

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 18th, 2022 11 am
ADVENT IV: THE GIFT OF LOVE

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. Advent Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation

*Love! Love, is the religion in me.
Whichever way love's camel goes,
that way becomes my faith,
the source of beauty, and a light
of sacredness over everything.*

Ibn Arabi from “The Love Religion”

THE GATHERING

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

*THE WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The Love of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

*HYMN #158 MV Dream A Dream

THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

Voice 1: Through this season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth,

Voice 2: this tiny baby, born long ago, in a village far away.

People: The One called Emmanuel, “God with us.”

Voice 1: Such mystery was too deep for human understanding.

Voice 2: But not too deep for the human heart. So Mary treasured all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

Voice 1: And Joseph heeded the words of an angel. And pondered them in *his* heart.

Voice 2: And far away, magi looked to the heavens and listened to *their* hearts, and so began a journey.

Voice 1: And all of them together: Mary and Joseph and angels and shepherds and magi, and even a grumpy, old camel...

Voice 2: Together, they brought forth love.

People: To become human, is to become Love in action.

Voice 1: And so we light a Candle of Love.

(Light the Last Blue Candle)

Voice 2: Let us pray:

**All: As we recall the old, old stories of your birth, Lord,
we look for new stories, written in the lives of all humanity.
Open our lives to your Spirit. Be born in us, today.**

All Sing: (MV #47) Born in Human Likeness (x2)

Born in human likeness, found in human form:

Jesus, “God is with us”, we proclaim your glory!

Voice 1: And now let us pray together, as the Light of the World taught us, 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 #7 VU Hope Is A Star v.4

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2: 1-11, 15-19 and Matthew 2: 1-2, 9-11

SOLO: Lynda-Jean Coffin: *Out of the East* Harry Noble

STORYTIME: *The Tale Of Hoshmakaka: An Old Camel & His Journey Of Love*

***HYMN#69 VU Away In A Manger**

T H E R E S P O N S E

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: In The Bleak Midwinter (#55 VU, verse 4)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN#76 VU See Amid The Winter's Snow**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING: While Shepherds Watched (#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.**

***The bulletin today is dedicated in memory of Ron Tupling.
Lovingly remembered by Krista, Jess and Abby.***

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 Dorothy Webster

Trustee On Duty (Dec): David Ward

LOOKING AHEAD:

Tue., Dec. 20th - 1:00 pm - Men's Club Luncheon (see below)

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

10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Holy Communion

Sun., Dec. 25th - ** No service (see below)

**** As we are offering two services on Saturday, December 24th, it was decided that we would not hold services on Christmas morning.**

MEN'S CLUB MEETING/LUNCHEON – Last week because of weather, the Men's Club postponed it's Christmas meeting/luncheon to **Tuesday, December 20th at 1:00 pm at Wetmore's Pub**. This luncheon is open to all men of the congregation who would like to join us for some good food and fellowship. If interested, please contact Keith (455-1948) or Dave (455-8208).

The **2023 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 2023 envelopes.

Church Offering

Anyone wanting a church envelope number (an annual tax receipt is issued for all contributions) or anyone interested in signing up for PAR (pre-approved remittance – where monthly contributions can be made to the church through your bank), please contact Sue Morrison (458-8150) or smorriso@unb.ca.

The **2023 Church calendars** are in and are being sold by our UCW for \$10 each. See Lorna Ball or call the church office at **459-3313**.

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

The **Jan/Feb** edition of **BROADVIEW** has arrived and is available in the library area for you to borrow.

NMUC LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have plenty of interesting books in our church library for anyone to borrow.

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.

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).