

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

Choir Director: Rev. Jane Johnson, B.Sc, B.Th., M.Div

Supply Pianist: Supply Musician: Veronica Kallos RMT, B.Mus

Special Guest Musician: Thomas Ripley

December 17th, 2023 11 am

ADVENT III: JOY: AN ALL AGES SERVICE OF SEASONAL MUSIC & STORY

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 friendship with its people. Grace and peace to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

Joy is a meeting place... a living frontier, a voice speaking between us and the world: dance, laughter, affection, singing in the car, music in the street, the quiet irreplaceable and companionable presence of a child.

David Whyte

THE GATHERING

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

*WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The joy of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us worship together!

THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

Reader 1: The Messiah's coming was punctuated by Joy:

Reader 2: The angel said to the shepherds, 'Fear not; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people;

Reader 1: For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

Reader 2: This will be a sign for you: you will find the child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.

Reader 1: Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her king!

[Light the pink candle of Joy]

Reader 1: And we dare to say: May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

Reader 2: May the light from this candle say to all, that God's joy is waiting to be born:

Reader 1: Into the world. Into us.

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

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Reader 1: And now we pray in the way of emmanuel, 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.**

A CAROL SING!

~THOMAS RIPLEY

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

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2: 8-12, 15

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM: *Come On Ring Those Bells!*

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING & OFFERTORY: In The Bleak Midwinter (#55 VU, v.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.

~THOMAS RIPLEY

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN # 43 Go Tell It On The Mountain

* THE BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BLESSING: While Shepherds Watched #75 VU, v.6

All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace.
Goodwill 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: Krista Tupling

Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Myrna Belyea-Tracy

Trustee on Duty (Dec): David Ward

LOOKING AHEAD:

Mon., Dec. 18th - Outreach goes to Christ Church Cathedral

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

10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Holy Communion

Sun., Dec. 31st - 11:00 am - Worship Service - Celebrating Epiphany

MITTEN TREE: Keely Collins, granddaughter of Lloyd and Sheila Penney, is teaching at Assiniboine Avenue Elementary School in Oromocto. It is a K-2 school. A daily issue is that students come to school without mittens and hats and then freeze when playing outside. Keely was wondering if we would donate our mittens as we have in the past, and I assured her we'd love to. We happily accept ALL sizes, but for Keely's students we will be looking for mittens etc. for wee hands. Thanks so much!

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OUTREACH: We will be heading to meet with our guests and fellow volunteers on **Monday, December 18th** with goody bags courtesy of the UCW. There are a number of families with young children now arriving, so we are also willing to take: gently used children's clothing.

New Look for Church Envelopes:

Due to the high increase in cost of personalized church envelopes, the Stewards Committee has developed a church envelope that can be used by everyone, at any time. You will continue to use your current assigned envelope number, but there will now be a space on the envelope to fill in that envelope number and the date, as well as the previous categories of where you would like your offering directed: to Local, M&S, Building, or Other. And, of course, all offerings will continue to be recorded for your personal income tax purposes. Envelopes will be available in packs of 20 throughout the year in the church lobby, so you can just pick them up as needed. Thank you so much for your continued financial support of New Maryland United. Dorothy Webster, Church Treasurer

The **2024 United Church calendars** are in and are being sold by our UCW for **\$10** each. See Lorna Ball. *(There are only a couple of calendars left!)*

New copies of “**Our Daily Breads**” (Dec/Jan/Feb) are now available at the main entrance. These copies are provided free of charge, however, a container is available for those wishing to make a donation to Radio Bible Class.

GREENER VILLAGE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE: For the month of **December**, we will focus on **pasta sauce (canned)**. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated.