

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
FREDERICTON, N.B.

2

November 17, 2019 11:00 a.m. 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

“There is a nobility in compassion, a beauty in empathy, a grace in forgiveness”...John Connolly

Lighting the Christ candle

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Spirit, open our hearts to the joy and pain of living.

All: As God loves, let us love. Amen

***OPENING HYMN: “Spirit, Open My Heart” (see insert)**

One: Come from the busyness of your life. Come sit in the quiet.

Together: Spirit of the living God, inspire us to be still, to know that you are present with us. Help us to reach out in love and forgiveness whenever they are needed. Your people need these kindnesses as does your world. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHILDREN'S HYMN: “Like A Rock”

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under 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.

CONVERSATION TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

“Flowers” by Elizabeth Raum: Genevieve MacRae

PAUL'S letter to the COLOSSIANS: 3:12-17

SERMON: “It's Coming on Christmas

“Bridge Over Troubled Water” written by Paul Simon: Genevieve MacRae

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER 959

OFFERTORY: “Suite of Israeli Folk Song, Movement 111 by

Yoav Talmi: Genevieve MacRae

***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: Compassionate God, inspire us to share in your work of caring for creation and for one another. May our gifts proclaim good news for those living in hunger, isolation, grief and loneliness. Keep us ever faithful to our promise to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with you. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN: “A Light Is Gleaming” 82**

***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 & 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. A special welcome to *Genevieve MacRae*, our guest flutist. Everyone is invited to share in **coffee/tea/juice and conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Beth Arsenaault and Mei Huang and next week will be Mike & Gail Oliver. **Tellers** today are Mickey & Betty Lou Flanagan and next week will be Robert Grant & Bill Field. **Taping** the service today is Brian Cail and next week will Lindon Miller. In the **Nursery** today is Krista Doucette and next week will be Marchell Coulombe.

Services & Meetings this week: Nov. 17 - 23, 2019

Sunday	12:15	Council
Monday	9:30	Shuffleboard Group
Tuesday	9:30	Pie Day
	1:30	No Women Together
Wednesday	6:00	Catering to Journey Wesleyan Church

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Nov. 24	11:00	Guest pianist – Anne Marie Mossman
Nov. 27	7:00	Trustees
Dec. 1	11:00	First Sunday in Advent with Genevieve MacRae and “The Fredericton Flute Choir & Communion Sunday
Dec. 8	11:00	Second Sunday in Advent: Bring a Friend, Blue Jeans and Coffee Sunday. Our Guest flutist is Yiyang Shi.

Dec. 15	11:00	Third Sunday in Advent Children's Christmas Pageant
Dec. 22	11:00	Fourth Sunday in Advent Christmas Carol Sing Song
Dec. 24	7:00	Christmas Eve Family Service & Guest soloist, Charles MacTavish
Dec. 29	11:00	First Sunday after Christmas & Baptism Sunday

Today's bulletin has been donated in loving memory of *Kaitlin Beverley Seymour*, Nov. 16, 2003 – Nov. 20, 2003, by Todd, Stephanie, Tyler & Emily Seymour.

A donation has been made to the **Gibson Memorial United Church Sunday School** in memory of *Kaitlin Beverley Seymour* by Nana Seymour (Marilyn Seymour) & Family.

A donation has been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Bob Miller* by Rodney & Hazel Stairs.

A donation has been made to the **Living Memorial Funds** in memory of *Theresa Frances McManus* by Ruth Hawkes.

Christmas Greetings for our Canadian Troops:

It is that time of year again when we remember those service men and women who will not be home for the holidays. Please send a card if you are able! We will have our own Gibson Church Christmas cards on a table in the hall after church this Sunday and also on November 24th. Please feel free to write a Christmas message, seal the envelope and we will mail it for you. These cards will be mailed in bulk to the following address or you can pick up cards and mail them yourselves:

Any Canadian Forces Member
P.O. Box 5140 Stn. Forces,
Belleville ON
K8N 5W6

Mission & Outreach News:

The Mission & Outreach Committee will be hosting a *Christmas Market and Breakfast on Saturday November 30th*. This year's theme is "INN from the Cold" and all proceeds will be donated to the Gibson Benevolent Fund and the Fredericton Homeless Shelters. Committee members are gathering items for a Gift Basket (Theme: Comfort from the Cold) and for the Committee Sales table. **Donations from the congregation** (comfort items, home baking & preserves, knitting, crafts, wood-working etc.) would be gratefully accepted. Donations can be dropped off at the office or on Nov. 29th between 5 – 7 p.m. Thank you!

Buy A Night Campaign for the Fredericton Homeless Shelters: Each tax deductible donation of \$10 contributes to providing a night of shelter for a homeless person. The Mission & Outreach committee is also accepting donations of warm socks for the shelters. Stop by our table each Sunday in the church hall for more information.

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.	83	2,377	- 4,296
Oct.	99	2,895	- 3,117
Nov. 3	140	2,316	- 2,833
Nov. 10	91	2,076	- 3,357

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 & Offering

Announcements:

- Gibson United Church has been offered a washer and dryer to give away to anyone who is in need of them. If you are interested please speak to Kelly.
- It will soon be our Christmas Carol Sing. Yeah! Please let us know what Christmas Carol you would like us to sing on Sunday December 22nd. Sign-up sheets are on a table in the hall. We need to know your favorite Christmas Carol by Sunday **November 24th**. Thanks.
- Gibson United Church has been given a set of drums. We need someone with a truck to be able to go and pick them up. If you are able please speak to Kelly. Thanks.
- If you are interested in a morning Advent Bible Study please let me know. It will begin November 28th at 10:30 and run for four weeks.
- The Worship Committee would like to remind you that we will be celebrating the Advent Season with our 2019 Memorial/Celebration Tree Lighting. You can donate a Christmas Bulb in memory of / in celebration of someone in your life. The cost of each bulb is \$5. All the details will be sent out in the Christmas Newsletter on November 24th. The names of your loved ones will be printed in the bulletin on Sunday December 22nd so please give your information to Marsha by Sunday December 15th. Wishing you **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love** of the Advent Season.



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

- Nov. 17 Elvis Presley's greatest gospel and rock hits concert performed by Mike Bravener at Marysville United Church, 3 – 4 p.m. Freewill offerings.
- Nov. 22 Marysville United UCW are hosting their Christmas Bazaar and Turkey a la King, 4 – 8 p.m. Cost is \$10.
- Nov. 22-23 Ten Thousand Villages Festival Sale at Wilmot United Church. This is a sale of beautiful fairly-traded gifts benefiting artisans from 27 Developing Countries. Friday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. & Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Nov. 23 Fredericton's Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers benefit dance, with dance band JuteBox Live, at the STU Conference Center, 8:30 – 11:30 p.m. Call 461-1912 or 457-0362 for tickets.
- Nov. 24 The Fredericton Choral Society and The Fredericton Concert and Marching Band present *Voices on the Wind*, Sunday, November 24, 2019 at Wilmot United Church, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$20; Seniors and students: \$15. Available at the door. **(Heather Fyffe, (Director), Mike Oliver, Marchell Coulombe and Bronwyn Davies are in the concert too!)**
- Dec. 2, 9, 16 Advent Series with Bishop Bill Hockin and Friends 12:15 – 1 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel
- Dec. 4 Memorial Tree Lighting at Oromocto Funeral Home, at 7 p.m. If you would like to place your loved one's name on the Honour roll, please contact 357-5100
- Dec. 5 Memorial Tree Lighting at McAdam's Funeral Home, at 7 p.m. If you would like to place your loved one's name on the Honour roll, please call 458-9170.



GIBSON goes **Green Energy...**
Work has started on implementing energy efficiency and other improvements to the church building to upgrade it and make the church building more energy efficient. Funding has been obtained for majority of this work though there is a shortfall. Therefore, the Finance Committee is launching a campaign of a one-time special request to raise \$18,000 to cover the cost of 2 new boilers and 3 circulating pumps. We welcome your tax-deductible financial donation and all donations are greatly appreciated. An envelope was included in your bulletin last week and there are extra envelopes on the table in the Narthex. Thanks for supporting our **"Keep the HEAT ON"** campaign.

To date we have raised \$5,787

(The detailed report on Building Improvement Initiatives is available in the Narthex.)

Upcoming Fundraising Events

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. 29	Set up for Market & Breakfast, 5 – 7 p.m.
Nov. 30	Market & Breakfast – 8 – 11:30 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.**

Spirit Open My Heart

**Spirit open my heart,
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love;
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit open my heart.**

God replace my stony heart,
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace, I now surrender.

(Refrain)

Write your love upon my heart,
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word and deed,
may my living bring you glory.

(Refrain)

May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another.

(Refrain)



True forgiveness
is not an action after the fact,
it is an attitude
with which you enter
each moment.

- David Ridge

theArtofForgiveness.org