

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: Barb Doucet & Margaret Moran Glidden

March 11, 2018

Lent 4

We Gather To Worship

*indicates to stand as you are able

Musical Prelude

*Introit: #1 (MV), Let Us Build a House (*vs. 1*)

**Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

*Call to Worship:

L: Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world, God loves the world, we are the beloved!

All: May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today and renew our sense of calling.

L: So come, with your tiredness, your frustrations and your discouragements; come with your doubts, your fears, and your longings; come, to discover yet again how Jesus reveals God's love and mercy.

All: We come, in friendship to God and to each other, and in friendship to the world, to listen for God's Word to us, to offer our prayers, and to renew our calling.

L: Friends of God, let us worship!

Opening Prayer: (*seated*)

We thank you, God, that we are given life – by Love, and we are gathered together – by your love for us and for all people.

You, God, are our all-in-all, the ground of our being, the rock of our faith, the place of shelter, in the never-ending dance of our lives.

For those moments in which we need calm, give us peace.

For those moments in which we need to GO, give us energy.

For those moments in which we need to simply be, give us love.

And help us to be your conduits of love, energy, and peace that flow into the world. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

Hymn: #372, Though I May Speak (*congregation seated*)

Welcome & Announcements

Lenten Candle Liturgy: Thelma Hayward & Debbie Stymiest

One: "O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, for God's steadfast love endures forever."

Two: We do not live isolated lives. We are instead intricately connected to the world around us, a world that far too often seems to be falling apart.

One: We are overwhelmed by the violence we are unable to stop, the hatred we are unable to soften, the poverty that seems to have no end.

Two: Hungry for justice and thirsty for the truth, we call out to God in hopes that we will be offered the guidance we need to make the world a safer place.

One: Let us pray.

All: God of Holy Ground, the promise placed before us today is that you will satisfy the thirsty and fill the hungry with good things. On this day, we lift to you our prayers of confession, trusting that your mercy will cover us with peace. We are sorry for the times we have remained silent in the face of discrimination. We are sorry for the times we have not stood up against oppression. We are sorry for so often choosing the easy

path rather than the difficult one that true reconciliation offers. Forgive us and fill us with courage that in times of trouble, we may be among those who stand firm in your calling and are led in a straight way by your steadfast love.

(Silent confession as fourth candle is extinguished).

One: Let us thank God for God's steadfast love of us.

All: Let us rejoice for the wonderful works God has done for us. Let us give thanks for the Lenten Road that leads us ever closer to the Creator. Amen.

Sing: MV 115 - *seated*

**Behold, behold, I make all things new
beginning with you, and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true,
for I am Christ the way.**

*Hymn:

**He's got the whole world, in his hands,
He's got the big round world in loving hands;
He's got the whole world in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

**He's got the wind and the rain in his hands,
He's got the big round world in loving hands;
He's got the sun and the moon, in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

**He's got you and me brother, in his hands,
He's got the big round world in loving hands;
He's got you and me sister, in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

**He's got everybody in his hands,
He's got the big round world in loving hands;
He's got everybody in his hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

Conversation with the Children

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination: *Merle Milson*

Speak to us through the reading and proclamation of your Word, O God, that in hearing, we may come to know and live your will for us. Amen.

N.T. Lesson: Ephesians 2:1-14

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 107, Part One, page 831

Gospel Lesson: John 3:14-21

Ministry of Music

Reflection on the Word

*Hymn: # 691, *Though Ancient Walls (vs. 1, 3, 4)*

We Respond to God's Word

Minute for Mission: "Thank You from Green Bay"

– *Colleen Dickson*

Offering

*Choral Response: #191 MV

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

*Offertory Prayer:

Generous God, provider of life and of all that sustains it, help us to see that the simple gift of sharing is made great when inspired by your love. Use these offerings toward building a world more just and joyful, more healthy and whole. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*Hymn: #589, *Lord, Speak to Me*

*Commissioning & Benediction

L: Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem, so God sends you into the world this day to be light and love, healing and hope.

All: We go, as God's people, to walk in the light of Christ.

L: May the grace and peace of God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer be poured out upon you this day and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

*Choral Response: #649 (*chorus*)

**Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.**

Musical Postlude

**The bulletins have been presented in loving memory of
Alvin MacNaughton by wife, Harriet and Family (deceased
March 5, 2009).**

Memorials

In loving memory of **George Lloyd**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from Helen & Ed Jones.

In loving memory of **John MacDonald**, donations to the Community Kitchen have been received from Pearl Doak & Lance Tomlyn.

Tape Distribution: March 11 – Lib Hachey/**March 18** – Helen Jones/**March 25** – Roland & Liz Taylor

Duty Unit: March – Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit/**April** – Lesley Daigle Unit

Greeters: March 18 – Judy & Dennis Morrison/**March 25** – Norma Weatherby, Carol Johnston

Sound System: March 11 – Ernie MacLean/**March 18** – Paul Rose

Power Point: March 11 – Juanita Hamilton/**March 18** – Margaret Moran Glidden

Offering Collections: March 11 – Debbie Stymiest, Gail

Arsenault, Helen Jones, Frances Blakely/**March 18** – Holly Daley, Hallam Curtis, Barb Doucet, Clarke Fraser

Offering Counters:

March 11 – Dennis & Judy Morrison, Hallam Curtis/**March 18** – Brian Savoy, Don Bowman, Barry Campbell

Announcements:

This Week:

Monday, March 12th – 12:00 noon – *Princess Street Unit with a brown bag lunch*

Tuesday, March 13th – 12:00 noon – *Worship & Music Team Meeting with a brown bag lunch*

Tuesday, March 13th – 3:00 p.m. – *Senior Choir Practice*

Tuesday, March 13th – 5:00 p.m. - **Roast Beef Supper with Apple Crisp for Dessert.** *Tickets are \$15.00 a person (100 tickets will be pre-sold) call to reserve your ticket or stop in to see Karen at the church office 773-9932.*

Wednesday, March 14th – 12:15 p.m. - *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service. "Using The Best Materials": Presider: Pastor Jason Vienneau, Preacher: Father Paul Doucet (Maude Jardine Unit are helpers)*

Upcoming:

Sunday, March 18th – Following the morning worship service - Let's Talk About Marriage: *A lunch will be provided, followed by open and respectful discussion about marriage in the context of this time in which we live, and where all voices and points of view will be encouraged and welcomed.*

Tuesday, March 20th – 3:00 p.m. – *Senior Choir Practice*

Wednesday, March 21st – 12:15 p.m. - *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service. "The High Price of Short Cuts": Presider: Father Charles Udeh; Preacher: Mr. David Allan (Princess Anne Unit)*

Anyone interested in confirmation or transfer of church membership, please notify Rev. Charlene or Karen at the office.

A Special Lenten Project: We invited you to contribute to the support of Gabriella, the Sunday Schools sponsor child. You may place loose coins in a jar at the back of the church on one of the usher tables. Thank you!

2018 Leadership Prayer Breakfast will be held on Friday, May 11th from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at the Rodd Miramichi. Special music will be by Dave & Claire Young and guest speaker will be Andrew Vahi, Co-Founder of the Village of Hope. *St. Andrew's has a table booked; anyone wanting a ticket contact Karen at the office (5 left).*

Cancer Society Daffodils will be available for sale on Tuesday, March 20th. Anyone willing to help with the sale or distribution of the daffodils, please call Helen Jones 773-5715.