

# **NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

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September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 11 am

Pulpit Exchange

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst.

## **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: Spirit of Life (#381 VU)**

**Spirit of Life, come unto me.**

**Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.**

**Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;**

**Move in the land, giving life the shape of justice.**

**Roots hold me close; wings set me free;**

**Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Listen closely.

Listen to the hum of the Earth... (*pause*)

Listen to the murmuring of the grass... (*pause*)

Listen to the buzz of the birds, and the rustling of the forest...

(*pause*)

Do you hear it?

Listen closely.

Listen closely as the melodies of creation

sing, shout, creak, and whisper around us.

Listen closely as our hearts sing within us.  
Listen closely as all of creation yearns for nurture.

Do you hear it?  
As we take these moments to listen,  
we remember God's call of creation:  
"Let there be!"

**All: And so, in this time of gathering,  
let there be honest reflection.  
Let there be radical discernment.  
Let there be creative stirring.  
Let there be space for connection.  
Let there be nurture and care.  
Come! Let us worship with one another and with all of creation!**

**\*HYMN # 135 MV Called by Earth and Sky**

**OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

In the rush of the wind,  
in the laugh of a child,  
in the beat of our hearts,  
**Speak to us, God.**

In the purr of a kitten,  
in the lap of the waves,  
in the warmth of our hands,  
**Speak to us, Christ.**

In the cry of the moment,  
in the dance of our feet,  
in the crackle of the flame,  
**Speak to us, Holy Spirit.**

**We are listening. Amen.**

*(Richard Bott, Gathering, Pentecost 2, 2015)*

And now we pray together as Jesus taught, 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.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN: Hymn #174 MV Soil of God, You and I

*(Vs. 1 Choir, vs. 2 all, vs. 3 all after story)*

## THE WORD OF GOD

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 144 (*selected verses*) &  
Hymn # 888

*(Sung by Choir) Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets  
sing to our God a new song!  
Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorm  
sing to our God a new song!  
God has done marvellous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!*

(Read Responsively) Blessed be God, my mountain,  
**who trains me to live fair and well.**  
God is the bedrock on which I stand,  
**The high crag where I run for dear life.**  
I wonder why you care, God—  
**why do you bother with us at all?**

All we are is a puff of air;  
**we're like shadows in a campfire.**

***(Sung by all) Steel and machines, loud pounding hammers  
sing to our God a new song!  
Limestone and beams, loud building workers  
sing to our God a new song!  
God has done marvellous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!***

**(Read Responsively)** Step down out of heaven, God;  
**Reach all the way from sky to sea:**  
pull me out of the ocean of hate.  
**O God, let me sing a new song to you,**  
let me play it on a twelve-string guitar—  
**A song to the God who nurtures us.**

***(Sung by all) Classrooms and labs, loud boiling test tubes  
sing to our God a new song!  
Athlete and band, loud cheering people  
sing to our God a new song!  
God has done marvellous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!***

**(Read Responsively)** Make our sons as bright as fields of  
wildflowers.

**Our daughters like sturdy oak trees,**  
Fill all barns with great harvest,  
**fill all fields with huge flocks;**  
Protect all from invasion and exile—  
**eliminate the crime in our streets.**  
How blessed are the people  
**who have you for their God!**

***(Sung by all) Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom  
sing to our God a new song!  
Daughter and son, loud praying elders***

*sing to our God a new song!  
God has done marvellous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!*

## ANTHEM

**SERMON:** Held in the Arms of God's Love

**\*HYMN # 282 VU Long Before the Night**

## T H E R E S P O N S E

### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE OFFERING & OFFERTORY: All That We Have (From *Gather* )**  
All that we have and all that we offer,  
Comes from a heart both frightened and free.  
Take what we bring now and give what we need.  
All done in his name.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, whose power is great beyond our knowing,  
**whose love runs deeper**  
than our hurtful actions of neglect,  
**who holds all of creation in your tender embrace:**  
let us love, not only in words or speech,  
**but in truth and action,**  
let us be the stewards of deepened relationship and interaction,  
**and the givers of life to creation that surrounds us.**  
We come to you in this quiet place  
**seeking your reassurance and your hope.**  
Come and cradle us in your arms of love.  
**As we inhale, breathe your life into our hearts.**  
As we exhale, help us to let go  
**of heavy expectations and anxieties.**  
Help us to feel your love as close to us as the breath we breathe.      **5.**

**Today, God, we admit to the places where we fall short—  
where we are not able to give enough,  
do enough, nor nurture enough.**

Inspire in us a longing to be better stewards  
**and help us to live out our covenant commitment.**

Allow the dreams and hopes that we have—  
**for ourselves, for our communities,  
and for all of creation—  
to sprout forth with energy and new life. Amen.**

**\*HYMN # 295 VU (Tune: 321 VU) The Earth and All Who Breathe**

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CHORAL BLESSING:**

**May God's Sheltering Wings (#214 MV)**

**May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.  
May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you,  
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**E-Mail: [nmuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:nmuc@nb.aibn.com)**

**Website: [www.newmarylandunited.ca](http://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. Burke at 470-9634.*

**Greeters This Week:** Ann Urquhart and Tina Glenn

**Tellers This Week:** Lloyd Penney and Merlin Tracy

**Trustees On Duty (Sept):** Lloyd Penney and Doug Price

**Nursery:** Rebecca Minor

### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Sun., Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - World Communion Sunday**

**Sun., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - Thanksgiving Sunday (see below)**

**Sun., Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> - 4-5:30 pm - Salmon Supper**

The Fredericton area UCCs are participating in a pulpit exchange today. Rev. Kelly is preaching at Gibson Memorial and Rev. Cora Krommenhoek is preaching here at NMUC.

Rev Kelly is away in Winnipeg **Sept 29 - Oct 1** and Rev Jane Johnson will be available for pastoral emergencies. Please contact her at 440-9981.

**THANKSGIVING SUNDAY – OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

*Do you have some **extra vegetables** from your garden, or could you pick up an **extra turnip** or a few **extra apples** when you are next doing your grocery shopping?*

*How about a **fall mum**, or an **extra jar** of your latest batch of **pickles** or **jam**? The Worship Committee needs your help to decorate the sanctuary for Thanksgiving Sunday and donations of **vegetables, fruit, preserves and decorative fall items** would be so very much appreciated. Your items can be dropped off any week day morning between 10 and 12 noon, or on Saturday morning, October 10<sup>th</sup> by 10:00 am, in the basket on the Church step at the parking lot level. Your many small donations will create a spectacular display for our Sunday Thanksgiving service! All food items will be donated to the Food Bank following the service.*

The **Men's Club** is looking forward to the continued support of the entire congregation for the annual **Salmon Supper on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets are now available (see Dave Ward or Lloyd Penney) . Those who would like to make apple crisp, call Dave Ward at 455-8208. If you make your own pickles, would you consider putting aside a couple of jars for our supper? There will be a 'pickle box' at the main door if you'd like to drop off your pickles anytime. Any financial help would be appreciated which we can purchase potatoes, carrots, peas and other supplies.

**FOOD BANK** - For the month of **September**, we will focus on **juice boxes for school lunches**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS:**

**Today, September 27**, at noon, you are invited to join us for a Letter Writing Circle for Syrian Refugees at Forest Hill United Church. We will share a potluck lunch together, educate ourselves on the issue, and write letters to government to urge them to change their approach and welcome more refugees to Canada in this time of crisis.

**MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY (N.B.)** will be having a book sale on Oct. 15/16 at Kings Place. If you have any books to donate, you can drop them off to Allen Parlee, (Kingston Ave., Sunrise Estates) or call **459-8007**.

On **Thursday, October 22**, **Nashwaaksis United Church UCW**, Unit 6, will host a fall luncheon bridge at 12 noon at Nashwaaksis United Church auditorium, 46 Main Street, Fredericton. Cost is \$40 per table of four with proceeds going toward church and community initiatives. **Please contact Connie at 472-4744 to reserve your table.**

**ELLEN'S COUNTRY KITCHEN** - Hillcrest United Church in Stanley, NB is hosting their popular luncheons from **Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> to Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**Mon., Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> - Turkey dinner (apple or pumpkin pie)**

**Tue., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> - Beef tips over your choice of rice or potatoes (cheesecake, cream pies)**

**Wed., Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> - Scalloped potatoes, baked beans, ham (lemon pie, chocolate cake with boiled icing)**

**Thur., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> - Turkey a la King (apple crisp, coconut cream pie)**

**Fri., Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Roast pork (strawberry shortcake)**

**Sat., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Turkey dinner**

**Each day's meal includes fresh rolls and pickles.**

**Drumstick pie and rice pudding available daily.**

**Homemade jams and pickles for sale.**

**To reserve seats for larger groups, call Frances at 367-2326, or leave a message at the church office, 367-2288.**



