NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

875 Route 101 Hwy. Nasonworth, NB E3C 2C1 Phone:506-459-3313
Minister: 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 Musician: Nathaniel Sergeant

December 8th, 2024 11 am
ADVENT ll: PEACE: WHITE GIFT SUNDAY & THE MITTEN TREE

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this sacred morning. 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 have spent my life watching, not to see beyond the world, but merely to see, great mystery, what is plainly before my eyes. I think the concept of transcendence is based on a misreading of creation. With all respect to heaven, the scene of the miracle is here, among us.

Marilynne Robinson

T H E G A T H E R I N G

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

*THE WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The peace of Advent be with you!
People: And also with you!

THE ADVENT CANDLE LITURGY:

Voice 1: Through this season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth,
Voice 2: the tiny baby, born long ago, in a village far away.
ALL: The One called Emmanuel, "God with us".
Voice 1: Every Christmas story, ancient or modern, includes someone bringing gifts to the Christ child.
Voice 2: As if our impulse to give, is evidence in itself, of the presence of the Divine:

Voice 1: The presence of the Divine, the Prince of Peace, in both the one who gives, and the one who receives.

ALL: To become human, is to seek the gift of peace among us.

Voice 2: And so we light a Candle of Peace

(Light the Second Blue Candle)

Voice 1: 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. Come. Be born in us, today.

All Sing: <u>O Come, O Come Emmanuel (#1 VU, v.7)</u>

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us the Prince of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Voice 2: 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.

CHILDREN'S HYMN #7 VU Hope Is A Star v.2
PRESENTATION OF WHITE GIFTS & MITTEN TREE
CHILDREN'S HYMN #7 VU Hope Is A Star v.2

THE WORD OF GOD

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 21: 25-33

CHOIR: *The Shepherds' Nowell* **A. L. Page**

SERMON: *Earth Tilting and Seas Roaring? Must Be Almost Christmas!*

HYMN #158 MV Dream A Dream

THE RESPONSE

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

***OFFERING & OFFERTORY: <u>In The Bleak Midwinter</u> (#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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
HYMN #76 VU See Amid The Winter's Snow

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING: <u>*While Shepherds Watched*</u> (#75 VU, v. 6)
All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace;
Good will to all from highest heaven, begin, and never cease.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

E-Mail: nmuc875@gmail.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: Tina Glenn
Teller This Week: Dorothy Webster and Tina Glenn
Trustee on Duty (Dec): David Ward

<u>LOOKINGAHEAD</u>:

Sun., Dec. 15th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – Advent III – Joy
Sunday School Participates
Sun., Dec. 22nd – 11:00 am - Worship Service – Advent IV – Love
Tue., Dec. 24th - 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Family Service
10:00 pm - Service of Candlelight & Holy Communion
Sun., Dec. 29th - 11:00 am - Worship Service – First After Christmas

Nominating Committee is looking for a representative from our church who would be our Regional Rep at Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters annual meetings. Please notify David Ward if you're interested. 506-440-3558.

It's that time of year…. **Our MITTEN TREE** is now ready to receive any knitted items you would like to contribute. By Christmas, these items will be distributed wherever the need exists.

JIGSAW PUZZLE LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have a lovely selection of jigsaw puzzles in the mini kitchen (off the sanctuary). They are available to anyone who would like to borrow them. A great way to pass the time. Donations of puzzles are greatly appreciated.

NMUC LIBRARY – Just a reminder that we have plenty of interesting books in our church library for anyone to borrow. There have been a couple of requests for **"large print" novels** for our library. If you have any at home or know someone who would like to donate some, we'd love to have them.

New copies of **"Our Daily Breads" (Dec/Jan/Feb)** are now available in 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 **canned pasta sauce or canned tomatoes. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated. /4.**

Church Officials

Official Board Chair – Sue Morrison

Clerk of Session – Tina Glenn

Treasurer/Chair of Stewards – Dorothy Webster

Trustees Chair – Ann Urquhart

Ministry & Personnel Chair – Rod Campbell

Christian Development Chair – Sheila Power

Worship Committee Chair –Loraine Ward

Social Committee Chair – Linda Watson

Outreach Committee Chair – Janet Merrill

Mission & Service Rep – Sheila Power

Cemetery Committee Chair – David Ward

U.C.W. President - Dorothy Webster
Men's Club Chair - Keith Ball

Executive Committee- Sue Morrison(Chair), Rev.Dr. Kelly Burke, David Ward, Ann Urquhart, Rod Campbell, Dorothy Webster