

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Minister: Rev. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div Office Administrator: Lorna Ball
Musical Director: Allan Morgan, B.Mus, J.D.
Choir Director: Carolyn Hatt, B.Mus, B.Mus Ed Guest Pianist: Vivian Ni

December 27th, 2015 11 am
CELEBRATING THE THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Burke. Merry Christmas to you all!

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be:
the last of life, for which the first was made.*

Robert Browning, from: *Rabbi Ben Ezra*

T H E G A T H E R I N G

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

***WELCOME**

***LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

***INTROIT: Angels We Have Heard On High (#38 VU, v.3)**

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King!
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis Deo! Glo-ri-a, in excelsis Deo!**

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 148)**

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all his host!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him all you shining stars!

People: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

People: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

Leader: fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

People: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Leader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

People: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Leader: Let them, let us all praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted; God's glory is above earth and heaven!

***HYMN# 36 VU Angels From The Realms of Glory**

OPENING PRAYER (unison:)

O God of new beginnings, instigator of Christmas and New Year, start something new in me today. Reopen my soul to hope, and give my will a new direction. Set before me today the face of Jesus, that I might have new life through him. And set within me your Holy Spirit, that I might walk a new path with you. This we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace, who taught his friends to pray together, 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.**

***HYMN #44 VU It Came Upon a Midnight Clear v.1**

A Time of Conversation

***HYMN #44 VU It Came Upon a Midnight Clear v.4**

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:21-40

SERMON: *Grow Old Along With Me*

***HYMN #62 VU Once In Royal David's City**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#81 VU, v.3)

**As they offered gifts most rare, at that 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!**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN#48 VU Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: (#75 VU v.6)**

**All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will to all from highest heaven
begin and never cease.**