

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH  
FREDERICTON, N.B.

2

December 22, 2019      11 a.m.      Advent 4

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

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WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

\*denotes standing for those who are able

"I truly believe that if we keep telling the Christmas story, singing the Christmas songs and living the Christmas spirit, we can bring joy and happiness and peace to this world." Norman Vincent Peale

**Lighting the Rainbow candle**

**\*THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE**

Sandra: Today we light the fourth candle of Advent,  
the candle of LOVE. (Lauren will light the candle of love.)  
Chris: We welcome the **warmth** that lightens the winter  
chill, the **warmth** of passionate embrace, the **warmth** that  
comes from the heart of God.

**All: Christmas is nearly upon us. Let God's love shine!  
Amen.**

**GLORIOUS JOY MEDLEY** (see insert)  
"Joy to the World"  
"O Come All Ye Faithful"  
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

**OPENING PRAYER:** (Silence) Gentle God, let your love shine  
through us as though we were pieces in a stained-glass window.  
Flow through us into others so that your light will shine even in  
the places where shadows touch our lives. Amen.

**CHILDREN'S HYMN:** "Love Over Hate" (see back of bulletin)

**CONVERSATION WITH THE CHILDREN**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** "O Holy Night"      Heather Fyffe

**A GOSPEL STORY: Mary's Song of Praise**

**SOLO:** "Song of the Birth"      Caileigh Sullivan

**MARY MOTHER OF JESUS MEDLEY** (see insert)

"What Child Is This"

"The Holly and the Ivy"

"Silent Night"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

**SOLO:** "Star of the East"      Holly Lloyd Smith

**PRAYER FOR THE ADVENT JOURNEY  
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY:** "Carol of the Bells"      Heather Fyffe

**\*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, as the time of our  
waiting draws to an end, let the flame of your love warm our  
hearts. Open our eyes and hearts to the needs of your world.  
There is so much pain afflicting your people today. Show us how  
we may bring light into darkened times, replacing fear with hope  
and hate with love. Amen.

**\*NIGHT OF LIGHT MEDLEY** (see insert)

"Good King Wenceslas"

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

"Go Tell It On the Mountain"

**\*COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION:**

One: Let Christ's light shine in the darkest corner of your life.

**All: Let Christ's love shine in the darkest corners of our world.**

Together: God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

**\*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  
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](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 a POTLUCK lunch **and conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Beth Arsenault and Barb Long and next Sunday are Joy & Brian Veno. **Tellers** today are Brian & Joy Veno and next week will be Lyman Coy & Margaret Allen. **Taping** the service today is Chris Banks and next week will be Lindon Miller. In the **Nursery** today is Erin Price and next week will be Victoria Daley.

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

Monday 9:30 No Shuffleboard Group

Tuesday 7:00 Christmas Eve Family Service  
& Guest soloist, Charles MacTavish

**Upcoming Services & Meetings:**

Dec. 29 11:00 First Sunday after Christmas &  
Baptism Sunday

**Today's bulletin** has been donated in celebration of Carrie Coy's Birthday (Dec.24<sup>th</sup>) and David Morrison's birthday (Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>).  
Happy Birthday to two very special people!

**A poinsettia** has been placed in the sanctuary in loving memory of **Nellie & Ralph Titus** by Thelma & Fred Titus.

A donation has been made to the “**Keep The Heat On**” fund in memory of **Louise Stevens** by Bob Stevens & family.

Congratulations to **Heidi & Tom O'Connell** on the birth of their first baby, **Ivy Ann O'Connell**. She was born on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, weighing 9 lbs, 3 oz.

Congratulations to **Roxanne Stewart** on the birth of her first great grandchild, **Scarlet Rose Coughlan**, born on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, weighing 8 lbs 5 oz. Proud parents are Cynthia & Sean Coughlan.

**Storm Closure Policy:**

It's that time of year again! Gibson Memorial United Church will remain open for Sunday worship services unless the City Police or the RCMP recommend that people stay off the roads. Otherwise please use your own discretion and travel safely during the upcoming winter weather.

**Announcements:**

- **The Nominations Committee** for Council and Committee members for the calendar year 2020 has been initiated. *Jean Henry and Jessica Clement* will form part of the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in being on a Committee in 2020 please reach out to either Jean or Jessica. Information on Committee Chairs is posted on the bulletin board outside Marsha’s office. Reach out to them or the Nominations Committee for more information on Committee mandates.
- Marsha Daley will be on vacation on Dec. 30. If you are in need of anything before this date, please call/visit the office.
- **Shuffleboard, Shuffleboard, Shuffleboard!** The group is looking for more players. If you are interested in “shuffling” on Monday mornings, please stop by at 9:30! All are welcome!
- **Books are needed for the Book Table.** This is in support of coffee and snacks for conversation time after church each Sunday.



Today we light a total of 400  
bulbs on our 2019  
Memorial/Celebration Tree!



Again this year our tree will shine brightly so all who enter or pass by may experience the **Hope, Peace, Joy and Love** of the Advent and Christmas Season.

**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.	108	2,466	- 3,085
Dec. 1	124	3,212	- 2,473
Dec. 8	104	2,818	- 2,255
Dec. 15	124	3,802	- 1,053

**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
- **The last day to submit offerings for the 2019 year is Dec. 29, 2019.**
- To date we have raised **\$8,142** for the “**Keep the Heat On**” Fund.

**The Offering Envelopes for 2020** are ready and in the Narthex. If you don’t have envelopes, and would like to, please call the office.

## **LOVE OVER HATE**

(words and music by John Oldham & Pat Mayberry  
Arrangement by David Kai, 2019)

**Love over hate, our sacred song.  
Sing in our hearts, our voices strong.  
All of the earth, each race, faith,  
each one belongs.**

*Chorus: You of my heart,  
You of my soul,  
You are the Love that makes us whole.  
You of my heart,  
You of my soul,  
You are the Love that makes us whole.*

**Love over fear, our common dream.  
Justice that flows, a mighty stream.  
Kindness and mercy calling,  
for one and for all.**

*Chorus*

**Love over lies, our promise true.  
Healing and hope held high anew.  
Strengthen our lives with courage to journey---through.**

*Chorus*

**Love over hate, our sacred song.  
Sing in our hearts, our voices strong.  
All of the earth, each race, faith,  
each one belongs.**

*Chorus*

O little town of Bethlehem  
How still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger  
Our humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn

Go, tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and everywhere  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

### **Glorious Joy Medley**

(Joy to the World, O Come All Ye Faithful, Hark the Herald  
Angels Sing )

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders of His love.

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing of exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,  
Glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

### **Mary Mother of Jesus Medley**

(What Child is This, The Holly and the Ivy, Silent Night)

What child is this, who laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

The holly and the ivy,  
When they are both full grown,  
Of all trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown:  
O, the rising of the sun,  
And the running of the deer  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom,  
As white as lily flow'r,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
To be our dear Saviour:  
O, the rising of the sun,  
And the running of the deer  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir.

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

### **Night of Light Medley**

(Good King Wenceslas, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Go Tell It  
On the Mountain)

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen,  
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.  
Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was  
cruel,  
When a poor man came in sight, gath'ring winter fuel.

"Bring me food and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither,  
You and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither."  
Page and monarch, forth they went, forth they went  
together,  
Through the cold wind's wild lament and the bitter weather.

In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted;  
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.  
Therefore, Christians all be sure, while God's gifts possessing,  
You who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing