Together We Pray]

THE ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

A broken and contrite heart our God will not ignore. For God is gracious and merciful, and abounding in steadfast love. There is nothing – *nothing*, that can separate us from this love.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

[Choir: Let it be so. Let it be so.]

*HYMN #135 VU Beneath The Cross Of Jesus

*THE LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

Leader: Our Lenten journey deepens, and the light continues to fade....

[The fourth purple candle is snuffed]

Leader: In this dim light, Dismas speaks to us of confession and grace;

People: Of remembering what *was* and daring to hope for what might yet be....

Leader: And Jesus says: you will be with me, and I with you: Today. And always. 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. Dr. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.

Greeter This Week: _____

Trustees On Duty (Apr): David Ward and Ann Urquhart

Tellers On Duty: Merlin Tracy and Tina Glenn

Sunday School Teachers: Deborah and Amber Knorr

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mon., Apr. 1st - 7:00 pm - Men's Club Meeting

Tue., Apr. 2nd - Deadline for submissions for "The Beacon" Newsletter

Wed., Apr. 10th - 7:00 pm - U.C.W. (see over)

Sun., Apr. 14th - 11:00 am - Worship - Palm Sunday

Sun., Apr. 21st - 11:00 am - Easter Sunday

Bible Study: Good Endings!

Monday afternoons at 1 pm at Rev Kelly's (100 Berkley Dr.)

We will explore the sacred, interesting, and sometimes odd, traditions and rituals at the end of life: from historical to modern takes, such as green burials. I promise it will not be gloomy, but rather a lively, deep look at how we can best honour a life.

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 \$19. To order your Easter flowers, contact Loraine Ward at 455-8208. **Last day to order is April 7th.**

CHURCH NEWSLETTER - All submissions for the next issue of "*The Beacon*" should be left at the church office or sent to klister1938@gmail.com on or before **Tuesday, April 2nd.**

MUFFINS FOR FHS! Our UCW has, once again, taken on an Outreach Project to provide homemade muffins to enhance the daily food items offered in the Fredericton High School Breakfast Program. If you would like to help with this much appreciated project, you can bring one or two dozen muffins of any kind (no nuts please) on **Sunday, April 7th** and they will be delivered to the school. Best if muffins arrive in freezer bags with the kind they are written on the outside of the bag. There will be boxes available in the upper foyer for you to place them in. Thanks for any help you can give our UCW with this caring Outreach Project.

UCW will meet on **Wednesday, April 10th** at **7 pm** in the home of Sue Morrison, 139 Milky Way Drive in Hanwell. All women of our congregation are very welcome.

VESEY'S SEEDS FUNDRAISER - For all you gardeners or friends of gardeners. We have flower seeds and bulbs, vegetable seeds, microwave/freezer containers, "Summer Savoury" Recipe Books, beautiful Spring wrapping paper – All in our Veseys Seeds Catalogue. Please pick up a catalogue for you and your friends to peruse and help us raise money for New Maryland United. We receive 50% of all sales. Catalogues will be available outside Lorna's office. If you have any questions call Judy (459-1332) **Orders must be in by April 14th.**

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE –

For the month of **April**, we will focus on **canned tomatoes**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated. We are always looking for plastic grocery bags as well as we use them for packing our food hampers.

YARD SALE – The Men's Club would like to let the congregation know that they are planning a **Yard Sale** on **Saturday, May 4th**. We encourage you to start saving your items you no longer need and would like to get rid of (**excluding electronics and clothing**). Further information will be available soon.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

NASHWAAKSIS UNITED CHURCH (46 Main St.) is hosting a delicious **Chili Take-Out Supper, Friday, April 5**, pick-up **4 - 6pm**. Enjoy chili (mild beef), roll, side salad and dessert for \$12. Reserve your take-out meals by April 3 with Rindy or Tom Austin, 450-7151.