

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

January 5th, 2020 11 am
THE TWELTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS:
CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY &
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

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. 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:

*Keep me away from the wisdom which does not cry,
the philosophy which does not laugh,
and the greatness which does not bow before children.*

Khalil Gibran

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Light of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

THE EPIPHANY CANDLE LITURGY:

Choir sings: *Born In Human Likeness*

Voice 1: Through this season of Epiphany, we follow the star,
till it stops over a stable,

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

People: The One called Emmanuel, “God with us”.

Voice 1: And the Light calls us to look up, and pay attention to what lies ahead,

Voice 2: To follow the Light into the future, to seek something more.

People: To become human, is to grow in wisdom.

Voice 1: And so we light a Candle of Wisdom.

(Light the Christ Candle)

Voice 2: 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 x2

Born in human likeness, found in human form:

Jesus, “God is with us”, we proclaim your glory!

Voice 1: Let us pray:

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

***HYMN# 443 VU God, We Pray At This Beginning (alt tune #333)**

Introduction to The Sacrament (From: *A Song of Faith*):

In grateful response to God’s abundant love,
we bear in mind our integral connection
to the earth and one another;

we participate in God’s work of healing and mending creation.

2.

To point to the presence of the holy in the world,

**the church receives, consecrates, and shares
visible signs of the grace of God.**

In company with the churches
of the Reformed and Methodist traditions,
we celebrate two sacraments as gifts of Christ:
baptism and holy communion.

In these sacraments the ordinary things of life
—water, bread, wine—

point beyond themselves to God and God’s love,
teaching us to be alert to the sacred in the midst of life.

**Before conscious thought or action on our part,
we are born into the brokenness of this world.
Before conscious thought or action on our part,
we are surrounded by God’s redeeming love.**

Baptism by water in the name of the Holy Trinity
is the means by which we are received, at any age,
into the covenanted community of the church.

**Baptism signifies the nurturing, sustaining,
and transforming power of God’s love
and our grateful response to that grace.**

The Presentation of the Candidate – Tina Glenn, the Clerk of Session:

Jesus said: ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to them that the kingdom of God belongs. And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

On behalf of the congregation of New Maryland United Church, I present **Audrey Kate Angus** for initiation into the body of Christ through Baptism.

Profession of Faith and Promises

Questions to Parents, Kara and Greg Angus:

Do you believe in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit/
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words
and by your actions?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you live in the knowledge and love of God, resisting evil,
living with respect in creation, and loving and serving others?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you continue to grow in faith and love, so that being
strengthened by the Holy Spirit, you may go forth to serve God
faithfully in the world?

I will, God being my helper.

(Congregation will stand)

As the congregation of New Maryland United Church, do you commit
yourself to support and nurture **Audrey and her family**, within this
community which worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice,
and resists evil?

We do, by the grace of God

Prayer Of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you!

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.

In the time of Moses your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom, and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the Promised Land.

You have come to us through water in the stories of Jesus, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the Jordan, and became Living Water to a woman at the Samaritan well. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, and sent them forth to baptize with water and the Spirit.

By your Holy Spirit O God, bless this water we pray. May it be a sign of new life in Christ. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

Baptism in the name of the Triune God

Marking with the sign of the cross

Invocation of the Spirit

Aaronic Blessing

Declaration and Presenting them to the Congregation

Presentation of Certificate and Candle

A Song For The Newly Baptized: *Audrey, Audrey, God Claims You*

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12

ANTHEM: *Behold That Star* Thomas W. Talley

SERMON: *Epiphany: A Wisdom Tale*

***HYMN # 91 VU The First Nowell, verses 3, 4, and 5**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#81 VU 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!

PRAYERS & A LITANY FOR EPIPHANY & THE NEW YEAR:

Holy God, our light, our beauty, our rest:

With the appearance of your Son, you have brought us into your new creation.

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 #87 VU I Am The Light Of The World**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: (#81 VU As With Gladness Men of Old, v.5)**

In the heavenly country bright, none shall need created light;

You its light, its joy, its crown, you its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing hallelujah to our king!

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Today we joyfully welcome Audrey Kate Angus, as she is baptized into this community of faith. Audrey is the daughter of Kara (Hachey) and Greg Angus; the little sister of Ayla, the granddaughter of Donna and Gary Hachey and Cindy and Grant Angus; and the great granddaughter of Myrtle MacNaughton. Blessings abound!

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 Today: Nancy Jenkins

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

Tellers On Duty: David and Loraine Ward

LOOKING AHEAD:

**Sun., Jan. 5th - 11:00 am - A Celebration of Epiphany +
Sacrament of Baptism**

**Sun., Jan. 12th - 12:00 noon -Official Board Budget Meeting
(storm date: Jan 19th)**

Mon., Jan. 20th - NMUC goes to Christ Church Cathedral

Wed., Jan. 22nd - Annual Reports Due

Sat., Jan. 25th - NMUC goes to Fredericton Community Kitchen

Thur., Jan. 30th - 10:30 am - Worship Committee Meeting

**Sun., Feb. 9th - 12:00 noon - Annual Congregational Meeting (storm
date: Feb. 16th)**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES resume next Sunday, January 12th.

2020 Church envelopes are available for pick up in the foyer at the main door. If anyone would like church envelopes, please contact **Lloyd Penney** at 450-4342 or e-mail lloydpenney12@gmail.com or see **Lorna** in the church office.

ANNUAL REPORTS – To Chairpersons of all Committees: It's that time of year again. Annual reports are due soon. Kindly submit them to the Church secretary by **Wednesday, January 22nd**. You can submit your report by hard copy or by e-mail: nmuc@nb.aibn.com

MEN'S CLUB - Please note that there is no Men's Club meeting in January.

U.C.W. There will be no UCW Meeting in the month of January.

Note: There are still a few church **calendars available for purchase**. See Lorna Ball if you are interested in one of these calendars. Price is \$8.

OUTREACH: Sign up schedules are out for both the Community Kitchen Volunteers and Christ Church Sandwiches. They are found on the Outreach Committee bulletin board in the main foyer by Lorna's office. The Outreach Committee is very appreciative of all the support we receive from the congregation either through donations or helpful volunteering.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE

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

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



Call for choral enthusiasts:

The Fredericton Choral Society (FCS) is excited to present Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* in May 2020. This iconic work of 20th century choral music is set to twenty-four of the *Carmina Burana*, a 13th century compilation of secular poetry and song whose irreverence and emotional candour startle even today. A larger choir is required to realise the power of this tremendous work, which will be presented with the rarely performed chamber orchestration for two pianists and a percussion ensemble of five players.

Weekly rehearsals begin January 7th at St. Paul's Church at the corner of George and York Streets, starting at 7:15 p.m. The concert will take place on May 9th, at the Tom Morrison Theatre, Fredericton High School.

The FCS is Fredericton's longstanding gender-inclusive community choir, which welcomes amateur singers of all levels of experience. Its artistic director and conductor, Heather Fyffe, is a noted musician, pianist/organist, conductor, and educator in the Fredericton area.

Term fees have increased slightly this term to facilitate the performance of this ambitious piece. Fees are \$65 per person (\$20 for students) and \$85 per family/couple, but we are happy to accommodate anyone who wishes to sing with us. The Fredericton Choral Society is a registered charity and we welcome community contributions through our donation page at canadahelps.org. The FCS has an added incentive for new members—if you are new to the choir and you bring a friend who is also new, you will be charged the family rate, a savings of \$22.50 each!