



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church



February 11, 2024.

Transfiguration 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."



Love Letters from God
<Photo Credit: St. Andrew's United Church>

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Sunday Worship Service

(February 11, 2024. Transfiguration Sunday)

Worship Leader: Rev. Eunkyui Ji

Organist & Choir Director: Lois McKinnon

Greeters: Ron Carter & Ann Brown

* *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 # 606, "In Christ, There Is No East or West" (v.1)*

Christ Candle Lighting: Ferne MacLean

The light of Christ shines on us and in us. The light of Christ leads us.
The light of Christ transforms us. As we light this Christ candle this morning, may the brightness of God shine around us, within us, and through us.

Welcome:

***Call to Worship:**

As we live and as God lives,

God will not leave us, so we are not afraid.

When fire devours and storms blow us astray,

God will not leave us, so we do not despair.

When the truth is veiled and confusion reigns,

God will not leave us, so we are blessed with the eyes of faith.

When the world changes around us,

God will not leave us, so we continue to be courageous.

When we long to speak but find no words,

God will not leave us, so we live only by faith.

When all around us is silent, and faithfulness feels beyond us.

God will not leave us, so we always stand firm in God.

As we live and as God lives,

we worship the Holy One, who never leaves us.

Kirsten Linford, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

***Opening Hymn:** VU # 660, "How Firm a Foundation"

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

Creator God,

whose love is higher than the heavens!

Righteous God, whose love extends from

**the mountains and seas to every living thing!
You take us under your wing, loving God,
Where we find refuge.
You give us hope and possibility for the journey.
You transform our lives with your compassion.
May your love flow in us and through us,
for now and for eternity. Amen.**

Glad Faith Klassen, Gathering A/C/E 2023-24

Prayer of Confession:

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

Merciful God,
Too often, we forget to look for God,
who is always with us.
It is not easy to remember
to keep our eyes on God—
to watch until you are out of sight,
to remember that you are never really out of sight.
We long for you, O God,
especially when we have wandered away
and yearn to come home.
Entrust us with your Holy Spirit—
when we need it most,
when we don't even know we need it,
when we have no words to ask.
Bless us and bring us home.
Now, we confess our weakness in silence.
Merciful God, forgive and heal us.
(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance:

The good news is for all of us. The wonder of God's love is forgiveness for all. The wonder of God's forgiveness gives us a new opportunity to make a fresh start in God's amazing love and forgiveness. Now, we are born again as the people of Good News.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Kirsten Linford, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Sharing Time:

Hymn: VU # 595, "We Are Pilgrims"

(Children leave for Sunday school after hymn)

The Word of God Proclaimed

Prayer of Illumination: Laurie MacFarlane

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our redeemer. Amen.

Psalm 19

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 50:1–6 (VU p.775)

Mark 9:2–9

Ministry of Music: “How Good, Lord, to Be Here”

Message:

We Respond to God’s Word

Announcements: Cynthia Duplessie

Invitation to the Offering:

Through each worship, our hearts and minds were transformed through sacred stories, wise words, and beautiful music.

Today, we move forward again with our talents, passion, and empathy to share this holy change. We pray that our generosity will not only make us feel connected to God, but that our gifts will make a difference in the world and people.

2024 Offering Invitations and Prayers, The United Church of Canada

***Offering Hymn:** VU 266 vs. 4 “Amazing Grace”

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

**Gracious God, you have given us a double share
of your Spirit . . . and even more . . .**

more than we could ask for or ever repay.

**You have blessed us with your love
and filled our lives with your grace.**

**Take now this offering of our hearts and our lives,
that they may be instruments
of your love and your mercy,
your justice and your grace. Amen.**

Kirsten Linford, The Abingdon Worship Annual 2024

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer:

- Sharing thanks or concerns
- People on Prayer Book – Cynthia Duplessie
- Peace for countries in wars
- Ecumenical Prayer Cycle (11 - 17 February 2024):
Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland

WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

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

***Blessing Hymn:** VU # 586, "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection"

***Commissioning and Benediction:**

Our worship is renewed, our mercy is restored,
and our faith is revitalized
as we leave this place and go out into the world.

**May we face the days ahead
with transformed vitality and determination,
and with confidence in God's love planted
deep in our hearts.**

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

Amen.

Gill Le Fevre, Gathering A/C/E 2023-24

***Choral Closing:** (Choir) MV "213, "Take Up This Song" X2

Musical Postlude

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Bible Readings for this week (Year B):

**2 Kings 2:1–12 / Psalm 50:1–6 / 2 Corinthians 4:3–6 /
Mark 9:2–9**

- **2 Kings 2:1–12:** Think of a time when you waited for a blessing from God. How did the waiting feel? How did you experience the blessing when it came?
- **Psalm 50:1–6:** What helps you to be aware of God's presence with you from "the rising of the sun to its setting" each day?
- **2 Corinthians 4:3–6:** What are the areas of your life where God is shining a light? Are there any areas where you need God's light, or may not see God's light?
- **Mark 9:2–9:** Identify a spiritual "mountaintop experience" you have had. What was the lasting impact of that experience on your life as a follower of Christ?

The Upper Room, Disciplines 2024, www.upperroom.org/disciplines

Announcements

■ Memorials:

- In loving memory of **Callum MacPhee**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Bill & Sally Donald, Denis & Liz Desaulniers.
- In loving memory of **Marilyn Goguen**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Ernie & Ferne MacLean.
- In loving memory of **Ronnie Comeau**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Helen Jones.
- In loving memory of **David Morris**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Doris Tozer.
- In loving memory of **Carvell Sturgeon**, donations to St. Mark's Cemetery have been received from Carol & Lee Johnston, Karen DeWolfe.

■ 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. Bulletin Cover Photos

Cover bulletins with your meaningful photos. For the Lenten and Easter Season, please submit photos for the Sunday bulletin to the church email.

3. Worship Volunteers:

- **Greeters: Feb. 18** – Carney Harris & Wanda MacDonald/ **Feb. 25** – Barbara Doucet & Donna Curtis
- **Sound System: Feb. 11** – Brian Savoy/ **Feb. 18** – Don Bowman/ **Feb. 25** – Barry Campbell
- **PowerPoint: Feb. 11** – Barry Campbell/ **Feb. 18** – Jennifer Walker/ **Feb. 25** – Nathan Robichaud
- **Offering Counters: Feb. 11** – Brian Savoy & Barry Campbell/ **Feb. 18** – Betty MacDiarmid, Marjorie Cassidy/ **Feb. 25** – Judy & Dennis Morrison

■ Regional & General Council News:

1. Black History (or African Heritage) Month

February is Black History (or African Heritage) Month. Officially recognized in Canada since 1996, this is a time to honour the contributions and struggles of people of African descent.

For the self-guided study, you can find Black History Month 2024 resource on the UCC website: <https://united-church.ca/blogs>

2. Join the Lenten Study Group!

Every Tuesday starting February 20, join the Rev. Stephen Fetter and others in a six-week Lenten study series to deepen your connection to God and Creation while exploring devotional readings from Act/Fast: Spiritual Practices for a Climate in Crisis.

To join Online Bible Study: <https://churchx.ca/> (\$39.99 CAD)

To buy this year's Lenten reflection Book: <https://ucrdstore.ca/>

■ This Week:

1. Church Office hours:

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

2. Weekly Collection;

Collection on Sunday, Feb. 11th \$ 957.00

Weekly Par Collection \$ 1,286.77

Total for Week of Feb. 4th \$ 2,243.77

Amount needed weekly to meet Budget \$3,962.00

■ Upcoming:

1. **Tuesday, Feb. 13th** - 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Shrove Tuesday Pancake** supper. Free will offering will be taken.

2. **A joint Ash Wednesday Worship Service on Wednesday, Feb. 14th** at 7:00 p.m. here at St. Andrew's with the Loggieville/Black River Pastoral Charge and the Loggieville/Black River Choir.

3. **Tuesday, Feb. 20th – 2:00 p.m.** – Devotions will be held at Losier Hall.

4. **Save the Date: Yard and Bake Sale**, Saturday, May 4th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. People are asked to consider saving items that are in “**Good Working Condition**” for the yard sale.

5. The “**Good Used Clothing Sale**” will be held late August and people are asked to remember to save items for this sale.

■ Community Events:

1. **Annual White Gold Dinner/Concert**, Sunday, February 11th, 2024, Beaverbrook Kin Centre. Supper at 5 pm followed by the concert. Tickets are \$40.00; by reservation only, call Susan at 506-622-1780 or email susanbutler@xplornet.com.

2. **An evening of sharing our reading experience of “Rebekah”** by Betty Ranford Turcott. Hosted by East Central Ontario Regions UCW and open to All. Wednesday, Feb. 21st 7:00 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. Gather by ZOOM and contact Cheryl Mound to join, offer help or ideas, or get information. Contact cdmound@gmail.com
More information on the bulletin board inside the church doors.

■ **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

Happy Lunar New Year

(February 10th in 2024)



I wish you a very Happy New Year!
(*saehae bog manh-i bad-euseyo*)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17)



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

Online St. Andrew's United Church

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

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