

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
FREDERICTON, N.B.

September 30, 2018 11:00 a.m. Nineteenth after Pentecost

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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

“We can’t evoke the dawn if we deny that night occurred”

...Marianne Williamson

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Inspired by Miriam Therese Winter

One: Come, Spirit: as light in darkness..

All: Come, Spirit: as rain in drought...

One: Come, Spirit: as warmth in winter...

Together: Come, Spirit, renew the hearts of all who are gathered for prayer and praise, for justice and peace, now and every day. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN: “God of the Bible” (see insert)

OPENING PRAYER: Compassionate God, many of us in your world today are hearing difficult news. We need an anchor of strength to keep us from being swept away in our waves of worry and fear. Be this anchor of strength for us. We pray for all those people we carry in our hearts (pause for silent prayers)...Inspire us to continue on the “path of unwinding” remembering always to do justice and to love kindness. Amen.

CHILDREN’S HYMN: “Like a Rock” (see insert)

CHILDREN’S TIME

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD...

PSALM 90: “O, God, Our Help in Ages Past” 806

THE BOOK OF ESTHER: Esther 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22

SERMON: “In the Midnight Hour”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Heather Fyffe

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung) 959

OFFERTORY and PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

\*THE DOXOLOGY: 541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER: “Your Work, O God...” 537

\*CLOSING HYMN: “Make Me A Channel of Your Peace” 684

\*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

\*SUNG BLESSING:

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of everyday.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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MINISTER  
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

REV. KELLY HIGGINS  
HEATHER FYFFE  
MARSHA DALEY



**Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.**

**Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 – 12 noon and 1 – 3 p.m.**

**Rev. Kelly's office hours: Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday, 9 – 12 noon.**

**183 Gibson Street, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4E4: Tel: 457-1951 Web-site: [www.gibsonmemorial.ca](http://www.gibsonmemorial.ca); e-mail: [gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com](mailto:gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com)**

### **CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION**

**Good morning and welcome to EVERYONE.** May this worship service be a blessing in your day. Everyone is invited to celebrate share in coffee/tea/cookies and **conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Mickey & Betty Lou Flanagan. **Tellers** today are the Seymour Team. **Taping** the service is Brian Cail and next week will be Lorne Henry. In the **Nursery** is Heather Randall and next week will be Krista Doucette.

### **Services & Meeting this week: Oct. 1 - 6, 2018.**

Monday	9:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	1:30	Women Together
Thursday	6:30	Decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving

### **Upcoming Services & Meetings:**

Oct. 7	11:00	Thanksgiving Service & Baptism Sunday & Transfer of Membership Sunday Group Sunday School Class
Oct. 9	7:00	<b>Finance</b>
Oct. 14	11:00	Communion Sunday
Oct. 16	7:00	<b>Council</b>
Oct. 21	11:00	World Food Sunday
Oct. 28	11:00	Peace Sunday
Nov. 11	<b>9:00</b>	<b>Remembrance Day Service</b> – the service will be at 9 a.m. to allow for people to attend services at the Cenotaph
Nov. 13	7:00	<b>Worship</b>
Nov. 18	11:00	Children's Sunday
Nov. 23	5:00	Set Up for Market (5 – 7:00 p.m.)
Nov. 24	8:00	Christmas Market & Breakfast
Nov. 25	11:00	Mission & Outreach Service

**Today's bulletin** has been donated by **Stuart Henderson & Family**...A "heartfelt" thank you for the wonderful 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration & party.

Sincere sympathy is extended to **Brenda Robison and Family** on the death of Brenda's husband, **John Robison**. A Funeral service will be held at Gibson Memorial United Church on Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 a.m. A reception in the hall will follow the service.

Congratulations to **Lawrence Durling** on becoming a grandfather to a healthy baby boy named **Maximilian (Max) Henry Mercier** born on Sept. 23 to Katie Durling & Mike Mercier.

Congratulations to **Boyd MacTavish** on his Lifetime Membership Award from the Golden Club. (Boyd's picture is on the bulletin board)

**A thankyou note from Edward.** "For my gift, cards, cake and all the many, many, kind words of happiness for me on my retirement. Each and every one of you have been so kind to me in my twelve years at Gibson"...**Edward.**

**Mark your calendars** for the upcoming "**Catch the Excitement**" events at Gibson: (watch upcoming bulletins for more information)

Nov. 24	Christmas Market & Breakfast, hosted by the Mission & Outreach Committee 8 a.m. – 12 noon.
Dec. 14	Songs for a Winters Night: A Christmas dinner with live musical performance from Collective Theatrics, 7:00 p.m. Tickets: \$25 <b>This dinner is in support of Sound System Upgrades.</b> (Only 100 tickets are being sold, if you would like to purchase your tickets early please contact the office and I will put your name on the list.)
Dec. 16	Sunday School Christmas Concert & Potluck lunch, 11 a.m.
Dec. 23	Christmas Carol Sing, 11 a.m.

**Office News:**

- Rev. Kelly needs your help ... If you know of anyone who is in the hospital, or in need of a visit, please contact the office!
- Children’s book are available for “free”. Please check out the books in the hall!
- Telephone & Email messages**...if you would like to receive our weekly messages on upcoming services & events, please let the office know your contact info. (But if you have Rogers as a provider you won’t be able to get telephone message)
- Baptism & Transfer Sunday is Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to have your baby baptized or transfer your membership or have questions concerning adult baptism, please contact Rev. Kelly.
- Books!** We are in need of a volunteer to organize the books in the hall. If you have an interest in books please contact the office.
- The office will be closed on Monday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. If there is an emergency pastoral care need please call 506-461-7740.

**Offerings & Attendance Update: 2018**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>+/- to date</u>
Jan. – Mar.	89	2,195	- 4,589
Apr. - June	91	2,608	- 3,402
July (average)	77	2,834	- 2,118
Aug. (average)	57	2,318	- 3,155
Sept. 2	61	1,958	- 3,774
Sept. 9	105	3,877	- 2,474
Sept. 16	100	2,333	- 2,718
Sept. 23	120	3,033	- 2,262

**Finance Notes:**

- We need approx. \$2,577\* each Sunday to meet the Budget. PAR (\$878 per week) is included in the amount each week.
- Bulletins can be donated in memory of loved ones. The cost of bulletin covers is approx. \$20. Bulletins can also be donated for Anniversary, Birthday and for other Celebrations.
- PAR, Pre-Authorized remittance is available. Please contact the office for more information.
- \*\$2,577 is comprised of Local, Special Projects & Offerings.

**The Worship Committee** is decorating the Sanctuary for Thanksgiving on Oct. 4 at 6:30 p.m. **Donations** of food items, pickles, pumpkin, etc. can be dropped off at the church this week and these items will be given to the Food Bank.

**Mission & Outreach News:**

- In support of the **Christmas Market & Breakfast** the committee will be setting up a table. Donations of baking, sewing, wood working, pickles, etc. will be gladly accepted!
- Benevolent Fund Envelopes** are included in the bulletin this Sunday. If you wish to make a donation please place envelopes in the offering plate. (Please don’t feel obligated to give each month, we are taking small steps towards helping our community.)
- There is someone in our Community in need of a **large – x-large woman’s winter coat**. If you have one you wish to donate please drop off at the office.

**Sunday School News:**

-Sunday School snacks – If you would like to donate snacks (cookies, munchies, etc.) for each Sunday, could you please sign-up. There will be a Sign-up Sheet on the bulletin board in the hall.

**Wendy Topolski Memorial Scholarship 2018**. This scholarship is awarded to one recipient per year and the recipient will receive one thousand dollars for their post-secondary education expenses. The candidates must be attending an accredited University or Community college in Canada. Please see bulletin board for more information.

**Upcoming Community Events:** (see bulletin board for details)

- Oct 11 Adult Singing Workshop at Central United Church, Moncton NB., 7pm. with Dr. Victoria Meredith
- Oct. 12 – 14 Choral Fest 2018, Come Sing with us! Central United Church, Moncton. Registration Deadline, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>



**Upcoming Fundraising events:**

- Oct. 15 Pie Day – 1:30 p.m.  
Oct. 16 Folks on Spokes Luncheon – 12 noon
- Nov. 13 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Nov. 14 Mission Thrift Store – 6 p.m.
- Nov. 20 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Nov. 21 Journey Wesleyan Seniors Dinner – 5 p.m.
- Nov. 23 Set up for Market & Breakfast - 5 -7 p.m.  
Nov. 24 Market & Breakfast – 8 a.m. – 12 noon
- Nov. 27 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Nov. 28 Retired Nurses Dinner – 12 noon
- Dec. 4 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Dec. 5 Elm City Quilting Dinner – 6 p.m.
- Dec. 10 Pie Day – 1:30 p.m.  
Dec. 11 Fredericton Quilters Dinner – 6 p.m.
- Dec. 12 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Dec. 13 Dolphin Swim Club – 12 noon
- Dec. 14 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Dec. 14 Songs for a Winters Night – 7 p.m.  
(Dinner & Collective Theatrics)

**Volunteers** are needed to help with making pies, set-up, working at the dinner and clean-up, so mark these dates on your calendar! **We are asking families of the congregation to donate \$20 a year towards the cost of purchasing supplies.** (Then we don't have to call you to bring in bag of peas, etc.) **Thanks to the congregation for your continued support of our Fund Raising!**

**God of the Bible**

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**God of the Bible, God in the Gospel, hope seen in Jesus,  
hope yet to come, you are our centre, daylight or darkness,  
freedom or prison, you are our home.**

**Chorus:      Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
                  God always faithful, you do not change.  
                  Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
                  God always faithful, you do not change.**

**God in our struggles, God in our hunger, suffering with us,  
taking our part, still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,  
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.**

**Those without status, those who are nothing, you have  
made royal, gifted with rights, chosen as partners,  
midwives of justice, birthing new systems, lighting new  
lights.**

**Not by your finger, not by your anger will our world order  
change in a day, but by your people, fearless and faithful,  
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.**

**Hope we must carry, shining and certain through all our  
turmoil, terror and loss, bonding us gladly one to the other,  
till our world changes facing the Cross.**

### **Like A Rock**

**Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.  
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.  
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.  
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.**

