

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
FREDERICTON, N.B.

December 2, 2018      11:00 a.m.      Advent 1

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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE      WELCOME      ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

“Be the reason someone believes in the goodness of people”

... Karen Salmansohn

PREPARE YE the WAY of the LORD:

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord,  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord,  
Prepare ye, the way of the Lord.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE: written by D. Stiles.

One: Today we kindle the Advent candle of hope.  
(The first candle is lit.)

All: We welcome the light that pierces the shadows, the light  
that affirms God’s presence, the light that enables us to  
move forward in faith.

One: Come, Holy Stranger, beacon of hope on this Advent  
journey: welcome us as we welcome you.

All: We receive the light of hope.

Together: “A Candle Is Burning”      verse one      6

\*OPENING HYMN: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”      2

AN ADVENT PRAYER: VOICES UNITED      11

CHILDREN’S HYMN: “Teach Me, God, to Wonder”      299

CHILDREN’S TIME:

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Flute Solo: Genevieve MacRae

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD...

RESPONSIVE READING: “The Innkeeper”      (see insert)  
David Morrison

HEBREW LESSON: Micah 6:6-8

SERMON: “Call of the Heart”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Flute Solo: Genevieve MacRae

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (sung)      959

OFFERTORY and PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS:

Ministry of Music: Flute Solo: Genevieve MacRae

\*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: (All)

God of Hope, the world needs you. As Christians we prepare yet  
again for your son Jesus our Servant King. May we like him,  
reach out to one another and to those our society regards as the  
outcasts. Give us hope to believe in the kind of world you had  
envisioned so that we may bring the hope of a cup of coffee on a  
cold day, the hope of a warm place to sleep by supporting the  
shelter, the hope of acceptance when we acknowledge our  
brothers and sisters who are different than we are. We all need  
your HOPE. We pray in the name of your son, the itinerant  
Jewish Rabbi who spoke of welcoming strangers and loving  
enemies. Amen

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

\*COMMISSIONING and 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	REV. KELLY HIGGINS
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR	HEATHER FYFFE
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	MARSHA DALEY
CUSTODIAN	BRIAN BUBAR

Sunday Worship: 11 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 St., Fredericton, N.B. E3A 4E4; Tel: 457-1951. Web-site:

[www.gibsonmemorial.ca](http://www.gibsonmemorial.ca); email: [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 share in coffee/tea/cookies and conversation in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Glenn & Audrey Kitchen and next week will be Lindon & Roberta Miller. **Tellers** today are the Morrison & Seymour Team and next week will be Mickey & Betty Lou Flanagan. **Taping** the service today is Lorne Henry and next week will be Chris Banks. In the **Nursery** today is Ashley Sheppard and next week will be Emma Huestis.

#### Services & Meetings this week: Dec. 3 - 8, 2018.

Monday	9:30	Shuffleboard
Tuesday	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Pie Day</b>
	1:30	Women Together
Wednesday	<b>6:30</b>	<b>Elm City Quilting Guild Dinner</b>

#### Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Dec. 9	11:00	Advent 2 – Communion Sunday
Dec. 14 & 15	7:00	Songs for a Winters Night Dinner
Dec. 16	11:00	Advent 3 – Sunday School Christmas Concert & Potluck
Dec. 18	7:00	<b>Council</b>
Dec. 23	11:00	Advent 4 - Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long
Dec. 24	7:00	Christmas Eve Family Service
Dec. 30	11:00	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

Today’s bulletin has been donated in memory of *Keith Scott*, December 23, 1924 – December 3, 1991, by Lori & Mike Donovan & Family.

Poinsettias have been placed in the sanctuary for the Advent & Christmas season in memory of *Bob Chase*, April 20, 1935 – November 28, 2013, by Florence Chase & Family.

Sincere sympathy is extended to **Barb Long & Family** on the death of her sister, *Carol Anne (Long) Gibson*.

Donations have been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Lawrence Durling & Boyd MacTavish* by Jean Henry,

#### Upcoming community Events:

Dec. 5	Advent Carol Festival at St. Paul’s United Church at 7:30 p.m. A freewill offering will be received on behalf of the CBC Feed a Family campaign to support the 12 food banks in this area.
Dec. 7	Christmas Tea “Angels Among Us”, 1- 3 p.m. at Nashwaaksis United Church

**Mission & Outreach News:**

-The Committee is collecting toiletries for those who need help at Christmas. If you would like to donate Shampoo/conditioner, hand-wipes, face-cloths, hand towels, personal products, hand-cream, razors, body lotion, shaving cream, soap, nail clippers, bottles of nail polish, tooth brushes, toothpaste, hand warmers for mittens, socks, gloves, and of course small packages of candy or chocolates; please contact the office or bring them with you to church. Thanks for supporting the Mission & Outreach Committee.

**-Also, we are need of Size 8 men's winter boots and Size 12 men's winter boots.**

- "Buy A Night" cards are for sale in the hall after the upcoming services until Dec. 23. This \$10 per night card provides a night at the shelter for a homeless person and this helps the shelters assist them in accessing the supports and services they need to get back on their feet.

**-“Many hands make light work” Thank you to everyone who made the Christmas Market a fun and successful event. Special thanks to the Mission and Outreach Committee for their work at the Market/Breakfast and for the Worship service.**

-The **Angel Tree** in support of the **Food Bank** is in the Narthex, please take an “Angel” home and return the item on it on or before Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, which is White Gift Sunday.

**Christmas Greetings for Canadian Troops.**

**“If we pass this on and everyone sends one card, think of how many cards will be sent to these wonderful special people, who have sacrificed so much.”** We will have cards available in the hall after services until **Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>**. These cards will be mailed in bulk to the following address Any Canadian Forces Member, PO Box 5140 Stn Forces, Belleville ON K8N 5W6 or you can pick up cards and mail them individually. You can follow this Pay Forward Effect on their face-book page **“Christmas Greetings for Canadian Troops”**.

**Gifts with Vision** catalogues are available on the table in the Narthex. This is an additional way to support the work of the United Church of Canada's Mission & Service Fund.

**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 - Sept.	81	2,668	- 2,239
Oct.	84	2,725	- 1,651
Nov. 4 (No Power)	62	1,924	- 2,304
Nov. 11 (9 a.m.)	68	1,771	- 3,110
Nov. 18	110	3,308	- 2,379
Nov. 25	105	3,079	- 1,877

**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.

**Upcoming Fund Raising Events:**

Dec. 4 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Dec. 5 Elm City Quilting Dinner – 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 10 Pie Day – **1:30 p.m.**  
Dec. 11 Fredericton Quilters Dinner – 6 p.m.

Dec. 12 Pie Day – **1:30 p.m.**  
Dec. 13 Dolphin Swim Club 12 – 12 noon

Dec. 14 & 15 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.  
Dec. 14 & 15 Songs for a Winter's Night – 7 – 9 p.m.

**Thanks to the congregation for your continued support of our Fund Raising!**

# Islam

**Symbol:** Star and crescent moon

**Name for Divine:** Allah

**Founder & Origins:** Muhammad, the prophet;

Abraham & Jesus are also considered prophets.

Began in 622 CE, in Saudi Arabia.

**Holy Books:** Qur'an (scripture); Hadith (tradition)

**Original Language:** Arabic

**Place of Worship:** Mosque. Friday is the weekly day of gathering for prayer.

**Spiritual Leaders:** Imam may lead prayers. Muazzin calls people to prayer. Ulama are the scholars.

**Name for Followers:** Muslims

**Sects:** Sunni & Shia

**Followers Worldwide (2012):** 1.6 billion

**Golden Rule:** "No one of you truly believes until you wish for others what you wish for yourself." - Hadith

**Some Basic Beliefs:**

Humans must submit (*islam*) to the will of God.

*The Five Pillars*

*Faith:* There is no true God but Allah. Muhammad is his prophet.

*Prayer:* Five times daily (daybreak, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset, and evening), in Arabic, facing Mecca, anywhere, for 5 – 10 minutes. Preceded by washing hands, mouth, face, and feet.

*Almsgiving:* A tithe (percentage of income, is given to help others.

*Fasting:* From food, drink and sexual relations from dawn to sunset for the month of Ramadan.

*Pilgrimage to Mecca:* Once a lifetime, if able.

**Coming for Dinner:** No alcohol. No pork or anything related to pork (bacon, lard). Halal food/meat. Vegetarian menu may be best option. May need a private place to pray. Fast from sunrise to sunset during month of Ramadan. *As host, just ask what works!*

*For more information:* [www.islamicity.org](http://www.islamicity.org)

*A Gathering Worship Resource 2018, The United Church of Canada*

## God of the Bible

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 empower 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.

## **The Innkeeper**

**By Lennie Gallant**

It was cold the night it happened, I was tired, it was late  
I'd served too much wine to travelers, I could barely tolerate  
Through the shouts and drunken laughter, heard a knock upon the door  
There was something desperate in the sound, that I chose to ignore  
**Then again I heard the knocking like a hammer on my heart**  
Flung the door open in anger, I peered out into the dark

I could tell there was no profit, to be made from what was there  
Nothing but a tired and worried man, so dusty and threadbare  
On a donkey there behind him, sat a woman full with child  
Her time has come, he said to me, might we rest here for a while  
**Again I heard the knocking like a hammer on my heart**  
But I said I had no room for them, and bade them to depart

Was the light from lamps within the inn, or somewhere in the sky  
I saw her face turn towards mine, I looked into her eyes  
My knees began to weaken, my hands began to shake  
Then I felt I'd be forgiven, for all of my mistakes  
**And again I heard the knocking like a hammer on my heart**  
But voices beckoned me inside the inn, and I left them in the dark

Through the night I felt the lifting, of some weight upon my soul  
By some power that was stronger than, the darkness could control  
I ran out into the street, enquired at every other inn  
It seemed that they'd been turned away, from every place they'd been  
**Again I heard the knocking like a hammer on my heart**  
Then I heard a baby's cry, from somewhere in the dark

I found them in a stable, kings and shepherds gathered around  
It seemed there was no room, for the likes of me there to be found  
I could not understand it, but I had to see the child  
When the mother bade me to come near, I swear I saw him smile  
**Then I heard what sounded like a thousand chains breaking apart;  
and a door now swinging open letting light enter my heart**  
Enter my heart, enter by heart



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