

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

March 13th, 2016 11 am
LENT V

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this 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. Lenten grace and peace to you!

Thought for Meditation:

You cannot conceive my child, nor can I, or anyone, the appalling strangeness of the mercy of God.

Graham Greene

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 LENTEN CANDLES

*INTROIT: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (#121 VU v.1)

Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are re-born,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn,
still you rise with every morn.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The peace and mercy of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship the Lord together!

***HYMN# 2 VU Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison):

You wait for us O God, and here we are at last, letting go of our own control, that we might lean into your merciful presence. Touch our hearts, that our mercy may shine forth into a world hungry for such care. This we pray in the way of Jesus, 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: I've Got Mercy Like A Rainfall (tune #577)

I've got mercy like a rainfall,

I've got mercy like a rainfall,

I've got mercy like a rainfall in-a my soul.

I've got mercy like a rainfall,

I've got mercy like a rainfall,

I've got mercy like a rainfall, in-a my soul.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT TREE: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and **SELF-CONTROL /MERCY**.* Galatians 5:22-23

CHILDREN'S HYMN: I've Got Mercy Like A Rainfall

THE WORD OF GOD

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 12:1-8

ANTHEM: *Be Still*

SERMON: *Mercy, Mercy Me!*

***HYMN#559 VU Come, O Fount Of Every Blessing**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: HOLDING IN THE LIGHT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sung Response: Choir

Leader: Lord we do not truly understand this thing called mercy.

People: But we know we hunger after it...

Leader: We hunger after it for ourselves, more than we care to offer it.

People: Forgive us. Help us to let go of our judgement and control.
Let mercy flow from us instead, O God.

Leader: Let mercy flow when our beloved forgets to bring home the milk...again.

People: Let mercy flow when we are cut off in traffic, or when we feel wronged by the world.

Leader: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

People: Have mercy upon us.

Sung Response: Choir

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Behold the Lamb of God has taken away the sins of the world.
His mercy flows like a rainfall onto parched land...quenching our
parched hearts!

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Amen!

***HYMN #642 VU Be Thou My Vision**

THE LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT

Leader: Even as the days grow longer,

People: Jesus' time grows short.

[the fifth purple candle is extinguished]

Leader: Even as the Christ-light shines, the world tries to hide the light
of Mercy.

People: But we will not let our Mercy be hidden.

Leader: Amen and amen.

***CHORAL BLESSING: Take, O Take Me As I Am (#85 MV) x2**

Take, O take me as I am;

summon out what I shall be;

set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

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. Burke at 470-9634.

Greeters This Week: Keith and Lorna Ball

Tellers This Week: Lloyd Penney and Ann Urquhart

Trustees On Duty (Mar): Doug Price and Dave Ward

Sunday School: Deborah Knorr & Jen Harris

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sun., Mar. 13th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Lent V

Mon., Mar. 14th - 1:00 pm - Lenten Bible Study (see below)

Sun., Mar. 20th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Palm Sunday

Thur., Mar. 24th - 6:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Supper & Service

Fri., Mar. 25th - 10:00 am - Good Friday Service

Sun., Mar. 27th - 9:30 am – 10:30 am – Continental Breakfast

11:00 am - Worship Service – Easter Sunday

Our Lenten Study this year is entitled "**Gather, Talk, Eat: The Sacred Act of Sharing Meals**"

What would you choose to be your last meal? Where would you eat it?

With whom would you like to share your table?

Lent, with its ancient emphasis on fasting and silence, may seem like an odd time to pursue such a focus as gathering together around food and conversation. But that is exactly what I am proposing. We will reflect on holy stories- scriptural and otherwise - that centre around a meal, a recipe, and life together as God's people. Please join us as you are able,

Mondays at 1 pm (100 Berkley Dr, New Maryland, Forbes subdivision, off Crown) 470-9634

Be sure to pick up your copy of the latest edition of “The Beacon” at the back door today.

The **Mens Club**, with the help of the **U.C.W.**, invite you to join them for a time of fellowship at a continental breakfast Easter Sunday morning between 9:30 - 10:30 am. (Menu includes a delicious assortment of hot cross buns, biscuits, scones & muffins and fruit & cheese and coffee/tea.)

Mark YOUR CALENDAR for Wednesday, April 6 at 6pm for the Men's Club "**Chili Night**". Guest speaker will be Rod Campbell with a thriller of a story! Proceeds to go to the New Maryland Elementary School Playground Equipment Fundraiser.

U.C.W. is holding a **Bridge Luncheon** at the New Maryland Rec Centre on **Tuesday, April 26th from 12 to 3pm**. You can reserve your table of four for \$40 by calling Loraine at 455-8208. Note: If you would have a card table we could borrow for our Bridge Luncheon in April, would you kindly call Linda Watson at 459-3944 or the Church office at 459-3313.

GREEN TIP: Uses of colourful pipe cleaners: Use as a ponytail tie, wrap pipe cleaner around the ponytail holder, twist two together for a brighter effect. Use as a napkin ring, on special occasions, attach another to it in the shape of a shamrock, flower or heart. This idea can be used to decorate gift packages as well. Use as a travel toy. When boredom sets in, give children a few pipe cleaners, ask them to shape into their favourite flower, bird etc.

FOOD BANK - For the month of **March**, we will focus on **school snacks: puddings, fruit cups, granola bars or juice boxes**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH - Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, the "**Choral**" Symphony famous for the "**Ode to Joy**", will be presented **Sunday April 3rd at 3:00 p.m.** at Wilmot United Church. It will be performed by the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra, the Fredericton Choral Society, and the UNB Chorale with soloists Sally Dibblee, Paula Rockwell, Colin Frotten and Paul Bustin. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$10 students, children 12 and under free, and are available at Reads Newsstand on King St., from members of the performing groups and at the door.

