

# NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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Minister: Rev. Dr. 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, M.Ed.  
Pulpit Supply: Heather Donnelly

September 10, 2017 11:00 am  
14<sup>th</sup> After Pentecost  
Season of Creation – Land Sunday  
“Celebrating 130 years!”

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself. Grace and peace to you all.

## THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*Bless us, dark earth as we give back that which we have received, as we make a forest blessing, a ridge of blessing for the future to grow upon. –*

*CHINOOK PSALTER*

## THE GATHERING

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

**\*WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**\*INTROIT: #381 VU Spirit of Life**

**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: We invite the land to worship with us:**

**All: wildflowers and mysterious mushrooms,  
swirling grasses and goldenrods.**

One: We invite the farmlands to sing with us:

**All: wheat fields, orchards, and vineyards,  
hay fields, gardens, and wetlands.**

One: We join with all the fauna of the fields in praising God:

**All: horses, sheep, and cattle,  
grass snakes and grasshoppers, eagles and crows.**

One: We invite the ground to stir deep below:

**All: life giving microbes restoring the soil,  
beetles and worms preparing our food.**

One: We celebrate the song of the soil!

**All: Sing, soil, sing!**

## **\*HYMN #174 MV Soil of God, You and I**

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

One: Marvelous Maker, we come into your presence  
to worship in this sanctuary called Earth,

**All: a planet pulsating with your presence,  
a presence quivering in the forests,  
a presence vibrating in the land,  
a presence shimmering in the rivers.**

One: God, reveal yourself to us in this place,  
and show us your face in all creation.

**All: Holy! Holy! Holy!**

**The whole Earth is filled with your glory.**

### **SOUL SEARCHING**

One: Awesome Creator, as we celebrate Land Sunday we remember the dry land that rose from waters in the beginning, the plants that emerged from the soil to cover the land with vegetation, and the rich diversity of animal life.

**All: Holy God, we regret that we have become alienated from Earth and treated this garden planet as a beast to be tamed, as a place to be ruled for our gain. We have killed living soils with chemicals, we have cleared rich lands of wildlife, and we are sorry. Amen. 2.**

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

### **SOME TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**\*HYMN MV#41 O Beautiful Gaia**

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

**SCRIPTURE LESSON(S):** Psalm 139 VU, page 861  
Genesis 3: 14-19, 4: 8-16

### **ANTHEM**

### **REFLECTION**

**\*HYMN #307 VU Touch the Earth Lightly**

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY #538 VU For the Gift of Creation**

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed  
by the gifts that we give.**

### **DEDICATION**

**God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these  
gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our  
thanksgiving and as a sign of our concern for those in need,  
including all our fellow creatures on Earth. Amen**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**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**

**\*HYMN #296 VU This is God's Wondrous World**

## **BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BLESSING: #884VU You Shall Go Out with Joy (2 times)**

**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field  
will clap, will clap their hands!**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)  
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)  
while you go out with joy.**

Today's prayers are adapted from a liturgy for Land Sunday provided at [www.letallcreationpraise.org](http://www.letallcreationpraise.org).

## **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. Jane Johnson at 440-9981.***

**Greeters: Lydia and Patrick LaPointe**

**Trustees On Duty (Sept): Dave Ward and Jim Merrill**

## **LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Mon., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm - Men's Club Meeting**

**Wed., Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm - U.C.W. Meeting**

**Tue., Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm - Official Board Meeting**

**WELCOME BACK – Sunday School classes resume today! All children are welcome!**

**The MEN'S CLUB** will hold their first regular meeting for the fall on **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** at the Church. All men are welcome. (Note: We would like to serve homemade pickles at our supper in October 15<sup>th</sup>. If you make your own pickles, would you consider putting aside a couple of jars for this? Many thanks.)

**U.C.W.** will meet on **Wed., Sept. 13th at 7 pm** in the home of Dorothy Webster (215 Bradshaw Dr.). We will be making plans for our Bridge Luncheon which will be held on September 28th. New members are very welcome. For more info contact **Dorothy at 457-9795**.

**SPECIAL BEACON EDITION:** A special anniversary 'Beacon' is being planned to help celebrate not only Canada's 150th birthday but also New Maryland United Church's 130th. The committee is looking for photos, items of interest or newspaper clippings from years past, regarding church activities or what life was like for some of our early families who attended the New Maryland Kirk. How about submitting a story you remembered your grandparents telling you? Sue Morrison, Sharon Noel and Lydia LaPointe will be pleased to accept any submissions. All items will be returned to the owners. Thank you in advance for your help with this special project!

**GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE** - For the month of **September**, we will focus on **school snacks** (puddings, fruit cups, granola bars, juice boxes). Please note that **school supplies** are also in need at this time. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.