

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
Musical Director: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

December 12th, 2021 11 am
ADVENT III: JOY

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this sacred 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. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation

It may be that when we no longer know what to do, we have come to our real work, and when we no longer know which way to go, we have begun our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings. Wendell Berry

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.

*THE WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The Joy of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

*HYMN #35 VU Good Christian Friends Rejoice

ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

Voice 1: From light comes life.

All: Deep in expectant earth, a seed stretches.

Voice 2: Through the fire-start of imagination,

All: an idea takes root.

Voice 1: And Love glows within.

Voice 2: Safe in the womb,

All: a child senses its season turning, and stirs.

Voice 1: It is Advent, something coming: vulnerable, powerful,

Voice 2: God, unquenchable light.

All: May they grow – the seed, the love, the idea, the child.

Voice 1: Uncontainable, irrepressible, energy.

Voice 2: What the weary long for,

Voice 1: what our children often embody,

Voice 2: what makes the Divine smile –

ALL: Joy!

Voice 1: It cannot be paid for, but is a priceless treasure.

Voice 2: As we wait and watch and wonder, God give us joy!

(Light the third candle, pink.)

Voice 1: We light a candle for joy, as the promise of your coming lifts our spirits.

All Sing: : Hope Is A Star (#7 VU verse 3)

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,

Telling the world that the Saviour is born.

When God is a child there is joy in our song,

The last shall be first, and the weak shall be strong,

And none shall be afraid.

Voice 2: Let us pray: Joy is not a commodity that can be bought or sold, but rather, it lives deep in the human spirit.

Voice 1: O God, help us to hear that truth and believe it.

Voice 2: We were made in joy. May we live that way.

ALL: May this candle of Joy light the way.

Voice 1: And hear us now as we pray 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.**

**ANTHEM: *Oh, How Joyfully* (#57 VU) ~ David Ward, Dorothy Webster,
Sharon Noel, Lynda-Jean Coffin**

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

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 3: 7-18

***HYMN # 59 VU Joy To The World**

SERMON: *Here's To John: The Killjoy of Christmas!*

SOLO: Moon Joyce: *Let's Sing Together A Song of Joy* [Ken Whiteley]

**Let's sing together a song of joy
It's time for joy to begin
If we open up our hearts to joy
There's room for joy to come in.
Joy, joy, song of joy
Heard above the din
If we open up our hearts to joy
There's room for joy to come in.**

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN #73 VU The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy**

***BENEDICTION**

*** CHORAL BLESSING: (#64 VU verse 4)**

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell,
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

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: Lorna Ball

Tellers This Week: Myrna Belyea-Tracy and Keith Ball

Trustees On Duty (Dec): David Ward

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sun., Dec. 19th - 11:00 am - Advent IV – Love

Fri., Dec. 24th - *7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Family Service

10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Communion

***Please pre-register** for the 7pm Christmas Eve service so we can ensure a happy and safe time! Call **459-3313 or 470-9634** and tell us how many in your group.

It's that time of year our MITTEN TREE is now in place and ready to receive any knitted items you would like to contribute. By Christmas, these items will be distributed to wherever the need exists.

The December issue of the **United Church** magazine '**Broadview**' is available in the library area for borrowing.

The 2022 United Church calendars have arrived and are being sold by the UCW for \$8. See Lorna Ball or call the church office 459-3313. There are only 2 left!

LENDING LIBRARY - To keep everyone as safe as possible, we ask that, when returning books, you place them in a bag, with a note as to the date, and leave them on the bottom shelf of the library (it is marked for you). Books will be set aside for 4 days before being put into circulation. Thank you all, and happy, healthy reading!

JIGSAW PUZZLE LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have a lovely selection of jigsaw puzzles in the choir room. They are available to anyone who would like to borrow them. A great way to pass the time in the cold winter months. Donations of puzzles are greatly appreciated. Kindly put date of return on puzzles when returning them so they can be set aside for required time before being put back into circulation.

<p>Office Notes: The church's office hours are Tuesdays-Thursdays from 10 am to 12 noon and Fridays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The office will be locked except for these hours and Sunday mornings.</p>

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 that particular Sunday!

The **2022 Church Envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the upper foyer for you to pick up. Only those who use their envelopes regularly have been issued new ones this year. In an effort to reduce our costs, those using PAR will not receive 2022 envelopes. However, they will keep their same envelope number as in 2021.

If you are interested in obtaining church envelopes, or if you have any questions, please contact Sue Morrison (458 8150).

Your offerings continue to sustain the operation of this church and are greatly appreciated. The Committee of Stewards.