

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

December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020    11 am  
The Third 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. Dr. Burke. Grace and peace to you all in this Holy Season!

### Thought for Meditation:

*I'd love to say our tradition is smoked pheasant on Christmas Eve, or hot breads on Christmas morning. What we actually have is a crooked gingerbread house. One side of the chimney always falls off. Always. But we do it every year.*      Sally Armstrong

## THE GATHERING

### WELCOME

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

**Leader:** The joy of Christ be with you!

**People:** And also with you!

### THE CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY:

**Leader:** On this Third Day of Christmas, we continue to celebrate Jesus' birth, this tiny baby, born long ago, in a village far away.

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

**Leader:** As we awaited this birth, we lit candles against the darkness:

**People:** Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

**Leader:** And on Christmas Eve, gathered around the old, old story of shepherds and angels and a straw filled manger,

**People:** We welcomed Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem, the Prince of Peace.

*(Light The Christ Candle)*

Leader: 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: O Come All Ye Faithful, #60 VU, v.4**  
**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;**  
**Jesus, to thee be glory given;**  
**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;**  
**O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,**  
**O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**Leader:** 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.**

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

**T H E   W O R D   O F   G O D**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 2: 1-2, 10-11**

**SERMON: *Christmas Traditions: The Odd and Holy Ones; The Ones We  
Hold and The Ones We let Go***

**HYMN # 50 VU Il Est Né (v. 1 en français, 2 &3 Eng, 4 en français)**

**T H E   R E S P O N S E**

# THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## A PRAYER LITANY FOR YEAR ENDING:

Holy God, Light of Light, our Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end:

**We stand at this moment, having ended a hard, hard year.**

And in the midst of an unknown future. We balance on the cusp of these days,

**Teetering between old, and new, between coming and going, between sojourning and homecoming.**

To you, O God, we entrust all our yesterdays: yours to hallow and to hold; yours to forgive and to cherish.

**To you, O God, we dedicate all our tomorrows: strengthen and challenge us; and guide us to your light!**

And hold us – and surprise us! - O God, in the holy now. And blessed be all those we encounter.

**Blessed be our humility, blessed be our care, blessed be our blunders.**

Blessed be this family of faith in this time and place!

**AMEN!**

**HYMN # 73 VU The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy**

## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL BLESSING: Auld Lang Syne

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?**

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
For days of auld lang syne!**

**For auld lang syne, my dear,  
For auld lang syne.**

**We'll drink a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.**