



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church



188 Wellington Street. Miramichi, NB. E1N 1M4

Tel: 506-773-9932 / Fax: 506-773-9932

Church Email: St_Andrews1@outlook.com

Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025.

1st Sunday of Advent - Hope



Worship Leader: DANIEL SZEMÖK

Organist and Choir Director: Lois McKinnon

Greeters: Judy Donnelly & Marj MacPhee

Hope

Isaiah 9:2:

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."

Sunday Worship Service

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*Stand as you are able.

Musical Prelude

Greeting

***Introit: VU #2, vs. 1 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**
Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

Voice from above: (Daniel)

God's Old Testament message looks forward to the coming Messiah. Many times God's people lost hope, but God was faithful to his promises. Luke records the blossoming of hope through the promised birth of a child to a couple who had long since abandoned all hope of children.

Reader 1: Debbie Stymiest

When Zechariah was fulfilling his duties in the temple, an angel appeared to him, and he was very afraid.

Voice from above: (Daniel)

The angel promised Zechariah and Elizabeth, who were already very old, that they would have a son, whose job would be to prepare the way for the Messiah. "He will make ready a people for the Lord" (Luke 1:17).

Reader 2: Brenda Hicks

After Zechariah expressed doubt, the angel responded, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news” (Luke 1:19). Just like Abraham and Sarah had to trust in God’s promise for a son, Zechariah, and Elizabeth had to hope against all hope (Romans 4:18). We also are called to put our hope in our promise-fulfilling God.

Candle is lit as we sing: “We Light this Candle”

We light this candle for hope.

Await the new life within.

May our hearts now live each day,

So hope can find away,

So hope can find away.

Call to Worship: (bold section only)

A voice cries, “In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord;
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

We are preparing our hearts for the God of hope to come into the world.

God’s love flows into our lives through the gift of Christ.

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with hope.

God calls us out of the exile of sin with the good news of restoration. God has built a highway through the wilderness; Immanuel has come into our lives!

God calls us to strengthen our faith and prepare our hearts to glorify Christ.

We are hopeful people waiting for the return of our God.

***Hymn:** VU #1, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vs. 1,2 & 7

Opening Prayer: (lay minister will pray)

Dedication of the Tree and Memory Wreath

– Liz Mullin & Cynthia Duplessie

Conversation for the Young at Heart

Offering

***Choral Response:** VU #55, vs. 4, “In the Bleak Midwinter”

**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:** (read together with congregation)
God of glory, we bring our gifts to You today with hearts full of thanksgiving; aware of all the spiritual blessings that we have in Christ. Help us to see how our answer to Your call to give generously, is the blessing that people need. We are today and teach us to love like You love us. Amen.

The Word of God Proclaimed

Ministry of Music: “All the Earth is Waiting”

Sermon: Hope... but which?

Prayer

We Respond to God’s Word

Video: “Mary Did You Know”

Announcements of the Life & Work of the Church
— Carol Johnston

Closing Hymn: VU #2, “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***Benediction:**

***Choral Blessing:** VU #64, vs. 4, “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
**O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.**

Musical Postlude

Sermon Notes:

Announcements

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Jacky LeBreton on the death of her sister, Anita LeBrun of Ontario.

Memorials:

In loving memory of **Shirley Rose**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Wayne & Liz Mullin, Carol & Lee Johnston, Bob & Dorothy Wilson, Dennis & Judy Morrison.

In loving memory of **Mason Mattatall**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Murray Baillie.

In loving memory **Anita LeBrun**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Dave & Brenda Hicks, Karen & Paul Rose.

Coffee Hour: **Dec. 7** – Liz Mullin & Cynthia Duplessie/
Dec. 14 – Marj MacPhee & Mary Reynolds

Please note: This will be the last coffee hour till the New Year at which time the Faith & Spiritual Development Team will be changing this to once a month in January.

Greeters: **Dec. 7** – Ray & Janice Carter/**Dec.14** – Judy Donnelly & Shirley MacDonald

▪ **Sound System:** **Nov. 30** – Brian Savoy/**Dec.7** – Brian Savoy/**Dec. 14** – Paul Rose

▪ **PowerPoint:** **Nov. 30** – Jennifer Walker/**Dec. 7** – Barry Campbell/**Dec. 14** – Mary Reynolds

-**Offering Collectors:** **Nov. 30** – Patty Deitch, Cynthia Duplessie, Dennis & Judy Morrison/**Dec. 7** – Debbie Stymiest, Carolyn Shirley, Ferne & Ernie MacLean/**Dec. 14** – Helen Jones, Brian & Joan Savoy, Marj MacPhee

▪ **Offering Counters:** **Nov. 30-** Carol Johnston, Liz Mullin/**Dec. 7** – Judy & Dennis Morrison/**Dec. 14** – Karen Rose & Brian Adams

▪ **Weekly Collection:**

Collection on Sunday, Nov. 23 rd	\$ 1,205.00
Weekly Par Collection	<u>\$ 1,259.00</u>
Total for Week of Nov. 23rd	\$ 2,464.00

This Week:

Monday, Dec. 1st – 11:30 a.m. – CGIT Alumni will meet for their monthly gathering at the Portage Restaurant

Thursday, Dec. 4th – 7:00 p.m. – Property & Financial

Management Team will hold their meeting and prepare the 2026 church budget.

The list of children's names for the Christmas Hampers is on the back table by the church office for anyone wishing to purchase for a child this year.

The mitten tree is up and ready to receive donations of toiletries, mittens and hats for the Christmas Hampers.

Upcoming:

Tuesday, Dec. 9th – 1:30 p.m. – Faith & Spiritual Development Team Meeting

Fundraiser:

- ❖ **Donations for the Christmas Hampers Program** can be made through the church office. Tax receipts will be issued.

Community:

- ❖ **A Festival of Readings and Carols will be held at Calvin Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 p.m.** This event was put together by the Chatham Ministerial Association and all churches will be taking part in the service. A light luncheon will follow. A free will offering will be received to aid "Harvest House."
- ❖ ***Miramichi On the North & South Side of the River & the Bay***, a pictorial history edited by John Bosma, will be available on November 3rd at the church office, All Decked Out, Dickison's Pharmasave and Mill Cove Coffee shop at \$20 a copy. Proceeds will go to a JMH and MVHS 2026 Graduate.

We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins in honour of Denis & Liz Desaulniers 67th Wedding Anniversary with love from, Jeanne Breau.



Online St. Andrew's United Church

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUnitedChurchMiramichi

Offering E-Transfer:

standrewswellingtonstreet@gmail.com