

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

875 Route 101 Hwy. Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1
Minister: The Rev. Dr. Kelly Burke, B.A., M.Div, D.Min
Musical Director: Lynda-Jean Coffin, B.A, B.Ed., Music

Phone:506-459-3313
Office Administrator: Lorna Ball

January 31st, 2021 11 am
The Season Of Epiphany

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy 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. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Dr. Burke. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

But I shall be wise this time, and wait in the dark....

Rabindranath Tagore, from *Gitanjali*

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: Moon Joyce: Open My Eyes, That I May See (#371 VU)

Open my Eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth thou hast for me
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free
Silently now I wait for thee
Ready my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit Divine!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Light of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

We tend to be busy creatures, O God. Comfortable with “doing,”

Less so with simply “being.”

But we gather now, and begin again, to practice something like attention:

To stop, and breathe, and seek your presence in this time together.

And may each silence, may each breath, be as much a prayer as these words that Jesus taught:

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.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1: 35-39

MUSIC: Moon Joyce: Come And Find The Quiet Centre (#374 VU)

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!**

SERMON: *While it was Yet Dark....*

MUSIC: Moon Joyce: *Sanctuary* Carrie Newcomer

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS

BENEDICTION

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

**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.**