



United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church



March 31, 2024.

Easter Sunday

Our Mission Statement

"St. Andrew's United Church is a Christian Community of Faith
that shares Christ's love through
Worship, Fellowship, Spiritual Growth, and Outreach."



Christ is Risen.

<Photo Credit: Donna & Isabel Gallan >

188 Wellington Street. Miramichi, NB. E1N 1M4

Tel & Fax: 506-773-9932

Church Email: chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com

Sunday Worship Service

(March 31, 2024, Easter Sunday)

Worship Leader: Rev. Eunkyu Ji

Organist & Choir Director: Lois McKinnon

Greeters: Bev Campbell & Shirley MacDonald

* *In highlighted parts, let us present ourselves to God by standing or sitting freely according to each one's physical condition. **If there is no highlight, remain seated.***

We Gather To Worship

Music Prelude: *Organist*

Introit: *Choir – VU # 179, 'Hallelujah Hallelujah, Give Thanks'*

Lighting the Christ Candle: Margaret Moran Glidden

Like the women that Easter morning, we gathered together.

We come together to acknowledge our fears and gratitude and affirm God's love. We are transformed by the truth of the resurrected Christ.

In the morning of this new day, we proclaim in hope, faith and joy: Christ is Risen! It is Good News for everyone!

Welcome:

***Call to Worship:**

Christ is risen! What a glorious day!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Our lives are forever changed!

New life is all around us.

Stop and experience the beauty.

**Where once there was death,
now there is life!**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!

Laura J. Turnbull, Gathering L/E 2024

***Opening Hymn:** VU # 175, "This is the Day That God Has Made"

***Opening Prayer:** *(together)*

**God, just as you raised Jesus from the dead,
you offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ.
We rejoice and give thanks for this good news,
which has been handed down to us
from generation to generation.**

**May we, too, be witnesses of Jesus,
who you anointed with the Holy Spirit
to bring blessings of mercy and healing.**

**May we be witnesses of Jesus' suffering and death,
and how he meets us in the broken places of our lives.
Most of all, may we be witnesses of the resurrection,
sharing your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people.
This is your doing, O God.
It is marvellous in our eyes. Amen.**

Amy B. Hunter, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Prayer of Confession:

Risen Jesus, how we long to proclaim the good news
we have received—
you are risen, the tomb is empty,
and you are present with your friends.
Remind us not to look for you in the places where we lost you—
our grief, our failure, the death all around us.
For you have been raised.
You are not trapped in some tomb.
Help us proclaim your Resurrection with confidence this day.
Flawed as we are, help us perceive
how deeply we are loved,
for your grace and mercy never fail.
Now, we confess our weakness in silence.
May God renew us with a new heart.
(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance:

Beloved of God, the grace of God is with you, and God's grace has not
been in vain. Receive forgiveness and mercy through the name of Jesus
Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Amy B. Hunter, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Hymn: VU # 164, "The Day of Resurrection"

(Children leave for Sunday school after hymn)

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of Illumination: Elaine Dickson

Hear now the good news of Easter. It spreads throughout the world. It
began with Jesus' life, passion, and resurrection; it continued with those
who witnessed the risen Christ, and now, it comes to us today as we
listen to God's word.

Ephesian Amy B. Hunter, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24 (VU p. 837 Part One, Two, and Three)
Mark 16:1-8

Ministry of Music: “Lift High the Cross”

Message:

We Respond to God’s Word

Announcements: Marjorie MacPhee

Birthday Box for WDR:

(sung seated, as people come forward to share their birthday box offering)

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering:

Friends, God has opened the door to righteousness. Let us accept God’s invitation and offer our thankful devotion in the name of Christ. We gather to share the Resurrection and Good News of Christ with our whole bodies and hearts.

***Offering Hymn:** VU # 549, “For All Your Goodness, God”

***Offering Prayer:** *(Together)*

**Holy God, thank you for your goodness and mercy,
especially for the good news
of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
May these offerings, and indeed our very lives,
become a witness to all people
of the salvation and grace,
you bring into the world. Amen.**

Amy B. Hunter, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Service of Table: Easter

Word of Invitation:

This is the table of the risen Christ.
In this feast comes the root of our joy.
In this feast gleams the promise of the earth
and the glory of all creation.
In this feast comes the Christ,
Saviour and Friend to all.

Thanks be to God.

Invitation Hymn: VU #480, “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Call to Give Thanks:

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving:

We will remember the blessings we have received
and the blessings we are called to be.

Come to be blessed.

Come to be fed.

Come, for the Spirit is calling,
inviting us to be nourished and born anew.

All are welcome here.

And so, with the risen Christ,
who makes all things new
by the power of his resurrection,
we join in the song of a new day,
to sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Institution of the Lord's Supper:

On the night before he died,

Jesus took Bread, and after giving thanks to you,

he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him, saying:

"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Each time you do this, remember me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

"Drink. This cup is the promise of God, made in my blood.

Each time you drink from this cup, remember me."

Affirmation of Memory and Hope:

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ,
we offer you our praise,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Prayer for Transformation:

Holy God, pour your Spirit on us,
that we may know Christ in the breaking of bread,
and that in word and deed,
we may be channels of your love, peace, and justice
in the world.

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer:

- Sharing thanks or concerns.
- People on Prayer Book
- Peace for countries in wars
- Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (31 March - 06 April 2024):
The Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo,
Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together, saying:

“Our Father, Who art in heaven...”

Breaking the Bread and Filling the Cup:

(Breaking of the Bread)

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Thanks be to God for the bread of life.

(Pouring of the Cup)

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.

Come, for all things are now ready.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup: (Coming forward)

- *The congregants come forward to receive the bread and cup.*
- *For those with limited mobility, servers will deliver the bread and cup.*
- *Please wait until everyone receives it.*
- *Everyone will eat the bread and drink the cup together.*
- *When you receive the bread and cup, you respond by saying “Amen” or “Thanks be to God.”*

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life..

Amen.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

Amen.

Prayer After Communion: *(together)*

**We give thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us at your table
by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.
Strengthen our faith,
increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world
united in courage and peace,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

COMPLETION OF COVENANT

Statement of Purpose: Barry Campbell (Church Council Chair)

When a minister comes into our church
we covenant with one another;
we promise to journey with one another
caring and being cared for.

While God's covenant never ceases,
our covenants with one another do.

Today, we mark the ending of the covenant between

Reverend Eunkyū Ji,

Chatham St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge,

and Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council.

Recognition of Symbols of Ministry: Rev. Eunkyū Ji

Friends, you called me into your midst to serve with you in the ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. You gifted me with some symbols. Now, I return them to you:

▪ ***Bible*** *(Place Bible on the pulpit.)*

The Bible is a symbol of the ministry of the Word among us.

May God's Word continue to challenge, nurture, and inspire us.

▪ ***Water*** *(Pour water into font; place pitcher nearby.)*

The font is the symbol of our baptism,
the place of our birth into the body of Christ.

May you continue to welcome new members
through the living waters of our faith.

▪ ***Bread and Cup*** *(Place on the communion table.)*

The table is the symbol of our communion in Christ,
the source of nourishment and strength.

May you continue to welcome new members
through the living waters of our faith.

▪ **Towel and Basin** (Place on the communion table.)

The towel and basin are symbols of our calling to justice and service, following the example of Jesus, who washed the feet of his friends.

May you continue in the way of Christ.

Litany of Thanksgiving and Forgiveness:

Chair: We are all called by God to offer our unique gifts and work.

All: But some are called to lead in particular ways.

Chair: We are all called by God to speak our faith.

All: But some are called to preach to the community with prophetic words of compassion and justice.

Chair: We are all called by God to comfort those who suffer.

All: But some are called to share in the pain of the entire flock.

Chair: We give thanks for *Rev. Eunkyū Ji*, who has been the shepherd in our midst.

All: One who has led us, taught us, challenged us, and shared both our suffering and our joy.

Rev. Ji: I give thanks for the prayers that surround me as I complete my ministry among you, and I ask you to forgive me for the mistakes I've made, the dreams not realized, and the expectations not met.

**All: Yes, we forgive you and bless you.
We rejoice in the ways we have been blessed by your ministry among us.
We ask your forgiveness for mistakes made and for expectations not met.**

Rev. Ji: I receive your gratitude and forgive your shortcomings.

Region: Do you, *Rev. Eunkyū Ji*, release this pastoral charge from the vows and promises made at your covenanting?

Rev. Ji: I do, God being my helper.

Region: Do you, the members and friends of *St. Andrew's United Church*, release *Rev. Eunkyū Ji* from the duties of ministry among you?

All: We do, God being our helper.

Chair: (Lighting a candle from the Christ candle).

We invite you to accept this candle to remember us.
Remember that God's light always burns within you.
Go now, surrounded by our love
and led by God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Prayer: Regional Council Representative

Holy God, your love for all is everlasting.
Help each of us to trust
in the future which rests in your care.
The time we were together in your name provided
laughter and tears, hopes and disappointments.
Guide us as we hold on
to these cherished memories
and move forward in new directions.
Keep us one in your love forever,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Decovenanting Service, united-church.ca/worship

WE GO OUT AS GOD’S PEOPLE

(Let us present ourselves to God, either standing up or sitting down)

***Blessing Hymn:** VU #155, “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

***Commissioning and Benediction:**

God has engraved the law of love in our hearts.
Trust God’s inner compass to guide us.

**We will try to discern God's still, small voice
whispering in our hearts.**

We will go out into the world and listen to the sound of promise
beating powerfully in our hearts.

We will remember the loving heart of Christ in us.

The grace of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy
Spirit be with all of us, now and forever.

Amen.

B.J. Beu, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

***Choral Closing:** (Choir) “Hallelujah, Hallelujah”

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Announcements

Flowers have been placed in loving memory of Hazen & Vera Lobban by Donald & David Lobban and their Families.

■ Memorials:

- In loving memory of **Marilyn Hanna**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Frances & Buddie Blakely.
- In loving memory of **Jennifer Devereau**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Robert & Margaret Tozer.
- In loving memory of **Jennifer Devereau, Linda MacDonald and Steven Tozer**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Karen & Paul Rose.
- In loving memory of **Thelma & Gordon Widbur**, donations to Riverside Cemetery have been received from Mark Robinson, Tania Robinson and Elaine Robinson.
- In loving memory of **John & Alice MacPhee**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Marj MacPhee.
- In loving memory of **Mirna Moller**, a donation to the Community Kitchen has been received from John Moller.

■ Worship:

1. Welcome everyone who worships with us today.

- If you would like to become a new member, please leave a **'Welcome card'** on the offering plate.
- Leave your offering on the plate at the entrance before the service. If you miss it, please bring it to the office after service.

2. If you have any photos you would like to send in for Bulletin Covers, for each Sunday worship please send them to:

chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com

3. Worship Volunteers:

- **Greeters:** April 7- Stan Ellis & Denis Desaulniers/**April 14** – Mary Reynolds & Helen Jones/**April 21** – Bill Donald & Clarke Fraser
- **Sound System:** March 31 – Barry Campbell/**April 7-** Paul Rose/**April 14** – Brian Savoy/**April 21** – Barry Campbell
- **PowerPoint:** March 31 – Mary Reynolds/**April 7** – Barry Campbell/**April 14** – Jennifer Walker/**April 21** – Nathan Robichaud
- **Offering Counters:** March 31 – Betty MacDiarmid & Karen Rose/**April 7** – Brian Savoy, Barry Campbell/**April 14** – Brian Savoy, Brian Adams/**April 21** – Karen Rose, Marjorie Cassidy

■ This Week:

1. Church Office hours:

Monday – Closed; Tuesday 9-4; Wednesday 9-4; Thursday 9-4;
Friday 9-4

■ Upcoming:

1. **Church Council** will meet following the morning worship service for a brief meeting on Sunday, April 7th.
2. **Sunday, April 7th** is our next hymn sing. Please be here by 10:50 a.m. and have your hymns selected from “More Voices”.
3. **Sunday, April 7th** is the next collection date for the Miramichi Food Bank. Please bring non-perishable items on that date if you are able to help the most vulnerable in our community.

■ Community Events:

1. **St Mary’s Church is pleased to host Vienna- based pianist John Dupuis** in concert at St. Mary’s Church, Wednesday, April 10 at 7pm. Advance tickets are \$30.00 adults, door \$35.00, students \$20.00, at door \$25.00. Tickets on sale at Brookdale Flower Shop, on line at eventbrite.ca or Susan at 506-622-1780. Reception to follow.
2. **Annual Tartan Day Dinner/Concert, Sunday, April 14th**, Kin Centre. Tickets are \$40.00 each, by reservation only, call Susan 506-622-1780. Sponsored by the 67th Miramichi Folksong Festival and Highland Society of NB at Miramichi.
3. **The St. J&J Drama Troupe** is ready to hit the stage once again. Join us April 5, 6 & 7th, for “*Heaven’s to Mergatroid*”, a Dessert Theatre, at the United Church Centre, 556 King George Hwy. Tickets are \$20 each and available at the United Church Office, Dickinson’s Pharmasave, and Brookdale Flower Shop. For reservations, please phone 506-622-1598.
4. **Headstones Saddles made by Brenda Hicks or Jacky LeBreton** are now on sale by calling Brenda (773-6787) or Jacky (773-8002). They will also have them for sale each week at the Farmer’s Market being held at the Curling Club.

■ Minister’s Office:

1. Pastoral Care and Pastoral Visit

Rev. Ji is now on vacation until his end date of April 21st. Rev Alice Szemok will cover the pastoral care during this time.

If you need pastoral care, please contact the church office at 506-773-9932, and Karen will arrange it or on her cell at 506-626-4162. Also, Daniel Szemok will lead us in worship for the next three Sundays.

■ Church Council News March 25, 2024

1. **Youth Forum:** Y@R is a place of community and a place of faith where United Church youth, between grade 6 and 12, meet from across New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, Quebec.It

takes place during the Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (FSLDW), May 31-June 2, 2024. Registration is open now if anyone is interested get in touch with Wayne Mullin or Karen at the church office.

- 2 There will be a **Mental Health Awareness** get together in May in this area. More information will follow.
3. he colour was picked for the **outside carpet** for the front steps. We are awaiting a quote from Floor & More on the complete job. Donations to the carpet fund can still be made through the church office.
4. **The 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada** will happen in June 2025. We are looking for a couple of people to go onto a planning committee to look at celebrations for this and also fundraising ideas. If you are interested please let Karen know at the church office.
5. **The Historic Roll** for St. Andrew's is being worked on and updated. This is a record of everyone that is a member of St. Andrew's.
6. The council are working on with the help of the Faith & Spiritual Development Team a **schedule for worship supply** till the end of August, this should be completed within the next two weeks. Once this is completed it will shared with the congregation so that you are aware.
7. Our annual **Yard and Bake Sale** will happen on Saturday, May 4th from 8:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m.
8. The **Good Used Clothing Sale** will be taking place in late August. Items can start to be dropped off as soon as we complete the Yard Sale.
9. **Our annual meeting** will take place on Sunday, June 9th following the morning worship service. Sorry for the delay but Council has many things being worked on right now and we are trying to complete one thing at a time.

**We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins
in loving memory of Raymond Savoy by Brian & Joan Savoy.**



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