

# 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

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 11 am  
Behold, I make all things new!

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this holy 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. If you are visiting or new to the congregation please introduce yourself to Rev. Dr. Burke. Grace and peace to you all!

## Thought for Meditation:

*The strict problem solver often stays mired in the question of “what could go wrong?” Ahh, but the possibilities that can unfold when we step off that threshold and instead ask: “what could go right?” K.B.*

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

### WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

O Come, All Ye Faithful, #60 VU, v.1

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the king of angels;

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

### CALL TO WORSHIP

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

**People:** And also with you!

**Leader:** Let us worship together!

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

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

**Leader:** O God of new beginnings, instigator of Christmas and New Year, start something new in us today.

**People:** Reopen our souls to hope, and our will to a new direction.

**Leader:** Set before us today, the ways of Emmanuel.

**People:** And within us, your Holy Spirit, that we might walk a new path with you.

**Leader:** This we ask in the name of the Prince of Peace, who taught his friends to pray together, 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 W O R D O F G O D**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON:** Matthew

**\*HYMN# 35 VU Good Christian Friends Rejoice**

**SERMON:** *Courage, Love, and The Way of Joseph*

**HYMN #47 VU Still, Still, Still**

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

**THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY: (#81 VU As With Gladness Men of Old, v.3)**

**As they offered gifts most rare, at the manger crude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ to you our heavenly King!**

**PRAYERS & A LITANY FOR EPIPHANY & THE NEW YEAR:**

God of the ages, to whom the hours are nothing and everything:

**We stand at this moment, having ended a year.**

And in the midst of an unknown future. We balance on the cusp of these days,

**Teetering between old, and new, between coming and going,  
between sojourning and homecoming.**

To you, O God, we entrust all our yesterdays: yours to hallow and to hold; yours to forgive and to cherish.

**To you, O God, we dedicate all our tomorrows: strengthen and challenge us, and help us to dream;**

And hold us – and surprise us! - O God, in the holy now. And blessed be all those we encounter.

**Blessed be our humility, blessed be our care, blessed be our blunders.**

Blessed be this family of faith in this time and place!

**AMEN!**

**HYMN #79 VU Arise Your Light Is Come**

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BLESSING: Auld Lang Syne**

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot,**

**And never brought to mind?**

**Should auld acquaintance be forgot,**

**For days of auld lang syne!**

**For auld lang syne, my dear,**

**For auld lang syne.**

**We'll drink a cup o' kindness yet,**

**For auld lang syne.**