

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
FREDERICTON, N.B.

January 6, 2019 11:00a.m. Epiphany

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

*“In three words I can sum up everything I learned about life;
it goes on.” Robert Frost*

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP: inspired by Louise Hart

One: You called out to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem, and they heard you,

All: You called out to 12 disciples in Galilee, and they served you,

One: You called out to Moses and with his sister Miriam they led their people to freedom.

All: You called out to Martin Luther King Jr. in Atlanta, and he followed you.

One: You call out to us even now, waiting for us to listen, to take steps to make our light shine.

All: Be with us in our listening today that we may follow where we are called. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: “A Light Is Gleaming” 82

OPENING PRAYER: God of winter light, help us like the Magi to follow our hearts, to be guided by you into the New Year that has graciously been bestowed upon us. Like all who have come before us, we still need direction and guidance. Help us to remember that Jesus didn’t always know what to do and he looked to you to guide him. Bless us on our journey together. Let our hearts be guided by your light. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN’S HYMN: “This Little Light of Mine”
(Children come to front)

“This little light of mine
I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I’m gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.”

CONVERSATION TIME: May Christ Bless This House

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD...

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 146 868
Lyman Coy

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON: “Guided By a Star”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Heather Fyffe

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF AND FOR 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.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: “As with Gladness Men of Old” 81**

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold.
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore your splendor see.

***CLOSING HYMN: “God of the Bible” (see page 6)**

***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 REV. KELLY HIGGINS
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR HEATHER FYFFE
OFFICE ADMINISTARTOR 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; 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 David & Barbara Morrison and next week will be Hans & Lolita Gunter. **Tellers** today are Anne Small and Sherry Thomson and next week will be Gladys Gallant & Valerie & Phil Barton **Taping** the service today is Lorne Henry and next week will be Chris Banks. In the **Nursery** today is Krista Doucette and next week will be Lindsey Mackay.

Services & Meetings this week: Jan. 7 – 12, 2019

Monday 9:30 Shuffleboard
Tuesday 1:30 Women Together
7:00 **Worship**

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Jan. 15 7:00 **Council**
Jan. 27 12:00 New Year’s Potluck Lunch
Jan. 30 7:00 **Trustees**
Feb. 17 11:00 Annual Meeting

Thank You Note: Thank you to everyone for the beautiful Christmas cards and New Year wishes. They mean so much to us. Thanks also for the goodies and other tokens of appreciation. We are very blessed to be a part of this church family, Kelly and Marsha.

Property News: The Property Committee would like to notify the congregation that effective immediately the back door of the hall will be locked at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Last week there was an incident where some items were stolen from coats hanging in the upper coat racks and from vehicles in the parking lot. Please take the necessary precautions to protect your belongings.

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
Dec. 23	121	4,241	+1,616
Dec. 24	200 (approx.)	2,026	+3,642
Dec. 30	61	1,664	+2,729

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.

-**2019 Offering envelopes** are available in the Narthex. If you don't have envelopes and would like to, please contact the office.

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 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.

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I HOPE for you in this NEW YEAR of 2019

**That you find meaning, purpose and joy in what you do
and in the life you live.**



**That you treasure your loved ones
and let them know how precious they are to you.**

**That you keep laughter close by
for those times it takes all you have just to smile.**

**That you never give up, even when, especially when,
you feel you are walking in the dark.**

That you carry peace within yourself and share it with others.

That you remember to spread kindness wherever you go.

**That you hold another's hand trusting in the mystery
of God's abiding presence with you.**

**That you follow your heart like the Magi
and let yourself be guided by a star.**

That you be both a blessing and be blessed each day. Amen.

Your Minister and Friend, Kelly 2019

