

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

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

Minister: Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight

Organist: Mrs. Joanne Wiseman

Greeters: Barry & Bev Campbell

September 9, 2018
16th Sunday after Pentecost

We Gather to Worship

**indicates to stand as you are able*

Musical Prelude

Stand, as able, when choir enters

Introit: #299, Teach Me God to Wonder (vs.1)

**Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.**

*Lighting of the Christ Candle: *Benjamin & Cameron Allen*

One: We worship this Sunday with planet Earth. We sing with Earth, our planet home spinning through space. We celebrate Earth as a sacred place, a sanctuary filled with God's presence.

*Candle is lit as we sing: #305, vs. 1&5
(tune: Amazing Grace)*

**Into the unshaped silence sings
the sound of God's own voice.
The darkness bows to light new-born,
the moon and stars rejoice.**

**God calls us all to join and sing
the wonder of the earth
and through our careful stewardship
to guard creation's worth.**

2.

*Call to Worship:

One: In the name of God, who creates planets,
the name of Jesus Christ, born on planet Earth,
and the name of the Spirit who envelopes our planet,
we come to worship.

**All: We come to celebrate life and offer thanks to God and we
lift our voices saying: Holy! Holy! Holy!
Earth is filled with God's presence.**

Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer: (*seated*)

God of life,

**we rejoice in your love which has filled creation from the
beginning and which calls all life into being.**

**We praise you for Jesus Christ who reveals most fully your
loving purpose for all people.**

**We bless you for your Spirit who draws all humanity into the
circle of your tender love.**

**Gracious God, bless us with your presence so that our worship
and our lives may be a true celebration of your love in Jesus
Christ, in whose name we pray:**

Our Father, who art in heaven ... Amen.

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn: #296, This Is God's Wondrous World (*cong. seated*)
Conversation with the Children

Prayer of Confession:

L: Creating God, we know that planet Earth is a gift from you. And yet

**All: We confess that we have become alienated from Earth and
viewed this planet as disposable, a source of endless resources, a
mere stopping place en route to heaven.**

**We are sorry. We have polluted Earth's waters with toxins, we
have turned our greed into global warming. We have helped
cause Arctic regions to melt. We have loved progress more than
the planet. We are sorry...**

3.

Words of Assurance:

L: God hears our confession and forgives our sins against Earth.

All: Glory to God in the highest! And on Earth peace with our kin in creation!

L: Shalom! Earth is our home!

All: God, teach us to love Earth as our home and the planet as a precious sanctuary. Amen.

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer for Illumination:

God ever present, ever new, guide us by your word and by your Spirit, so that in your light we may see clearly what we are to do, in your truth know how best to follow you, and in doing so find peace. Amen.

O.T. Lesson: Genesis 1:1-28, 31 ‘The birth of Earth’

– Gary Blackmore & Rev. Charlene

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33, p.760 VU – Gary Blackmore

Gospel: John 1:1-9, 14 ‘The Word becomes part of Earth’

Ministry of Music

Reflection on the Word

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn: # 297, All Praise to You

Minute for Mission: “Training Effective Leaders”

– Anthony McLean

Offering

*Offertory 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.**

4.

*Offertory Prayer:

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth. Amen.

Prayers of the People: (*seated*)

*Hymn: SONG OF EARTH

- 1. Hail the Earth that first appeared. Alleluia!
When a word from God was heard. Alleluia!
Let the Earth arise and be. Alleluia!
Filled with living mystery. Alleluia!**
- 2. Hail the planet blue and green. Alleluia!
Where the face of God is seen. Alleluia!
Glory filling all the Earth. Alleluia!
Celebrating every birth. Alleluia!**
- 3. Hail our body made with clay. Alleluia!
Given breath to praise and pray. Alleluia!
Clay God honored by God’s birth. Alleluia!
As a human life on Earth. Alleluia!**
- 4. Hail the groans of Earth in pain. Alleluia!
From the weight of human sin. Alleluia!
Longing for the Christ who died. Alleluia!
All creation to revive. Alleluia!**

Words: © Norman Habel 1999

*Commissioning & Benediction:

L: Christ calls us to be his disciples, to serve him with love and compassion, to serve Earth by caring for creation.

P: We will remember our planet home! We will groan with all creation! We will celebrate with Earth!

L: Will you care for creation?

P: We will care for creation! We will nurture our planet! We will celebrate life!

5.

L: May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth and the pulsing of Christ within you.

Go in peace! Serving Christ and loving Earth!

*Choral Amen

Musical Postlude

**The bulletins have been presented in loving memory of
Richard A. (Dick) MacKnight (deceased Sept. 12, 1977)
by Joan MacKnight Savoy and Family.**

Memorials

In loving memory of **Steven Tozer (deceased Sept. 9, 2005)**, a donation to the Summer Kitchen has been received from his family.

In loving memory of **Armand Lynch**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from Shirley Morrison.

In loving memory of **George Hickey**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from Shirley Morrison.

Duty Unit: Sept. Lesley Daigle Unit/Oct. Maude Jardine Unit

Greeters: Sept. 16 – Bill & Lib Hachey

Sound System: Sept. 9 – Margaret Glidden/Sept. 16 – Brian Savoy/Sept. 23 – Ernie MacLean/Sept. 30 – John MacKnight

Power Point: Sept. 9 – Debbie Benson/Sept. 16 – Karen Rose/Sept. 23 – Juanita Hamilton /Sept. 30th – Debbie Benson

Offering Collections: Sept. 9 – Ferne & Ernie MacLean, Carol Johnston, Debbie Stymiest/Sept. 16 – Debbie Stymiest, Gail Arsenault, Helen Jones, Barb Doucet/Sept. 23 – Holly Daley, Hallam Curtis, Brenda & Dave Hicks/Sept. 30 – Marjorie MacPhee, Anna MacDonald, Ernie & Ferne MacLean.

Offering Counters: Sept. 9 – Margaret Glidden, Debbie Stymiest, Debbie Benson/Sept. 16 – Juanita Hamilton, Hallam Curtis, Brian Adams/Sept. 23 – Brian Savoy, Don Bowman, Barry Campbell/Sept. 30 – Betty MacDiarmid, Debbie Stymiest, Carol Johnston

6.

**Congratulations and best wishes are extended to
Bill & Donna Sweezey who celebrated their
55th Wedding Anniversary in August.**

Honourarium

In honour of **Bill & Donna Sweezey's 55th Wedding Anniversary**, a donation to the Mission & Service Fund has been received from Helen & Ed Jones.

Announcements

This Week:

Monday, Sept. 10th – 11:30 a.m. - *Rae Walls & Rainbow Unit with a brown bag lunch.*

- 12:00 noon – *Princess Street Unit meeting with a brown bag lunch*

Tuesday, Sept. 11th – 12 noon – *Worship & Music Team Meeting with a brown bag lunch*

- 3:00 p.m. – *Senior Choir Practice*

Upcoming:

Sunday, Sept. 16th – Second Sunday School Registration and Sunday School class. We will be using *Deep Blue Curriculum* again this year, supplemented with crafts and other activities.

Children please remember to bring your Deep Blue Bibles!

Monday, Sept. 17th – 12 noon – *Maude Jardine Unit & Princess Anne Unit meetings with brown bag lunches*

“Tribute to the Legends of Country Music” will be presented by “Country Blend” on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. here at St. Andrew's. Tickets are \$15.00 a person and are now on sale at Scott's Drugstore, Dickison's Pharmasave and St. Andrew's Church Office. Following the concert there will be light refreshments and a chance to purchase Country Blends 10 CD releases. Music will be from some of following Great Musical Performers such as: Dolly, Patsy, Loretta, Kitty, Jeannie, Jim Reeves, Hank Williams Sr., Johnny Cash, Statler Bros., Willie Nelson, etc.

The Villagers Chorus Group have recorded a new CD which is now on sale in the church office for \$10.00 a CD.