

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
FREDERICTON, N.B.

2

March 24, 2019 Lent 3 Love & Compassion

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

“This Jesus is a man, a man with remarkable wisdom, courage, and ability to inspire others with his enduring message of peace and love. This is a Jesus I can believe in.” David R. Woolley

Lighting the CHRIST candle

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We have gathered here in this house of prayer,

All: In our speaking, in our singing,

in our serving, in our praying,

in all these ways---we worship God! Amen!

* HYMN: “A Light Is Gleaming”

82

PRAYER: God of many names, we know you as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? As Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer? As Mother, Healer, and Wisdom? Throughout the ages your people have called you many names as they seek to understand who you are to them. And we your children are still seeking to understand who you are and what it means to say that we believe in you. Our prayer today is a simple one—be with us, help us to know and feel your presence with us in the unfolding of our lives. We pray in the name of the itinerant Jewish Rabbi, who spoke of welcoming strangers and loving enemies. Amen.

CHILDREN’S HYMN: “Like a Rock”

(see insert)

CONVERSATION TIME

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 23 written by Taki Mayashina

Sandra Pond (see back cover)

A GOSPEL STORY: Luke 9: 18-20

SERMON: “Who Am I to You?”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: “Keep the Banner Flying High”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

LENT CHALLENGE 3

RESPONSE: God of the Bible (verse 5 and Chorus)

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.

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.

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:** Giving God, who works with us to transform lives, help us to remember to feed the hungry, to befriend the lonely, to restore wholeness to those who are broken. With humility and hope we offer our gifts of time and money and talents. We pray asking that you bless every situation where our gifts go to work. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** "I Have Called You..." (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

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. A special welcome is extended to *Margaret and Brian MacDonald* who are with us today. Everyone is invited to share in coffee/tea/juice and **conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Valerie & Minard Jewett and next week will be Lanna & Lorne Henry. **Tellers** today Anne Small and Sherry Thomson and next week will be Gladys Gallant & Phil & Valerie Barton. **Taping** the service today is Chris Banks and next week will be Lorne Henry. In the **Nursery** today is Marchell Coulombe and next week will be Krista Doucette.

Services & Meetings this week: Mar. 25 - 30, 2019.

Monday 9:30 Shuffleboard
Tuesday 9:30 Pie Day
1:30 Women Together
Wednesday 4:00 **Turkey Dinner**

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Mar. 31 11:00 **Lent 4:** Memorial Candle Lighting Service
Apr. 7 11:00 **Lent 5:** Baptism Sunday & Potluck Lunch
Apr. 14 11:00 **Palm Sunday:** Holy Communion
Apr. 18 7:00 **Maundy Thursday Service** - Rev. Kelly & Council members will be leading this service
Apr. 21 11:00 **Easter Sunday:** Baptism & Transfer of Membership Service

Today's bulletin has been donated in memory of *Leland Henry*, November 9, 1922 - March 24, 2015, by the Henry Family.

Donations have been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Darren O'Donnell* by Lyman & Carrie Coy and Perry & Alexina Stewart.

A donation has been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Lloyd Marshall* by Lyman & Carrie Coy.

A donation as been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Margaret Nason*, who passed away March 25, 1967, by Robert Grant.

On Sunday, March 31st the Annual Memorial Candle Lighting Service will be a quiet service giving us time to remember our loved ones who have passed away during the year. The service is an opportunity for you or a member of your family to come forward and light a candle in memory of your loved one. Letters will be mailed out to families of our congregation who have lost loved ones but if you do not receive a letter and would like to light a candle, please contact our office at 457-1666 or gibsonmemorial@nb.aibn.com.

Transfer of Membership Service will be Easter Sunday, April 21st.

If you would like to transfer or become a member at Gibson or have questions, please contact Rev. Kelly.

Offerings & Attendance Update: 2019

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>+/- to date</u>
Jan.	72	2,178	- 1,685
Feb. 3	97	2,552	- 1,733
Feb. 10	91	2,036	- 2,297
Feb. 17	85	2,022	- 2,875
Feb. 24	98	2,433	- 3,042
Mar. 3	76	2,683	- 2,959
Mar. 10	106	2,084	- 3,475
Mar. 17	90	2,409	- 3,667

Finance Notes:

-We need approx. \$2,600* each Sunday to meet the Budget. PAR (\$947 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.

-\$2,600 is comprised of Local, Special Projects & Offerings.

Upcoming Fund Raising Events:

Mar. 5 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - Profit: \$1,361

Mar. 26 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.

Mar. 27 Turkey Dinner - 4 – 6 p.m. **\$15/adult**
(Tickets will be on sale today!)

Apr. 23 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.

Apr. 24 Catering to Retired Nurses Dinner - 12 noon

May 13 Pie Day – 1:30 p.m.

May 14 Catering to Fredericton Quilters – 6 p.m.

May 21 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.

May 22 Church Dinner – 4 – 6 p.m. (Menu pending)

May 28 Catering to Folks on Spokes – 12 noon.

May 31 Set up for Yard Sale – 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

June 1 Breakfast & Yard Sale – 8 – 12 noon

June 14 Catering to a Wedding - 7 p.m.

June 18 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.

June 19 Steak/Chicken BBQ – 4 – 6 p.m.

Notes:

- We are gladly accepting your **Yard Sale** donations! Please call the office and let us know you are coming and we will store the items in the church basement.
- **Volunteers** are needed for each event. If you haven't volunteered for an event and would like to, please let me know and we will welcome you! Otherwise volunteers will receive an email before each event.
- And each year we ask families of the congregation to donate **\$20** towards the cost of purchasing supplies!

PSALM 23

(from a Japanese translation)

One: The Lord is my Pacesetter, I shall not rush.

He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.

All: He provides me with images of stillness which restore my serenity. He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind, and his guidance is peace.

One: Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret, for his presence is here. His timelessness, his all importance will keep me in balance.

All: He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity. By anointing my mind with his oils of tranquility;

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Together: Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours. For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord, and dwell in his house forever.

Written by Taki Miyashina in the mid 1960's. Her translation of this familiar scripture was fitting for a world caught up in busyness. As it is for us today.

LENT CHALLENGE 3

Today is the third Sunday in Lent. The first week, we asked everyone to do a random act of generosity. Last week, we asked everyone to express gratitude to someone they don't usually thank and to name three things for which they were grateful every day. Take a few moments to turn to someone beside you and share how you did with that challenge.

This week your challenge is to pray for an enemy. Every day, we would like you to spend some time praying for someone who has hurt or offended you. Or you might pray for someone with whom you are having a difficult relationship or someone you just don't see eye to eye with. Take some time every day to pray for that person, or simply send them love and compassion. So, that is your challenge for the coming week. Let's confirm our commitment to this by singing...



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.

I Have Called You by Your Name

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.

I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.