

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: Barry & Bev Campbell

March 4, 2018

Lent 3

We Gather To Worship

*indicates to stand as you are able

Musical Prelude

*Introit: #220, vs.1

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear: brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.**

*Call to Worship:

Come, let us worship the Lord - our Maker and Sustainer,
who created and blesses us, and teaches us about Life.

**Spirit of Creation, your world with all its beauty and diversity
teaches us about the wonder and beauty of our Great God.**

Come, let us worship the Lord – the Law-Giving God,
who teaches us how to respond to God and to each other.

**Revealing God, you share yourself with us in ways we
can accept and understand - teach us how to learn from you.**

Come, let us worship the Lord – the God of all knowledge,
who sees, knows, forgives and loves us – just as we are.

All: We come to worship God.

*Hymn: #766, As the Deer Pants for the Water

Prayer: *(seated)*

**Holy God, your light is brighter than the noonday sun,
and brightens our paths in the shadows of the world.
Grant us a singleness of purpose in this hour of community to
put aside the things of this world and focus solely on you,
that in doing so we may come to a fuller understanding of
who we are and whose we are.**

**Embrace us in your grace that we may unify our minds, hearts,
and souls in recognition that you, God, have made all things for
us.**

**From the rising and setting of the sun to the bloom of the
smallest flower, may we recognize your magnificent love for us in
all of creation. Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

Lenten Candle Liturgy: Diane Baker & Norma Richardson

One: “The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament
proclaims God’s handiwork.”

Two: For the most part, we like lists. We like to know what is
expected of us; we like to know when our job is done. And we really
like to know what our reward will be at the end of it all. And we
generally do a pretty good job with tasks placed before us.

One: And yet, as glorious as this world and the people who live upon
it are, we make mistakes. Sometimes they are small mistakes;
sometimes they are really big ones. Either way, we are called to lay
these sins before our God in confession.

Two: Let us pray.

**All: God of the Rainbow, God of the Stars, your hand is upon all
creation. Your fingerprint is found upon us all. Our hearts
rejoice when we worship you, and our souls are revived when we
study your laws. And yet we know the many times we fall short of
your hopes for us. We find your laws hard to follow, or difficult
to remember, or terribly inconvenient. Forgive us those times we
fail to keep your commandments. Forgive us the faults we hide,**

those things we are ashamed of and consequently keep buried deep within ourselves. Free us from this weight and touch us with light and mercy.

(Silent confession as third candle is extinguished).

Two: You, God, are the rock upon which we stand firm.

All: Your forgiveness is sweeter than drippings from the honeycomb. We give thanks this day for your ever-present love that is offered to us, and the endless supply of mercy you shower upon us. Amen.

Sing: MV 115 *(all 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: #296, This Is God's Wondrous World
Conversation with the Children

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination: *Anthony McLean*

Almighty God, in you are contained all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may behold wonderful things in your world and in your word. Give us grace to understand your will clearly, and help us to choose freely the way of your wisdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O.T. Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 19, p.740-41, refrain 1

Ministry of Music

Reflection on the Word

Prayer: #311, VU – A Prayer for the Care of Creation

Hymn: #297, All Praise to You *(congregation seated)*

We Respond to God's Word

Minute for Mission: "Compassion in Life and Death"

– *Mary Reynolds*

Offering

*Choral Response: tune # 542

**These Lenten gifts we bring,
our living faith express.
We offer them most lovingly,
And thus our hearts are blessed.**

*Offertory Prayer:

God's blessings are more abundant than the rain of spring-time. Our hope is fully in the One who provides for our every need. We are able to give joyfully what we first received from God. We offer our gifts, generous God, to be used to share your love with one another, the community around us, and the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Creator God, we give you thanks for the beauty of creation and all that lies within.

Grant us the knowledge and foresight to care for that of which you have made us stewards.

We give you thanks for Jesus the Christ, who is love made manifest.

We thank you that he came to live amongst us. We thank you that through Christ all may be saved.

We pray that your Holy Spirit would be at work in our lives and in the world.

Where there is suffering bring about relief;

where there is persecution and despair bring justice and peace;

where there is intolerance and bigotry bring about mindfulness and understanding;

where there is loneliness bring about relationship with others and with you.

Where there is sickness, sadness and trouble bring healing and comfort;

wherever your people are in need, make your presence known.

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Hear the prayers of our hearts and the prayers we lift for those named in our prayer book this day.

We pray for ... *(names are read from prayer book)*...

Hear our prayers, O God,
and in your love, answer.

May your Holy Spirit empower us to engage the world in such a way that it is transformed from the thing we have made it, to the likeness that you created.

Grant us your peace that we may delight in your will, and live in your ways.

We pray all this in the name of the one who taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

*Hymn: #231, I Sing the Mighty Power *(tune: #625)*

*Commissioning & Benediction:

Go with boldness of heart to proclaim the goodness of our God, the sovereignty of our Saviour, and the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit.

**May the sun shine warm upon each face,
may the rains fall soft upon the fields,
and until we meet again may we be held in the palm of God's hand.**

*Choral Blessing:

**Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above;
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Musical Postlude

**The bulletins have been presented in loving memory of
Shirley Traer by the Family.**

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Memorials

In loving memory of **John MacDonald**, a donation to Mission & Service has been received from Muriel Lamkey.

Tape Distribution: March 4 – Karen Rose/**March 11** – Lib Hachey

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

Greeters: March 11 – Barb Doucet & Margaret Moran Glidden/**March 18** – Judy & Dennis Morrison

Sound System: March 4 – John MacKnight/**March 11** – Ernie MacLean/**March 18** – Paul Rose

Power Point: March 4 – Mary Reynolds/**March 11** – Juanita Hamilton/**March 18** – Margaret Moran Glidden

Offering Collections: March 4 – Clarke Fraser, John MacKnight, Merle Milson & Pat Boucher/**March 11** – Debbie Stymiest, Gail Arsenault, Helen Jones, Frances Blakely

Offering Counters:

March 4 – Juanita Hamilton, Betty MacDiarmid, Debbie Stymiest/**March 11** – Dennis & Judy Morrison, Hallam Curtis

Announcements:

This Week:

Tuesday, March 6th – 10:00 a.m. - *Lenten Study* – Theme: “Resurrection”

-3:00 p.m. – *Senior Choir Practice*

Wednesday, March 7th – 11:00 a.m. – *U.C.W. Executive Meeting*
– **12:15 p.m.** *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service.* “Foundations are Critical”: *Presider: Mr. David Allen, Preacher: Rev. Ross Wiseman (Lesley Daigle Unit are helpers)*

Upcoming:

Sunday, March 11th – 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 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)

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).*