



United Church of Canada  
L'Église Unie du Canada

# St. Andrew's United Church



March 10, 2024.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

## 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.**"



*We, too, are God's messengers of LOVE.*

*<Photo Credit: Liz and Denis Desaulniers>*

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188 Wellington Street. Miramichi, NB. E1N 1M4

Tel & Fax: 506-773-9932

Church Email: [chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com)

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# Sunday Worship Service

(March 10, 2024. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Eunkyui Ji  
**Organist & Choir Director:** Lois McKinnon  
**Greeters:** Sam & Carolyn Shirley

\* *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.***

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## We Gather To Worship

**Music Prelude:** *Organist*

**Introit:** *Choir – VU # 412 vs.3 'This Is the Day'*

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** *Brenda Hicks*

*(Before worship: Light two purple candles, the pink candle, and the Christ candle.)*

This Sunday morning, we reflect on the barriers between us and God. “**Fear**” prevents us from doing new things, learning new things, and meeting new people. Although God's covenant with us is forever, we doubt and cannot fully trust. We feel guilty and distrustful. However, even if we cannot keep the covenant, God keeps the covenant. God forgives us. Christ is truly good news, indeed.

*(Extinguish the pink candle.)*

Let us pray together:

**O God, you are always faithful. We did not understand the forgiveness of the cross. We did not trust God's ability to use us for the “Shalom” of all creation. O God of Salvation, break down all the barriers of fear and division in us. Renew us and bind us to God through the grace of Reconciliation. Amen.**

*Lenten Tenebrae Litany, The Whole People of God*

**Welcome:**

**\*Call to Worship:**

The goodness of God beckons,  
**calling us to goodness and grace.**  
The grace of God redeems,  
**saving us and making us whole.**  
The love of God welcomes,  
**inviting us to worship and praise.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**\*Opening Hymn:** VU # 112, “O God, How We Have Wandered”

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

**God of goodness and grace,  
gather us in your arms of love.  
Gather us as people of your goodness and grace.  
Gather us in worship and prayer,  
that we may be strengthened  
with faith and courage.  
Gather us as those who are eager to live  
and to share your goodness and grace.  
Amen.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

**Prayer of Confession:**

*(Now, we are invited to reflect on ourselves before God. As the presider leads the prayer, join with your hearts in silence.)*

Gracious God, we are tired of our own complaints.  
Although we run around in this world like wandering children,  
we want to return to your warmest arm.  
We felt as if the world was just unfair to us.  
We prayed that we would be loved only,  
but never love anyone else.  
We thought we were alone in the shade.  
Now, we long to feel the warmth of your love  
shining upon us each day.  
Lead us from death to life  
so that we may live as children of light  
Help us to serve others and the world as heirs of your Son  
so that everyone can discover your light and heart.  
Now, we confess our weakness in silence.  
*(a time of silent prayer)*

**Words of Assurance:**

In Christ Jesus, we are created to do good things. By God's grace, we are able to be good people. In God's goodness, we are created good. In Christ's grace, we are saved by love, that we may love and be loved.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021& 2024*

**Sharing Time:**

**Hymn:** VU # 266, "Amazing Grace"

*(Children leave for Sunday school after hymn)*

**The Word of God Proclaimed**

### **Prayer of Illumination: Jennifer Walker**

Our Saviour Jesus is God's fulfillment and joy for all creation. We are created in Christ to do every good work with Jesus. When we hear "Good News," the Word binds us to God, redeems us, restores us, and makes us whole. God's goodness and love will be our way of life. Amen.

*Ephesians 2*

### **Scripture Readings:**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (VU p. 831 Part One and Two)

John 3:14-21

**Ministry of Music:** "His Banner Over Me"

**Message:**

### **We Respond to God's Word**

**Announcements: Liz Mullin**

### **Invitation to the Offering:**

"For God so loved the world..." God's love for the world is the same on the other side of the world as it is here. As God's partners, our practice for love must extend not only to our local communities but also to what is happening on the other side of the world. Through the ministry of our church and our gifts of mission and service, we can spread God's love. Let us give our offering.

*2024 Offering Invitations and Prayers, the UCC*

**\*Offering Hymn:** MV #191, "What Can I Do"

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

**Merciful God, you have richly blessed our lives  
with love and bounty beyond measure.**

**Bless these gifts we return to you now,  
that they may bestow the same richness  
of your love and grace in the world.**

**Amen.**

*Mary J. Scifres, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024*

### **Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer:**

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- People on Prayer Book – **Liz Mullin**
- Peace for countries in wars
- Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (10 - 16 March 2024):  
Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway,  
Sweden

## **WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

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

**\*Blessing Hymn:** VU 574, "Come, Let us Sing of a Wonderful Love"

### **\*Commissioning and Benediction:**

God sends us forth with the immeasurable gift of faith.

**We will live in the joy of our salvation.**

God sends us forth to walk in the light of holy love.

**We will walk in the light of Christ.**

God sends us forth in spirit and in truth.

**We will journey in the Spirit's tender mercies.**

**(All) Go with the blessings of God.**

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 2021*

**\*Choral Closing:** (Choir) "Go Now and Pass It On"

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### **Bible Readings for this week (Year B):**

**Numbers 21:4–9 / Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22 / Ephesians 2:1–10 /  
John 3:14–21**

- **Numbers 21:4–9:** When do you complain to God? Does your complaining ever interfere with your sense of God's presence with you?
- **Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22:** What practice helps you to thank God each day for God's steadfast love?
- **Ephesians 2:1–10:** How does your sense of God's salvation and grace move you to do good works?
- **John 3:14–21:** How do you act as a creature of light in the world? What are your "deeds that have been done in God"?

*The Upper Room, Disciplines 2024, [www.upperroom.org/disciplines](http://www.upperroom.org/disciplines)*

# Announcements

## ■ Memorials:

- In loving memory of **Callum MacPhee**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Jim & Marilyn McGerrigle.
- In loving memory of **Rita Patterson**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Helen Jones.

## ■ 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. We need "Bulletin Cover Photos" for each Sunday

The photo on the Bulletin cover is one of the ways we express our faith. For the Lenten and Easter Season, please submit photos for the Sunday bulletin to the church email.

### 3. 2024 Lenten Season:

- A) "Lent 2024 40 Days Reflection" will be greatly useful to the daily Lenten Bible Study. (Read the given Bible verse each day. Read the questions and meditate. End with your own prayer or the Lord's prayer.)
- B) The theme of this year's National Ecumenical Lent Campaign is **"Give it up for the Earth!"** During this year's Lent, all United Churches will work toward "Act/Fast: Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis."  
(Fasting to reduce greenhouse gases, disposable products and food waste, fasting for recycling, fasting on media use, etc.)
- C) Lenten piggy bank coin collection to support environmental organizations.

### 4. Worship Volunteers:

- **Greeters: March 17** – Margaret Moran Glidden & Barbara Doucet /**March 24** – Bill & Evelyn Row
- **Sound System: March 10** –Paul Rose/**March 17** – Brian Savoy
- **PowerPoint: March 10** – Mary Reynolds/**March 17** – Barry Campbell
- **Offering Counters: March 10** – Betty MacDiarmid & Cynthia Duplessie/**March 17** – Brian Savoy & Barry Campbell

### 5. The Church Directories are now printed and should be arriving very soon. Anyone who had their picture taken will be receiving a free directory. If you did not have your picture taken but wish do purchase a directory you may do so from the church office for \$20.00 each.

## ■ This Week:

### 1. Church Office hours:

Monday – 9-4; Tuesday 9-4 (Betty will be covering); Wednesday 9-4; Thursday 9-4; Friday 9-4

### 2. Weekly Collection;

Collection on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> \$ 975.00

Weekly Par Collection \$ 1,286.77

**Total for Week of Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> \$ 2,261.77**

**Amount needed weekly to meet Budget \$3,962.00**

## ■ Upcoming:

1. **Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30 p.m. – Faith & Spiritual Development Team meeting.

2. **Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 p.m. – The women are asked to meet to help make the sandwiches for Wednesday's, Noon Lenten Service.

3. **Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 p.m. – The Trustees will be meeting in the parlour.

4. **St. Patrick's Tea and Brown Bag Auction** for all ladies of the congregation and you are invited to bring along friends with you. This will be happening on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 2:00 p.m. (UCW members are reminded to bring in a couple auction items wrapped for this event.)

5. **Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday)** there will be a Cold Potluck Luncheon following the morning Worship Service. **(Example: Cold meat, salads, sandwiches, desserts etc.)**

6. **Baked Haddock Supper on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, from 4:00 p.m., till 5:00 p.m. (TAKE-OUT ONLY)** here at St. Andrew's United Church. We will serve baked haddock, mashed potatoes, peas, coleslaw and lemon cake for dessert. Tickets are \$15.00 a person with 100 tickets being sold.

## ■ Community Events:

1. **Noon Lenten Services at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bushville** at 11:45 a.m.

▪ **March 13<sup>th</sup> "Put God Frist in Your Church"** with Presider: Mr. Merle Milson and Preacher: Father David Rioux.

▪ **March 20<sup>th</sup> "Put God First in Your Finances"** with Presider: Rev. Deacon Ted Quann and Preacher: Pastor Ray Arsenault.

Lunch will be provided following with a suggest \$5.00 free-will offering. All proceeds will go to support **"Jeremy's Mission"**. Jeremy's Mission supports the homeless community by enabling "agape" love.

2. **St Mary's Church is pleased to host Vienna- based pianist** John Dupuis in concert at St. Mary's Church, Wednesday, April 10th, 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.

- 3. Annual Tartan Day Dinner/Concert, Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**, Kin Centre. Tickets are \$40.00 each, by reservation only, call Susan 506-622-1780. Featuring music by The Villagers, Audrey McLaughlin, Dawn MacDonald Patterson, Norman Young & Friends, Melanie Ross Breen, Susan Butler, David Bunnell, Claire Murphy and Margaret & Ian Craig. Sponsored by the 67<sup>th</sup> Miramichi Folksong Festival and Highland Society of NB at Miramichi.
- 4. We have someone looking China Cups & Saucers** (if anyone has any they would like to give away) please contact Cynthia Duplessie and let her know at 506-773-5602.
- 5. The St. J&J Drama Troupe** is ready to hit the stage once again. Join us April 5, 6 & 7<sup>th</sup>, for *"Heaven's to Mergatroid"*, a Dessert Theatre, at the United Church Centre, 556 King George Hwy. On board is Gwen Baisley, John Bosma, Franky Corcoran, Nancy Donald, Patty Fawkes, Diane Forrest, Ted Lynch, Rev. Charlene Maguire McKnight, Kimberley Shaddick, David Watling, and Susan Watling. Tickets are \$20 each and available at the United Church Office, Dickison's Pharmasave, and Brookdale Flower Shop. For reservations, please phone 506-622-1598.
- 6. 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**

Pastoral care will happen as people request the minister. When you need pastoral care, contact Rev. JI or the church office.

Visits to the minister's office are welcome anytime.

**E-mail:** [rev.ekji@gmail.com](mailto:rev.ekji@gmail.com)

**We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins  
in loving memory of Alvin MacNaughton by wife, Harriet  
MacNaughton and Family.**



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the St Andrew's website.

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