

**GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
FREDERICTON, N.B.**

December 23, 2018 11:00 a.m. Advent 4

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

**“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas;
Soon the bells will start,
And the thing that will make them ring
Is the carol that you sing
Right within your heart.” Meredith Willson**

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 LOVE

One: Today we kindle the Advent candle of Love.

All: We welcome the warmth that lightens the winter
chill, the warmth of passionate embrace, the warmth
that comes from the heart of God.

Together: “A Candle Is Burning” verse 4 6

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

All: We receive the light of love.

***CHRISTMAS CAROL: “Joy to the World” 59**

PRAYER: God of Hope, Love and Compassion, open our eyes to
see the blessings in our lives. Open our ears to the joyous
sounds of Christmas songs and allow us to taste the flavours and
smell the aromas of the Christmas season. Open our hearts to
those who need an extra word of encouragement. Open our
arms to embrace those who feel lost or alone or sad. May we

touch others with your love and compassion during these
holidays. May we be kind to strangers, those seeking the hope of
God through a hot cup of coffee, a clean bed for shelter, and
warm words on a cold night. We pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS CAROL: “Happy Birthday Baby
Jesus” (led by Tyler Seymour)**

Well everybody has a birthday,
And a cake and a party too,
And all your friends come over,
And sing "Happy Birthday" to you.

[Refrain:]

Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus,
Even when your birthday's through,
All year long we'll remember,
Each precious gift we get from You.
So we sing,
Take it from, to la la la la
He was born on Christmas Day.
Take it from, to la la la la
He brings so much joy our way.

When Jesus has a birthday,
The whole wide world is there,
And he gives out the presents
For all the people to share. [Refrain]

CHILDREN’S TIME

**CHRISTMAS CAROL FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART:
“Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” (see insert)**

CHRISTMAS LIGHT MEDLEY (see pink insert)
“A Light Is Gleaming”
“Star of the East”
“Silver Bells”

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD...**GOSPEL STORY: Luke 1:47-55****MEDITATION: "My Spirit Rejoices"****SING WITH THE ANGELS MEDLEY: (see insert)****"Deck the Halls"****"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"****"O Come, All Ye Faithful"****WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****THE LORD'S PRAYER****BORN IS THE KING MEDLEY: (see insert)****"The First Nowell"****"What Child Is This"****"Silent Night"****OFFERTORY & PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS: Ministry
of Music: "O Holy Night" by Heather Fyffe*****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: "Twas in the Moon..."****Twas in the moon of wintertime,****When all the birds had fled,****That mighty Gitchi Manitou****Sent angel choirs instead;****Before their light the stars grew dim,****And wandering hunters heard the hymn:****Jesus your King is born,****Jesus us born, In excelsis gloria.*****CLOSING CAROL: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"
(led by Caleigh Sullivan)**

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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**

MINISTER**ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR****OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR****CUSTODIAN****REV. KELLY HIGGINS****HEATHER FYFFE****MARSHA DALEY****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; email: 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/juice** and **conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are the Joy & Brian Veno and next week will be Doug & Marsha Daley. **Tellers** today are Dale Horncastle & Wayne Alexander and next week will be Mike & Gail Oliver. **Taping** the service today is Lindon Miller. In the **Nursery** today is Heather Randall.

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Dec. 30 11:00 1st Sunday after Christmas
 Guest Minister: Rev. Brian MacDonald

Today's bulletin has been donated in celebration of Christmas by ***Brian & Marliese Cail & Family***. Merry Christmas everyone from the Cail Family!

A poinsettia has been placed in the sanctuary in loving memory of ***Nellie & Ralph Titus*** by Thelma & Fred Titus.

Donations have been made to **The Living Memorial Funds** in memory of ***Lawrence Durling & Lloyd Marshall*** by Sybil Grant.

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.	86	2,520	- 1,877
Dec. 2	106	3,167	- 1,287
Dec. 9	118	3,382	- 482
Dec. 16	122	3,011	- 48

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.

Office Notes:

- The Financial Books will be closing Dec. 28th, 12 noon.
- 2019 Offering Envelopes will be available next Sunday, Dec. 23rd. If you don't have envelopes and would like to please contact the office.
- Office Hours: Dec. 24, 25, 26 Closed
 Dec. 27, 28 9 a.m. – 12 noon
 Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Closed
 Jan. 2 – 4 Regular Hours

Rev. Kelly's Christmas Hours: Rev. Kelly will be out of the office from Dec. 25 – Jan. 2 and will be back in the office on **Jan. 3rd**. Rev. Brian MacDonald will be available for emergency Pastoral Care, please call the office or Marsha at 458-8390/461-7740.

Fundraising News: Since September we have served 873 dinners! **Thanks to all our awesome VOLUNTEERS! This would not be possible without each and everyone of you!**



Today we light **54 bulbs** for a **total of 380 bulbs** on our 2018 Memorial/Celebration Tree!



Again this year our tree will shine brightly so all who enter or pass by may experience the **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love** of the Advent and Christmas Season. The names are printed on an insert in the today's bulletin.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

You know Dasher, and Dancer, and Prancer, and Vixen,
Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen,
But do you recall the most famous reindeer of all?

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer
Had a very shiny nose
And if you ever saw it
You would even say it glows

All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names,
They never let poor Rudolph
Join in any reindeer games!

Then one foggy Christmas eve
Santa came to say
"Rudolph with your nose so bright,
Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then how the reindeer loved him,
As they shouted out with glee:
"Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,
You'll go down in history!"

Medley: Sing With the Angels Medley -- Deck the Halls, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, O Come All Ye Faithful

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa la la...
Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la...
Don we now our gay apparel, fa la la...
Troll the ancient yuletide carol, fa la la...

Se the blazing yule before us, fa la la...
Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa la la...
Sing we joyous all together, fa la la...
Heedless of the wind and weather, fa la la...

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity.
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

[Refrain:]

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing of exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God in the highest: [Refrain]

**Medley: Born is the King Medley -- The First Nowell,
What Child is This, Silent Night**

The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

[Refrain:]

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]

What child is this, who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.