

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

February 18th, 2024 11 am

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Stories We Carry: Lent 1: “A Funeral Story”

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 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!

Thought for Meditation:

Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it. Mary Oliver

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

***INTROIT: Come Touch Our Hearts, #12 MV, v.3**

Come touch our minds
and teach us how to reason,
set free our thoughts to wonder and to dream;
help us to open doors of understanding,
to welcome truth and wisdom,
come touch and bless our minds.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

***HYMN # 806 VU O God Our Help In Ages Past**

OPENING PRAYER (based on *Song of Faith*, 1.0)

Leader: You, who are Holy Mystery, are beyond complete knowledge.

People: Yet, in love, you seek relationship.

Leader: And so you created the wild and wondrous universe,

People: and with it the possibility of being and relating.

Leader: Companion us on this Lenten Way,

People: that we might see Christ in the stories we tell, and the songs we hear,

Leader: and in these words he 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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 88 MV Over My Head, Refrain

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: The Lenten Story Boxes

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 88 MV Over My Head, Refrain

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

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 121, p.844 VU

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 11: 17-44

ANTHEM: *My Song Is Love Unknown* Crossman/Ireland

SERMON: *When The Funeral Really Goes Awry*

***HYMN # 138 MV My Love Colours Outside The Lines**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#581VU When We Are Living, v.2)

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

we belong to God, we belong to God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN # 410 VU This Day God Gives Me

THE BENEDICTION

***THE LITANY OF THE DIMINISHING LIGHT**

Leader: Our Lenten journey has begun, and the light begins to fade....

[*The first purple candle is snuffed*]

but there is light enough;

People: Light enough to show us that every now and then,

Leader: every *glorious* now and then, a miracle does happen.

People: A wonder; a sign...

Leader: That the One who saved the best for last, is among us still.

Amen and amen.

ALL SING (VU. 144, adapted):

Were you there, when he gave the gift of life? (Were you there?)

Were you there, when he gave the gift of life?

Oh-oh-oh-oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,

Were you there, when he gave the gift of life? (Were you there?)

The bulletin today is sponsored by Linda Watson.

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: Tina Glenn

Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Jim Merrill

Trustee on Duty (Feb): Ann Urquhart

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sun., Feb. 18th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent I
Official Board Budget Meeting (after service)

Mon., Feb. 19th - 1:00 pm - Lenten Study (see below)

Sun., Feb. 25th – 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent II
Coffeehour following the service

Mon., Feb. 26th - 1 pm-2:30 pm - Lenten Conversations (see below)

Sun., Mar. 17th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent III
Annual Congregational Meeting
(following the service)

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS: Join in as you can for 5 weeks of conversation. On Being Human: Life, Sacred Stories, & Rituals beginning Monday, February 26 from 1 pm to 2:30 pm here at church.

Please note that your 2023 tax receipts are ready for pick up in the foyer.

EASTER FLOWERS – 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 / shut-in after the service. Cost is as follows: tulips & daffodils are \$15 each and hydrangea (8 in. pot) is \$30. To order your Easter flowers, contact Loraine Ward at 455-8208. Orders must be received by March 10th.

GREETER SIGN UP SHEET – Just a reminder that there is a “Greeter Schedule” posted at the back door. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter some Sunday morning, kindly fill in your name by any Sunday that would be convenient for you. Thanks!

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.

New copies of “**Our Daily Bread**” (Mar/Apr/May) are now available in the foyer. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container is available for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Bible Class.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE: For the month of February, we will focus on canned pasta sauce. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.