

# 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

Supply Musician: Nathaniel Sergeant Choir Director: Rev. Jane Johnson, B.Sc, B.Th., M.Div

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 11 am

ADVENT I: Hope: Finding Ourselves In The 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:**

*I know that  
hope is the hardest  
love we carry.*

Jane Hirshfield

## THE GATHERING

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

**\*WELCOME**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** The hope of Christ be with you!

**People:** And also with you!

**Leader:** Let us worship together!

**\*HYMN #36 VU Angels, From The Realms Of Glory**

**THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:**

Reader 1: When we look around, in this beautiful season of ribbons and evergreen and glow...

Reader 2: we still see shadows.

Reader 1: Shadows of need, of hunger, of worry.

Reader 2: Neighbors around the world, living with war or rumours of war.

Reader 1: In the face of such shadows, we do a small thing.

Reader 2: In the face of such shadows, we light a candle of hope...

***[Light the first blue candle]***

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 hope is waiting to be born:

Reader 1: In the world. In us.

Reader 2: As the angels always remind us: Be not afraid! Hope is at hand!

***All Sing: Hope Is A Star (#7 VU v.1)***

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

**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.**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN #69 VU Away In A Manger, v.1**

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN#69 VU Away In A Manger, v.2**

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

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2: 8-14**

**ANTHEM: *Dream A Dream S.E. Murray/R. Klusmeier***

**SERMON: *Dreams and Angels and Boxcars***

**HYMN #44 VU It Came Upon The Midnight Clear**

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

### **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.**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN #38 VU Angels We Have Heard On High**

**\*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 loving memory of Bob and Dawn  
Watson from the choir.***

# 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. Dr. Kelly Burke at 470-9634.*

**Greeter This Week: Chandra and Tenley MacBean**

**Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Merlin Tracy**

**Trustee on Duty (Dec): David Ward**

## **LOOKINGAHEAD:**

**Wed., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - 12:30 pm - Men's Club Christmas Luncheon**

**Sun., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - Advent II – White Gift & Mitten Tree**

**Wed., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 pm - U.C.W. Christmas Get Together**

**Sun., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - 11:00 am - Advent III - Christmas Music & Fun for all!**

**Sun., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Family Service**

**10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Holy Communion**

**Sun., Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> – 11:00 am – Worship Service – Celebrating Epiphany**

The **Men's Club** will be holding its annual **Christmas Luncheon** on **Wednesday, December 6, 12:30pm** at Wetmore Street Pub. This luncheon is open to all men of the congregation. If interested in attending, please advise Keith (506-455-1948) or Dave (506-455-8208).

The **U.C.W.** will hold their **Christmas Meeting/Party** on **Wed., December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm** in the home of Dorothy Webster (215 Bradshaw Dr). We will have our Yankee Swap and all will bring a fingerfood to share. All women of the congregation would be very welcome to join us. Call Dorothy at 457-9795 for further details.

**WHITE GIFT SUNDAY: Dec 10.** This year, if you are wondering what to contribute, perhaps you would consider a donation to the Food Bank, or gift

cards to grocery stores, Walmart, Giant Tiger, etc. With so many working poor in our midst, this need is very real. 4.

**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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

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

### **ADVENT CAROL FESTIVAL – ST. PAUL'S UNITED**

**CHURCH** - Join us on **Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** as choirs from around the Fredericton area come together to sing us into the Christmas season. In the midst of the singing, there will be a special offering taken up in support of local area Food Banks. Music starts at **7:30 pm** so come early to get a parking space and a seat!