

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
FREDERICTON, N.B.

December 30, 2018 11:00a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

\*\*\*\*\*

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

**L:** The Lord says "I am a high and holy God... I live in a high and holy place, but I also live with those who are humble and repentant, so that I can restore their confidence and hope." (*Isa. 57:15*)

**P:** Therefore we confidently declare that God has come to us in Jesus, to reconcile us to God and to one another, and to make all things new.

**All:** Joy to the world! The Lord is come!

\*OPENING HYMN: Unto Us a Boy Is Born (v. 1-2, 4-5) VU 54

OPENING PRAYER:

As we approach another new year, gracious and loving God, we recall a poem King George VI once quoted in his radio broadcast in a troubled time:

"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

(from "God Knows" by Minnie Haskins)

You know, O Lord, that we are challenged by the truth that we're called to walk by faith and not by sight. As we step out in faith, help us to see that your strong and loving arms are there to form a bridge over whatever troubled waters we may need to cross; your Spirit is there to guide us. We praise you and thank you for this reality!! In Jesus name, Amen.

2

CHILDREN'S HYMN: Hope Is a Star VU 7

(v.1-2 before and 3-4 after the conversation time)

(Children come to front)

CONVERSATION TIME:

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Heather Fyffe

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD...

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:21-40, 41-52

SERMON: A Forward-Looking Reflection for 2019

MINISTRY OF MUSIC:

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF AND FOR THE PEOPLE  
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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: (all)

O God, your gift to all creation of new life in Jesus surpasses everything we could ever imagine. We accept that gift from your hand, and offer ourselves and these gifts, however imperfect we and they may be. Remind us that you accept all heartfelt offerings and use them to do amazing things. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise VU 101  
(to the tune of VU 516)

**\*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**

\*\*\*\*\*

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/juice** and **conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are the Doug & Marsha Daley. **Tellers** today are Mike & Gail Oliver and next week will be The Small and Thomson Team. **Taping** the service next week is Lorne Henry. In the **Nursery** next Sunday is Krista Doucette.

**Office Notes:**

- The Financial Books will be closing Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon.
- 2019 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex.  
If would like envelopes please contact the office.
- Office Hours: Dec. 31, Jan. 1           Closed  
                          Jan. 2 – 4                Regular Hours
- Rev. Kelly will be back in the office on Jan. 3
- For Emergency Pastoral Care call the office or Marsha at 458-8390/461-7740