

GIBSON MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH

FREDERICTON, N.B.

December 29, 2019 11:00 a.m. 1st Sunday after Christmas

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

“Peace be to this house
And to all who dwell in it.
Peace be to them that enter
And to them that depart. Anonymous

Lighting the Rainbow candle

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Together: May we be both a blessing and be blessed today. Amen.

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

OPENING PRAYER: (Silence) Gracious God, your love is new every morning, fresh as the dew, sparkling like the new-fallen snow in the early light. Thank you. Amen.

BAPTISM HYMN: “Child of Blessing...” vs. 1&2 444

GOSPEL STORY: “When Jesus was a Child’ Family Story Bible

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Mackenzie Aubrey, daughter of Maggie and Tim Pearce, granddaughter of Chris and Lynn Banks, great-granddaughter of Ruth Hawkes. Molly and Tala Hawkes, Maggie’s first cousins, are the godmothers of Kenzie.

***CONGREGATIONAL PROMISE: As a community of faith we give you our blessing and promise to hold you in our prayers. We know that you have a church family in Ottawa but you also have a church family in Fredericton. We are committed to being a place of safety, nurture and love for your little girl when she is visiting with us. Our promise to you begins with a resounding YES, we are glad you are here and we are happy to participate in Kenzie’s baptism. Amen.**

BAPTISM HYMN: “Child of Blessing...” vs.3&4 444

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

A GOSPEL STORY: “Jesus and the Children” Family Story Bible

SERMON: “The Best Love You’ll Find”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Anne Marie Mossman

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD’S PRAYER 959**

**OFFERTORY
*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: Gracious God, this is the season of gifts, and so we give thanks for all we have received. As we have been blessed, so we offer blessings here, that together we might do God’s work of doing justice and loving kindness. We pray in the name of the itinerant Jewish Rabbi, who spoke of welcoming strangers and loving enemies. 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
 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. Everyone is invited to share in coffee/tea/juice and cookies **and conversation** in the hall immediately following the service. **Greeters** today are Joy & Brian Venno and next week will be Barbara & David Morrison. **Tellers** today are Lyman Coy & Margaret Allen and next week will be Gladys Gallant & Valerie Barton. **Taping** the service today is Lindon Miller 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: Dec. 30, 2019 – Jan 4, 2020

Monday 9:30 No Shuffleboard Group

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Jan. 5 Guest Minister: Rev. Kay Clowater

Today’s bulletin has been donated in celebration of **Cecile Marshall’s** birthday. Happy birthday Cecile and everyone is invited to share birthday cake after the service.

A warm welcome and thanks is extended to our guest pianist **Anne Marie Mossman**.

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 January 2, 2020.** If you are in need of anything before this date, please call/visit the office or you may call 461-7740.
- **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. Thanks everyone for recycling your books with Gibson.
- **Kelly will be on vacation from December 30-January 7th.** **The Reverend Kay Clowater will be preaching on Sunday January 5th.** **If there is a pastoral emergency please call Marsha Daley at 457-1666. Thanks very much**

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
Dec. 22	144	4,080	+ 427

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.

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.

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.**

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