

St. Andrew's United Church
188 Wellington Street
Miramichi, N.B. E1N 1M4
773-9932

<http://www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org>

Minister: Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight
Organist & Choir Director: Joanne Wiseman
Greeters: Dennis & Judy Morrison

January 7, 2018

Epiphany Sunday

We Gather to Worship

Musical Prelude

(congregation stand as able when choir enters)

*Gathering Words

*Hymn: #96, Will You Come and See the Light (vs. 1,2,5)

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candle: *(seated)*-

L: With the light of Christ's love, God reveals a light that dispels our darkness.

All: The glory of Christ shines in our world that God's will might be known to all.

L: Will we turn in reverence to the light, or will we turn away, distracted by other things?

All: We will follow the Light of the World!

(Christ candle is lit)

Sing: #87, *chorus*

I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

Prayer of Approach: *(seated)*

God of starlight, disperse the darkness of our lives, that we may behold the light of your love shining in every corner of our world. Guide our footsteps in paths of righteousness, that justice may flourish and peace may abound. Help us follow the kings of old, that through our own journeys of faith, we may behold the mystery made known through the coming of your glory in the infant Jesus. Amen.

*Hymn: #81, As With Gladness Men of Old (vs. 1,2,3)

Placing of Magi in Nativity Scene – *Anthony McLean*

Conversation with the Children

Prayer of Confession:

Eternal God, following only a star in the sky, kings of old left their families and their lands to find a child whose birth was so profound, it was proclaimed in the heavens above.

When we would rather sit comfortably in our homes than make spiritual pilgrimages of our own, clothe our feet of clay in walking shoes and send us on our way.

At this season of light, help us shine your light in the darkness to honour the King of kings.

Move us to justice and peace; open our hearts to those in need, that the ancient gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh might not be the last gifts offered to the one who brings light into our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

L: The power that brought light and salvation to the kings of old is at work in the world today, granting light and life to those who turn to God.

All: Praise God for the continuing opportunity to grow in the light of Christ! Amen.

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination: *Colleen Dickson*

As a star shone in the heavens, O God, leading the magi to the mystery of your love, so open your Word to us. Enable us to delight in your light, that we may be filled with your love and yield our lives in service to you. Amen.

O.T. Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-3

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 72, p. 790 – Parts One and Two

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

Ministry of Music: “He is Born”

Reflection on the Word

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn: #82, A Light is Gleaming

Minute for Mission: “Displaced People” – *Jeanne Breau*

Offering

*Choral Response: #55, (vs.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.**

*Offertory Prayer:

God of love and light, receive these gifts, that they may be treasures for a world in need. Receive also the treasures of our hearts and our lives – that in our caring and our sharing, we may bring light and life to all. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (*sung*)

*Hymn: #84, O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

Benediction:

L: Let us go forth in the light of God’s star, committed to a journey of faith and courage.

All: We go forth with the light of Christ in our hearts, eager to learn the mystery of all we are meant to do and be.

L: Let us live in tenderness toward all people.

All: We go to share the gifts we have received.

L: May the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be with us now and all our days.

Choral Amen

Musical Postlude

Memorials

In loving memory of **Peter Ryan**, a donation to Food Bank has been received from Buddie & Frances Blakely.

Tape Distribution: Jan. 7 – Norma Weatherby/**Jan.14** – Denis Desaulniers

Duty Unit: Jan. Princess Anne Unit/**Feb.** Princess Street Unit

Greeters: Jan. 14 – Ferne & Ernie MacLean/**Jan. 21** – Merle Milson & Patricia Boucher

Sound System: Jan. 7 – John MacKnight/**Jan. 14** – Brian Savoy

Power Point: Jan. 7 – Juanita Hamilton/**Jan. 14** – Karen Rose

Offering Collections: Jan. 7 – Mavis Williamson, Anthony McLean, Merle Milson, Pat Boucher/**Jan. 14** – Bill & Lib Hachey, Debbie Stymiest, Hallam Curtis

Offering Counters:

Jan. 7 – Brian Savoy, Plen & Carol Dickson/**Jan. 14** – Lib Hachey, Don Bowman, Barry Campbell

Announcements:

This Week:

Sunday, Jan. 7th – *Following this morning's worship service some members of the Lesley Daigle Unit will be staying to take down the Christmas decorations, if you are able to help it would be appreciated.*

Monday, Jan. 8th – 12:00 noon – *Princess Street Unit meeting here at the church with a brown bag lunch*

Wednesday, Jan. 10th – 11:30 a.m. – *Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit meeting here at the church with a brown bag lunch*

– 7:00 p.m. – Worship & Music Team Meeting

Upcoming:

Sunday, Jan. 14th – *Sunday School will resume*

2018 Offering Envelopes are ready for anyone who has requested them at the back of the sanctuary by the church office. If anyone has not requested them but would like some, please contact Karen at 773-9932. If you would like to donate by PAR (pre-authorized remittance) please contact Karen. PAR is a withdrawal from your bank account on the 20th of each month for the amount you decide on for your monthly givings.

The Financial Management Team and the Policy and Communication Team have looked at the price of printing the weekly bulletins. Due to the increase in cost of printing the weekly fee for placing bulletins in honour/memory of will increase to \$30.00 per week as of Jan. 1st.

There is also a \$30.00 fee for funeral bulletins with no picture and \$50.00 fee for bulletins with a photo on the front.