

St. Andrew's United Church
188 Wellington Street
Miramichi, N.B. E1N 1M4
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<http://www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org>

Minister: Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight
Organist & Choir Director: Joanne Wiseman
Greeters: Norma Weatherby & Carol Johnston

March 25, 2018
Palm Sunday

We Gather To Worship

*indicates to stand as you are able

Musical Prelude

* Call to Worship (*from back of the sanctuary*)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

The Lord is our God, and has given us light;

Great is our God, and we give thanks to the Lord.

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Hosanna! Save Us, O God. Hosanna!

God's steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn: #123, Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

(Sunday School Palm Parade)

Prayer of Approach: (*seated*)

**O Christ, you entered the city not in style but simply,
yet still you caused uproar, and questions everywhere;
you drew the expectations of a hungry crowd, and brought buried
conflicts to the light.**

**May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval, and
who often avoid conflict for fear of its cost to us, hold fast to the
gospel of peace and justice and follow faithfully in your way of
compassion and solidarity with those who are poor and excluded,**

wherever it may lead us. As the gates of the city swung open to welcome the humble king, O God, so may our hearts be opened to Christ's Spirit among us in this time of worship. Amen.

Lenten Candle Liturgy: Marilyn McGerrigle & Susan Knutson

One: "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

Two: Blessed is our God who chose to walk this path of life. Blessed is our Creator who yearned deeply to understand creation.

One: And blessed is the One, full of mercy and love, who calls us into this humble time of confession. Let us pray:

All: In our distress, we cry out, "Hosanna! Hosanna! God save us!" We are quick to join the parade, God; quick to find hope and joy in the waving of the branches; quick to forget where this road leads. Forgive us for longing to remain on the surface of our faith. Forgive us for not digging deeper in this wilderness time. Forgive us for being fearful of the dark days ahead, of wanting to avoid them. We know that in order to understand the full joy of Easter's life, we must feel the full sorrow of Good Friday's death. And yet we are tempted to turn away. Forgive us for turning away, God: from you, from your church, from the people you love.

(Silent confession as sixth candle is extinguished).

Two: As we enter this Holy Week, we rejoice that your light will remain ever before us, guiding our steps.

All: We celebrate that your Spirit remains behind us, pushing us forward that we may gain new levels of understanding. Blessed are you, Holy God, blessed is your steadfast love, and blessed are we who call upon your name in hope. 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.**

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn: #357, Tell Me the Stories of Jesus (*vs. 1,2,3,4*)

Conversation with the Children

Birthday Box for WDR

Sing: (*seated*)

**Happy Birthday to you, to Jesus be true;
May God's richest blessings, now rest upon you.
These gifts we now share, to show that we care
For all of God's children, here and everywhere.**

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination: led by Carol Johnston

O God, we come to Holy Week again, seeking to find our place in the story of faith. As we listen to your Word, may we feel Jesus' presence riding in our midst today. Amen.

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 118, p.837, Parts One, Three & Four

Gospel Lesson: Mark 11:1-11

Hymn: #122, All Glory, Laud and Honour (*vs. 1,2,3- congregation seated*)

Reflection on the Word

We Respond to God's Word

Men's Choir - Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory Choral Response: #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

Offertory Prayer:

Holy One, you are generous in the blessing that you bestow upon us. We receive the gift of time to be intentional with how our time is used. We receive the gift of talent that our skills may be used for creative and restorative purposes. We receive the gift of income, to share with those in need, to support ministries in this place, in our community, and in the world, and to build your kingdom here on earth. Grant that the gifts we bring this day may be used for your glory and not our own. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn: # 142, Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

*Benediction:

L: Let us go into this Holy Week, to walk the way of Jesus.

All: We will respond with the commitments Jesus made clear; we will endure the hard places and the struggle, rejoicing in the victory that lies beyond the cross.

L: May the strength of God go with you all your ways, the love of Christ enfold you all your days, and the Holy Spirit guide you, now and forevermore.

*Choral Blessing: # 422, God Be With You (*vs.1*)

Musical Postlude

**The bulletins have been presented in loving memory of
Raymond Savoy by Brian & Joan Savoy.**

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Nancy & Blair Vessie and Family on the death of Nancy's mother, Kathleen Muriel Hawkes whose funeral was on Saturday, March 24th.

Memorials

In loving memory of **Erin Noye**, a donation to Sunday School has been received from grandmother, Barbara Digdon.

In loving memory of **John MacDonald**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Roberta Walsh, The Pastoral Care & Outreach Team.

In loving memory of **our daughter, Jacqui Hunter** (deceased March 26, 2016), a donation to Local Funds has been received from Jack & Bunny Hunter.

Tape Distribution: March 25 – Roland & Liz Taylor/**April 1** – Dave & Brenda Hicks

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

Greeters: GF March 30th - Barb Doucet & Dorothy Wilson
April 1 – Pat Boucher & Merle Milson/**April 8** - Plen & Carol Dickson

Sound System: March 25 – Mary Reynolds/**March 30th (GF)** – Juanita Hamilton/**April 1** – Brian Savoy

Power Point: March 25 – Karen Rose/**March 30th (GF)** – Karen Rose/**April 1st** – Mary Reynolds

Offering Collections: March 25 – Brenda & Dave Hicks, Merle Milson & Pat Boucher/**March 30 (GF)** – Marjorie MacPhee, Anna MacDonald, Ferne & Ernie MacLean/**April 1** – Barb Doucet, Mavis Williamson, Margaret Moran Glidden, Helen Jones

Offering Counters:

March 25 – Margaret Glidden, Debbie Stymiest, Carol Johnston/**March 30th (GF)** – Juanita Hamilton, Karen Rose, Hallam Curtis/**April 1** – Lib Hachey, Marjorie MacPhee, Don Bowman

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Susan Dickson who will be celebrating her 92nd Birthday on Wednesday, March 28th.

Announcements:

This Week:

Sunday, March 25th – *Sunday School children are asked to gather in St. Luke's Hall before the worship service to get ready for the Palm Parade.*

-Men's Choir & Birthday Box for WDR (March Birthdays)

Wednesday, March 28th – 12:15 p.m. - *Ecumenical Noon Lenten Service. "Finishing It with Love": Presider: Father Paul Doucet; Preacher: Rev. Deacon Ted Quann (All Units)*

Thursday, March 29th – 7:00 p.m. – *Maundy Thursday service on Loggieville-Black River Pastoral Charge at the F. P. Loggie Hall, Loggieville*

Friday, March 30th – 7:00 p.m. – *Good Friday Service*

Upcoming:

Sunday, April 1st – *Easter Sacrament of Communion*

Monday, April 26th – 12:00 noon – *Property & Financial Management Team meeting with a brown bag lunch*

Tuesday, April 27th – 7:00 p.m. – *Church Council Meeting*

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

If there is anyone who would like to be placed on the Greeters List please contact Anna MacDonald with your name by calling her at 773-6226 or by emailing her at bobanna100@gmail.com on or before April 3rd.

CGIT former members/leaders are meeting for lunch on Tuesday, April 3rd at 11:30 at Pizza Pro in Douglastown.

Miramichi Valley High Drama Club presents "Dinner At Eight" April 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. At the MVHS Theatre, Admission is \$10 a person and can be purchased at the door or by calling 627-4083.