NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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August 20th, 2023 10 am **SUMMER WORSHIP!**

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy 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 peoplespredominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in 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!

Thought for Meditation: Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. Martin Luther .King, Jr

GATHERING

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

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Introit: Holy, Holy, Holy #315 VU, v.1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.

Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry, the United Church of Christ.

O God help us to arrive this morning with a "yes." A "yes" to our faith that says our bodies are good and holy, just as and however they are.

A "yes" to show up here, even if our minds may be in other places at times.

A "yes" to believing enough in you, in this community, and in our own call to know this is where we need to be in this moment.

A "yes" to bringing all that comes from and through our hearts to you.

One: Come, let us bring ourselves to God's table of plenty,

With our inherent worth and dignity to guide us. Selah. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Adapted from "Opening Prayer" by Gerardo Oberman, Argentina

At this time on our journey, we heed your call, O God.

We gather as your people; we gather, as your imperfect children.

Your grace abounds, O Lord. Your everlasting love awaits us. So we come as we are. With our shortcomings, yes, but also with our gifts, remembering that we are created in your image. We come, and your Word nourishes us. Your Spirit calls us. We come desiring to walk your ways of justice, to hear your words of wisdom and renewal. We come to follow you and love you, every day, wherever you call us.

Hear our prayers, O God

THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Loving God, in whom is heaven, may Your name be honored everywhere.

May Your kin-dom come.

May the desire of Your heart for the world be done, in us, by us and through us.

Give us the bread we need for each day.

Forgive us.

Enable us to forgive others.

Keep us from all anxiety and fear.

For You reign in the power that comes from love which is Your glory forever and ever.

Amen.

*HYMN #402 VU We Are One

THE WORD OF GOD

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON(S): Matthew 15:(10–20), 21–28

REFLECTION/SERMON

*HYMN #138 MV My Love Colours Outside The Lines

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: The Doxology #541 VU Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God, all creatures high and low, give thanks to God in love made known,

Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *HYMN # 154 MV Deep In Our Hearts

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BLESSING: May the God of Hope Go With Us (#424 VU)

May the God of Hope go with us every day filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all, working for a world that's new, faithful, when we hear Christ's call.

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: Kaye Lister Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster Trustee on Duty (Aug): Ann Urquhart

SUMMER WORSHIP – Worship services for the summer months at NMUC will be at 10:00 am from July 2nd to September 3rd, inclusive.