

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 Supply Musician:Nathaniel Sargeant

March 3rd, , 2024 11 am

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Stories We Carry: Lent II1: "A FAMILY 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

Thought for Meditation:

*This is the bright home in which I live...
this is where I want to love all the things
it has taken me so long to learn to love.*

There is no house like the house of belonging. David Whyte

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

***INTROIT: Come Touch Our Hearts, #12 MV, v.1**

Come touch our hearts that we may know compassion,
from failing embers build a blazing fire;
Love strong enough to overturn injustice,
to seek a world more gracious, come touch and bless our hearts.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

***HYMN # 697 VU O, For A World**

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Our Lenten journey continues, O God. Our Forty Days - days of dimming light, and deeper attention;

People: Days of stories that lead us to Jerusalem.

Leader: Stories of funerals and miracles, water and storms, family and strangers.

People: With characters that are battered and glorious; Ordinary and brave; Frightened and fascinating.

Leader: *Simul Justus et Peccator*: at the same time: Saint and sinner...like us all.

People: And so we gather together:

Leader: For this is the House for us ALL. And now as Jesus taught his companions, we say together:

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 78, p.792 VU

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 3: 31-35

ANTHEM: *My Soul Cries Out (Canticle Of The Turning)* R.Cooney/Trad

SERMON: *A Right Messy Family Story*

***HYMN # 178 MV Who Is My Mother**

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 #642 VU Be Thou My Vision

***THE LITANY OF THE DIMINISHING LIGHT**

Leader: Our Lenten journey deepens, and the light continues to fade....

[The third purple candle is snuffed]

And in this dimming light, there are questions we carry with us:

People: What does it mean to be family? Who do we count as ours?

Leader: Who do we leave out?

People: Be with us as we carry such questions, O God.

Leader: Be with us, indeed. Amen, and amen.

ALL SING (VU. 144, adapted):

Were you there, when he called us all his kin? (Were you there?)

Were you there, when he called us all his kin?

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

Were you there, when he called us all his kin? (Were you there?)

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: Krista and Abby Tupling

Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Tina Glenn

Trustee on Duty (Mar): Ann Urquhart

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mon., Mar. 4th - 1 pm-2:30 pm - Lenten Conversations (see below)

Wed., Mar. 6th - 1:00 pm – U.C.W. Meeting at the church

1:30 pm - Men’s Club meeting at the church

Sun., Mar. 10th - 11:00 am – Worship Service – Lent IV

Sun., Mar. 17th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent V

Annual Congregational Meeting

(following the service)

Wed., Mar. 20th - 6:00 pm - “Chili Night” plus presentation (see over)

Sun., Mar. 24th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Palm Sunday

Sun., Mar. 31st - 11:00 am - Easter Sunday

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.

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**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The **Men’s Club** will be holding their **annual Chili Dinner on Wednesday, March 20th starting at 6 pm.** (freewill offering). Following the meal, guest speaker – **Mac MacFarlane** of the **York Sunbury Search & Rescue** will be speaking about “**Project Lifesaver**” – a project which uses technology and searching skills to protect those at risk of wandering and providing peace of mind to families. More details will be provided in the upcoming weeks.

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. The latest edition of Broadview (March) has arrived and is available to borrow from the library area.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE: For the month of March, we will focus on packaged cookies . However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

NASHWAAKSIS UNITED CHURCH (46 Main St.) will be hosting a “Stew Take-Out” on Friday, March 22 from 4:00-5:30 pm. The menu includes delicious homemade Beef Stew, rolls, and carrot cake for dessert. The cost is \$15.00. Cut off for reservations is Monday, March 18th. Please call the church office @ 506-458-9452 or e-mail admin@nashwaaksisunited.ca *Please use the front door for pick-ups.

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).