

# 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  
Supply Musician: Mae Ward  
Choir Director: Rev. Jane Johnson, B.Sc., B.Th., M.Div.

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 11 am LENT V  
THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM  
The Lenten Journey Continues: Pondering The Mystery Of Jesus

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:

*Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family:  
whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.*

Jane Howard

## THE GATHERING

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

## THE LIGHTING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

## THE GATHERING & WELCOME

\*Introit: Gather Us In #7 MV

Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, ground us in you.  
Gather us in, gather us in,  
Ground us, ground us, in you.

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The joy of Christ be with you.  
People: And also with you!  
Leader: Let us worship together!

## **OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**Leader:** On this day of sign and sacrament, of water and word: on this day of ash and journey and encounter;

**People: on this day of faith and family, of promise and praise:**

**Leader:** May we recognize your presence here O God, with us and amongst us.

**And so, in trust and confidence, we pray the words that came through Jesus, our brother, 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.**

## **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**\*HYMN # 376 VU Spirit of The Living God**

### **Introduction to The Sacrament (From: *A Song of Faith*):**

In grateful response to God's abundant love,  
we bear in mind our integral connection  
to the earth and one another;

**we participate in God's work of healing and mending creation.**

To point to the presence of the holy in the world,

**the church receives, consecrates, and shares  
visible signs of the grace of God.**

In company with the churches  
of the Reformed and Methodist traditions,  
we celebrate two sacraments as gifts of Christ:

Baptism and Holy Communion.

In these sacraments the ordinary things of life  
—water, bread, wine—

point beyond themselves to God and God's love,  
teaching us to be alert to the sacred in the midst of life.

**Before conscious thought or action on our part,  
we are born into the brokenness of this world.**

**Before conscious thought or action on our part,  
we are surrounded by God's redeeming love.**

Baptism by water in the name of the Holy Trinity  
is the means by which we are received, at any age,  
into the covenanted community of the church.

It is the ritual that signifies our rebirth in faith  
and cleansing by the power of God.

**Baptism signifies the nurturing, sustaining,  
and transforming power of God's love  
and our grateful response to that grace.**

**The Presentation of the Candidates** – Tina Glenn, Clerk of Session:

And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth  
has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy  
Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded  
you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

On behalf of the congregation of New Maryland United Church, I  
present **Amanda Jayne Martin, Faith Doreen Elizabeth Martin** and  
**Nevaeh Georgia-Lee Ross**, for initiation into the body of Christ  
through Baptism.

**Profession of Faith and Promises**

**Questions to The Candidates:**

Do you believe in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit/  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer?

**I do, by the grace of God.**

Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words  
and by your actions?

**I will, God being my helper.**

Will you live in the knowledge and love of God, resisting evil, living with respect in creation, and loving and serving others?

**I will, God being my helper.**

Will you continue to grow in faith and love, so that being strengthened by the Holy Spirit and nurtured at the Table of the Lord, you may go forth to serve God faithfully in the world?

**I will, God being my helper.**

**(Congregation will stand)**

As the congregation of New Maryland United Church, do you commit yourself to support and nurture **Amanda, Faith and Nevaeh** within this community and uphold them in prayer?

**We do, by the grace of God.**

### Prayer Of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you!**

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of creation made known to us in water and word.

Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.

In the time of Moses your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom, and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the Promised Land.

You have come to us through water in the stories of Jesus, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the Jordan, and became Living Water to a woman at the Samaritan well. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, and sent them forth to baptize with water and the Spirit.

By your Holy Spirit O God, bless this water we pray. May it be a sign of new life in Christ. Amen.

The Act of Baptism

Baptism in the name of the Triune God

Marking with the sign of the cross

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Aaronic Blessing

Declaration and Presenting them to the Congregation

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

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 11: 1-45**

**SERMON: *It Takes A Village....***

**\*HYMN # 410 VU This Day God Gives Me**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY: These Lenten Gifts We Bring (tune: #542)**

**These Lenten gifts we bring,  
our faith in act expressed.**

**We offer them most lovingly,  
and pray their use be blessed.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN # 703 VU In The Bulb There Is A Flower**

**\*THE LITANY OF DIMINISHING LIGHT**

**Leader:** Our Lenten journey continues, and slowly, the light fades....

**[*The fifth purple candle is snuffed*]**

and so we pray:

Lord have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy upon us. There are times, O God, when it seems it would be easier to do the work ourselves, without having to let others in;

**Without having to wait for someone, or adjust to their ways.**

Without having to see another point of view.

**But said aloud, we hear the lack: the lack of welcome, and inclusion.  
And we know this is not the Way.**

And so, O God, gathered within the strength of community, we lay  
these burdens down...

*.....A moment of quiet.....*

**The Assurance:** Remember O people, the One that breathed life into dust,  
that claimed you as Beloved, still calls to you, reminding you that you are  
forgiven, that there is nothing- *nothing* - that can separate you from God's  
love.

***Sung Response:*** (#95 MV)

***How deep the peace, the confidence, of those whose wrongs are forgiven.***

***How deep the peace the confidence, of those whose hearts are healed.***

Amen and amen.

**\*CHORAL BLESSING: Stay With Us Through The Night (#182 VU, v.1)**

**Stay with us through the night**

**Stay with us through the pain.**

**Stay with us, blessed stranger,**

**Till the morning breaks again.**

*The bulletin today is dedicated in loving memory of Velzora (Tiny)  
Campbell who passed away in 2022. She will be remembered always for  
her faith, her unwavering devotion to her family and many friends. By  
Stan and Laurie Campbell & family.*

## **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.***

**Tellers This Week: Dorothy Webster and Linda Watson**

**Trustee On Duty (Mar): David Ward**

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Tue., Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 pm – Lenten Conversations**

**Wed., Mar. 29<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm – “Chili Night” (see below)**

**Sun., Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 11:00 am - Worship Service – Palm Sunday**

**Fri., Apr. 7<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 am - Good Friday Service**

**Sun., Apr. 9<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am - Worship Service – Easter Sunday**

**Lenten Conversations – Mar. 28 & Apr. 4:** Join us at church at **1:00 pm** for an hour and a half -ish of conversation and reflection. We will use scripture stories of this season as our jumping off place, and will add in our own memories, our understandings, and our questions- which is to say our own sacred stories. We will meet for two more weeks, but as the Angels always seem to say, "Fear Not" if you have to miss a week. While the weeks will link in their own way, they are all free standing. We will love to have you whenever you can participate!

**CHILI NIGHT** is on for this **Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**. Supper will be served at **6 pm** at the church. Meal consists of chili, (vegetarian & meat) garlic bread and a homemade dessert. The meal will be followed by entertainment by Moon Joyce. This supper is open to everyone in the congregation. Come and bring a friend! A good will offering will be appreciated.

**YARD SALE** - The Men's Club in partnership with UCW will be having a **Yard Sale on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 12:00** at the **New Maryland Rec Center**. You can drop off items on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 1- 8:00 pm. Please start putting things aside for this event. Unfortunately, no donations of clothing or electronics will be accepted. Further details to follow.

**KIDS CLASSICS – Concert for Children** will be held at New Maryland United Church on **Sunday, March 26 at 2:00 pm**. Music – “Four Seasons” Free entry.