

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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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 15th, 2019 11 am
ADVENT III: Hearing Anew The Old, Old Story
SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT: THE SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS

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

We can find ourselves in the ancient story. We play at being shepherds or Magi or sheep. If there isn't a character that quite fits, well, there is room for a leopard or a turtle [or a tree or a bell or a cookie]. The story is big and odd enough to include us all. David Giuliano

THE GATHERING

*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!

THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

CHOIR Sings: (MV #47) Born in Human Likeness x2

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 a 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.

People: To become human, is to become believing.

Voice 1: And so we light a Candle of Believing

(Light the Pink 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.

T H E R E S P O N S E

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

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:4-11

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT: The Symbols of Christmas

~Introduction: Brooke-Lyn Power

~Symbol: The Wreath: Emma Knorr; Savannah Harris

All Sing: Hope Is A Star, (#7 VU verse 4 and refrain)

**Love is a flame that burns in the heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.
When God is a child there's joy in our song,
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong**

~Symbol: The Christmas Tree: Declan Selwah

All Sing: O Christmas Tree (Trad Carol)

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches!
In beauty green will always grow,
Through summer sun and winter snow.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How lovely are your branches!**

~Symbol: The Candle: Kailey Wight; Tenley MacBean

All Sing: A Candle is Burning, (#6 VU verse 1)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

~Symbol: Ornaments: Jessica Tupling and Abby Tupling

All Sing: Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas Martin/Blane

**Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light,
From now on your troubles will be out of sight.
Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yuletide gay,
From now on your troubles will be miles away.
Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore.**

**Faithful friends who are dear to us,
Gather near to us, once more.
Through the years we all will be together
If the fates allow,
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough,
And have yourself a merry little Christmas now.**

~Symbol: The Star: Emma Knorr; Mia Minor

All Sing: The First Nowell, (#91 VU verse 4 and refrain)

**The star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

~Symbol: Presents: Kailey Wight

All Sing: We Three Kings J.H. Hopkins, Jr.

**We three kings of orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide with thy perfect light.**

~Symbol: Angels: Allyson Loftus; Becca Wight; Emma Loftus

All Sing: Angels We Have Heard on High (#38 VU verse 1 and refrain)

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Glo-----ria, in excelsis Deo.
Glo-----ria, in excelsis Deo.**

~Symbol: Bells: Evie Minor

Children Sing: *Jingle Bells* J.L. Pierpont

~**Symbol: Cookies: Jessica Tupling; Charlie Selwah**

OFFERING: Choir: *Dream a Dream*

Murray/Klusmeier

OFFERTORY: (#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.**

~**Symbol: Nativity Scene: Brooke-Lyn Power; Declan Selwah; Charlie Selwah;
Allyson Loftus; Evie Minor; Mia Minor; Emma Loftus; Kailey Wight;
Becca Wight; Tenley MacBean; Savannah Harris; Abby Tupling;
Taylor Loftus; Aidan Brown and Brayden Wight**

Children Sing: *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* (trad Carol)

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BLESSING: (#64 VU verse 4, trad tune)**

**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.**

THE WONDERFUL CAST OF *THE SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS*

Director: Sheila Power

**Cast: Brooke-Lyn Power; Jessica Tupling; Emma Knorr; Savannah Harris;
Declan Selwah; Kailey Wight; Tenley MacBean; Abby Tupling; Allyson
Loftus; Becca Wight; Emma Loftus; Mia Minor; Charlie Selwah; Evie
Minor; Aidan Brown; Brayden Wight; Taylor Loftus.**

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:

Trustees On Duty (Dec): Lloyd Penney and Jim Merrill

Tellers On Duty: Lloyd Penney and Meg Sims

Nursery: Shannon

LOOKING AHEAD:

**Mon., Dec. 16th - 8:00 am - NMUC goes to Christ Church Cathedral
7:00 pm - Board of Trustees Meeting**

Sat., Dec. 21st - 8:30 am - NMUC goes to F'ton Community Kitchen

Sun., Dec. 22nd -11:00 am - Advent IV: Holy Communion

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

10:00 pm - Candlelight Service & Holy Communion

Sun., Dec. 29th -11:00 am - First After Christmas

Sun., Jan. 5th - 11:00 am - A Celebration of Epiphany

Copies of the **December** edition of "*The Beacon*" are available in the foyer.

The **2020 United Church calendars** have arrived and are being sold by the UCW for \$8. See Lorna Ball or call the church office at 459-3313.

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 wherever the need exists.

The latest edition of the United Church magazine '*Broadview*' has arrived and is available for borrowing from the library area.

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).

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE

For the month of **December**, we will focus on **1 litre juice for Christmas hampers.** However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated. We are always looking for plastic grocery bags as well as we use them for packing.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

WILMOT UNITED CHURCH- “Out Of The Cold” As you may have heard, Fredericton’s Out of the Cold Shelter for 2019/20 is expected to open on Friday, December 6 at 332 Brunswick Street. Donations of various items are needed in order to provide a welcoming space for the guests who will use the shelter. The list of items that are currently needed can be found at <https://www.roadhomefredericton.com/out-of-the-cold.html>. Donations can be dropped off at Wilmot United Church, Carleton Street door, Monday thru Saturday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm until Friday, December 20. Financial donations are also appreciated. Any support you can provide for the most vulnerable in our community will be greatly appreciated.