

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

September 22, 2019 11:00 a.m. Fifteenth after Pentecost

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

PRELUDE WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE APPROACH GOD

Lighting the CHRIST candle

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: I have asked the Lord for one thing; one thing only do I want:

All: To dwell in the house of God's presence all my life, to marvel there at God's goodness and to ask for God's guidance.

One: In times of trouble the Lord will shelter me.

All: God will keep me safe in that temple, and will make me secure on the high rock of his promises.

***OPENING HYMN:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty VU #220

OPENING PRAYER: (In unison)

Jesus cried out to the crowd in the Temple "If any of you are thirsty, come to me and drink. If anyone believes in me, as the Scripture says, streams of living water shall flow from within them." Loving God, many of us have come this morning having already experienced this at some point in the past, while some of us may be hearing this invitation for the first time. Wherever we are in our faith journeys, may we know that you and you alone are the Source of that living water. We are like travelers in the desert, needing to pause regularly for the refreshment you provide. May this time, this place, and this gathered community be the oasis we need as we begin a new week. Come, Holy Spirit, and be that living water for us. Amen.

CHILDREN'S HYMN: God of the Bible MV #28 (see insert)

CONVERSATION TIME WITH THE CHILDREN
With Jessica Clement & Ashley Sheppard

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Psalm 51:1-10
Luke 15:1-10

SERMON: Desperately Seeking Mercy

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF 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.**

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:** (in unison)

Gracious and loving God, as you have been merciful to us, you expect us to show mercy to others. We pray that the offerings we bring this morning will serve that very purpose, here at home and beyond. Continue to build your Kingdom through them, in Jesus' name, Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love

VU# 574

***COMMISSIONING and BLESSING**

***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 & Sunday School: 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 – 12 noon and 1 – 3 p.m.

Rev. Kelly's in-office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday mornings,
 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 the **coffee/tea/juice/cookies and conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today will be Alice Sewell & Joel Wallace and next week will be Mickey & Betty Lou Flanagan. **Tellers** today are Dale Horncastle & Wayne Alexander and next week will be Brian & Marliese Cail. **Taping** the service today is Chris Banks and next week will be Brian Cail. In the **Nursery** today is Victoria Daley and next week will be Krista Doucette.

Services & Meetings this week: Sept. 23 - 28, 2019:

| | | |
|-----------|-------|-----------------------|
| Monday | 9:30 | Shuffleboard Group |
| Tuesday | 9:30 | Pie Day |
| | 1:30 | Women Together |
| Wednesday | 12:00 | Retired Nurses Dinner |

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

| | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| Sept. 29 | 11:00 | Guest Minister – Rev. Brian MacDonald |
| Oct. 6 | 11:00 | World Wide Communion Sunday |
| | 12:15 | Council |
| Oct. 10 | 6:30 | Decorating the sanctuary for Thanksgiving |
| Oct. 13 | 11:00 | Thanksgiving Service |
| Oct. 20 | 11:00 | The Visioning Committee will be leading the Worship Service |
| Oct. 27 | 11:00 | Peace Sunday with the Sunday School Children singing |
| Nov. 3 | 11:00 | Collective Theatrics & Potluck Lunch |
| Nov. 10 | 11:00 | Remembrance Day Service |
| Nov. 17 | 11:00 | Guest flutist – Genevieve MacRae |

Today's bulletin has been donated in loving memory of our **Grampy, Bob Jewett**, by Annabelle and Veronica.

A donation has been made to the **Living Memorial General Fund** in memory of **Bob Jewett**, March 25, 1943 – September 16, 2017, by Judy and Family. **Roses** have been placed in the sanctuary in loving memory of Bob by Judy.

A warm welcome is extended to **Rev. Brian MacDonald**. Brian, thanks for leading Gibson in worship today and for sharing your message with us!

Rev. Kelly is away on vacation from Tuesday September 17th - Monday September 30th. Rev. Brian MacDonald will be in the pulpit on both Sunday September 22 and 29th. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care please call the church office. Thank you.

Donations have been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of **Phil Barton** by Mary & Mark Palmer, Stuart Henderson and Judy Jewett.

A donation has been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of **Eva Bartlett** by Donna Styant.

The Mission & Outreach Food Cupboard is in need of **soup, cereal, children's snacks** (Jello, apple sauce, pudding, granola bars), **instant coffee, laundry soap, toilet paper, diapers and peanut butter**. Thanks for supporting the Food Cupboard.

Advent Bible Study: Rev. Kelly will be offering an Advent Bible Study on Tuesdays, starting Nov. 26th through to Dec. 17th. Please contact Rev. Kelly at revkellygibson@nb.aibn.com, 457-1735, FB or talk with her after church, during conversation time.

Covenanting Service for **Rev. Nathan Wright**, minister at Nashwaaksis United Church, on Oct. 6th at 3 p.m. This service will be at Nashwaaksis United Church with Rev. Kelly Higgins giving the message. All are welcome!

Offerings & Attendance Update: 2019

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Offerings</u> | <u>+/- to date</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jan. – Mar. | 86 | 2,399 | - 2,719 |
| Apr. - June | 99 | 2,867 | + 527 |
| July – Aug. | 62 | 2,202 | - 3,183 |
| Sept. 1 | 58 | 2,291 | - 3,492 |
| Sept. 8 | 110 | 2,801 | - 3,291 |
| Sept. 15 | 84 | 2,240 | - 3,651 |

Finance Notes:

-We need approx. \$2,600* each Sunday to meet the Budget. PAR (\$861 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 Fundraising Events

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|----------|---|
| Sept. 24 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Sept. 25 | Retired Nurses Dinner – 12 noon |
| Oct. 15 | Folks on Spokes Dinner – 12 noon |
| Oct. 22 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Oct. 23 | Church Dinner – 4 – 5:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 12 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Nov. 13 | Mission Thrift Store Dinner – 6 p.m. |
| Nov. 19 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Nov. 20 | Journey Wesleyan Dinner - 6 p.m. |
| Nov. 26 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Nov. 27 | Retired Nurses Dinner – 12 noon |
| Nov. 30 | Market & Breakfast – 8 – 11 a.m. |
| Dec. 3 | Pie Day – 9:30 a.m. |
| Dec. 4 | Elm City Quilters Dinner – 6:30 p.m. |
| Dec. 9 | Pie Day – 9:30 |
| Dec. 10 | Fredericton Quilters Dinner – 6 p.m. |
| Dec. 11 | Pie Day – 9:30 |
| Dec. 12 | Dolphin Swim Club Dinner – 12 noon |
| Dec. 13 | Pie Day – 9:30 |
| Dec. 13 | Collective Theatrics Show & Dinner – 7 p.m. |

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.**

Upcoming Community Events: (see bulletin board for more info.)

- Sept. 24 Fredericton Age Friendly Advisory Committee invites you to attend a gathering to discuss ‘Understanding Senior’s Isolation & Loneliness’ 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at O’Dell Park Lodge. Lunch included.
- Sept. 26 New Maryland United Annual Bridge Luncheon from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the New Maryland Rec Centre. To book a table of 4 for \$48, call Loraine Ward at 455-8208.
- Sept. 28 Salad Plate Take Out, hosted by the Marysville United Church Women, Cost \$10. Pick up 1 p.m.
- Oct. 3 – 5 Collective Theatrics present: **The Full Monty** at the Tom Morrison Theatre. Tickets, \$25, are available at Joy of Framing or by contacting cast members.
- Oct. 5 Roast Pork Dinner hosted by Nashwaaksis United Church, 5:30 p.m. Call Rindy or Tom, 450-7151 for reservations. \$14/ person. Take-outs available.
- Oct. 18-20 **Disney’s Frozen** production by The Chameleon Jo Productions Young Company and Musical Adventure Club. Please see poster for more details. (Caileigh Sullivan is in this show!)

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.