

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
Choir Director: Rev. Jane Johnson, B.Sc., B.Th., M.Div. Musician: Nathaniel Sergeant

April 21st, 2024 11 am
EASTER 4: CELEBRATING CREATION!

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 Alleluia to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

*Green, blue, yellow and red – God is down in the swamps and marshes.
Sensational as April and almost incredible the flowering of our catharsis...
For beautiful, beautiful, beautiful God, is breathing his love by a cutaway bog.*
Patrick Kavanaugh

THE GATHERING

***WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

***INTROIT #396 VU Jesus Stand Among Us**

Jesus, stand among us in your risen power;
Let this time of worship be a hallowed hour.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed!
Leader: Let us worship together!

***HYMN #291 VU All Things Bright And Beautiful**

CELTIC OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER [Today's version is from Sherri J. Weinberg]

Leader: With the glory of the Resurrection still stirring within us, O God, we arise and gather as your Easter people.

People: We arise today through the strength of heaven, light of sun, radiance of moon,

Leader: through the splendour of fire, speed of lightening, swiftness of wind,

People: through the depth of sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock.

Leader: We arise and gather through the wonder of the Resurrected One, saying:

God - heart of the world: revealed through every aspect of creation: understood through our awareness.

May we honour the holiness of creation and act accordingly, so that your love is reflected in the way we live.

May we always be thankful for the food we eat and the friends we have.

May we forgive those who transgress against us, and be forgiven for our own.

In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat, and not be compromised by hesitation.

Through our freedom, may your justice be seen and heard and experienced, forever and ever. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S HYMN #121 MV Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! R/v.1/R
TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

CHILDREN'S HYMN #121 MV Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! R/v.2/R

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

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 8:7-10

ANTHEM: *His Eye Is On The Sparrow.* C.Martin /C.Gabriel/D. Moore, arr.

A VISUAL CONVERSATION ON CREATION & AWE

A Prayer OF THANKSGIVING (based on *A Song of Faith*, 2006.)

Holy One, each part of creation reveals unique aspects of you, the one we call Creator.

For you are both in creation and beyond it.

All parts of creation, animate and inanimate, are related.

We delight that you made humans to live and move and have their being in you.

For in and with you, O God,

we can direct our lives toward right relationship with each other, and all of creation.

May we discover our place as one strand in the web of life.

May we grow in wisdom and compassion. May we recognize all creation as kin.

And may we accept our mortality and finitude, not as a curse, but as a challenge to make our lives and choices matter.

AMEN!

***HYMN #30 MV It's A Song Of Praise To The Maker**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#179 VU, chorus/v.2/ chorus)**

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the Risen Christ,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give praise to God's name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth, Jesus has died and is risen!

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the Risen Christ,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give praise to God's name.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A PRAYER LITANY FOR EARTH DAY:

Leader: When despair for the world grows in me and I wake in the night at the least sound in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, **3.**

People: I go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

Leader: I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief.

People: I come into the presence of still water. And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.

Leader: For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free. May it be so.

ALL: AMEN! (by farmer/theologian/poet Wendell Berry)

***HYMN #296 VU This Is God's Wondrous World**

***THE BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: Amen (#974 VU)**

A-men! A-men! Hallelujah! Amen!

A-men! A-men! Hallelujah! Amen!

A-men! A-men! Hallelujah! Amen!

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: Marg Frenette

Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Jim Merrill

Trustee on Duty (Apr): Jim Merrill

The bulletin today is dedicated in loving memory of Paul Lister (1939-2014) by wife Kaye.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Tue., Apr. 23rd - 2:00 pm - Cemetery Committee Meeting

Mon., Apr. 29th - 7:00 pm - Trustees Meeting

Wed., May 1st - 1:30 pm - Men's Club Meeting at the church

7:00 pm - U.C.W. Meeting at the church

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE: For the month of **April**, we will focus on **canned diced tomatoes**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

NMUC LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have plenty of interesting books in our church library for anyone to borrow. There have been a couple of requests for **“large print” novels** for our library. If you have any at home or know someone who would like to donate some, we'd love to have them.

JIGSAW PUZZLE LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have a lovely selection of jigsaw puzzles in the mini kitchen (off the sanctuary). They are available to anyone who would like to borrow them. A great way to pass the time. Donations of puzzles are greatly appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH – Guaranteed Livable Income - A Conversation about Guaranteed Livable Income sponsored by Wilmot Outreach Committee in partnership with Basic Income Atlantic.

When? Friday, May 3, 2024 from 1 pm – 3 pm

Where? Wilmot sanctuary. Refreshments and further discussion following the presentation.

Who? Wil Robertson and Dr. Herb Emery with discussion moderator Randy Hatfield.

How Much? No charge