

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

March 08, 2020

11:00 a.m.

Lent 2

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

*denotes standing for those who are able

WE APPROACH GOD

“Where there is great love, there are always miracles.”

----*Willa Cather*

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

One: On Sunday morning...

(Silent time)

One: As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge
the darkness and pain and injury done to the Earth.

Let us pray:

**All: Loving God, as we journey through this holy
season of Lent, may we be open to your presence.
Give us the strength to make the changes that are
needed in our lives and the courage to take on
the work of transforming the world. Amen.**

Together: “I Have Called You...” sing vs.1

**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.**

(Silent time)

***OPENING HYMN: “To Show by Touch and Word” 427**

**OPENING PRAYER: God of love, we step away from the busyness
of our lives to spend some time in quiet reflection with you and our
community of faith. Quiet our minds and open our hearts to your
comfort and compassion. Inspire us to plant the seeds of love and justice
wherever we are called today. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S HYMN: “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.**

2

CONVERSATION TIME

**CHORUS: “Walk with Me” (2x)
Walk with me, I will walk with you,
And build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

PSALM 122

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: Matthew 13:1-9

SERMON: “To Reach the Light”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF AND FOR 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.**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER: (all) Giving God, we want to
take a few minutes, not to ask for anything from you, but
to simply say thank you, for all we have. Inspire us to
love and to go where that love leads us. In Jesus’ name
we pray. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN: “Will You Come and Follow Me” 567**

***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

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 – 12 noon and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Kelly's office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 9 – 12 noon.

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CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION:

Good morning and welcome to EVERYONE. May this worship service be a blessing in your day. Everyone is invited to share in **Soup Day** and coffee/tea and conversation in the hall after the service. **Greeters** today are the Mission & Outreach Committee and next week will be Nancy Worthen & Ron O'Neill. **Tellers** today are Lyman Coy and Margaret Allen and next week will be Gladys Gallant & Valerie Barton. **Taping** the service today is Chris Banks and next week will be Lorne Henry. In the **Nursery** today is Melissa Banks and next week will be Trianda Fox.

Services & Meetings this week: Mar. 8 - 14, 2020.

Today	12:00	Soup Day, hosted by the Mission & Outreach Committee in support of local outreach. Menu: Home made soup, rolls, hotdogs & cookies. \$5/adult & \$2/child
Monday	9:30	Shuffleboard Group
Tuesday	1:30	Women Together
	6:30	Ministry & Personnel
Wednesday	7:00	Worship

Upcoming Services & Meetings:

Mar. 15	11:00	Lent 3
Mar. 17	7:00	Council
Mar. 22	11:00	Lent 4
Mar. 29	11:00	Lent 5 - Annual Memorial Candle Lighting Service, see page 5
Apr. 5	11:00	Palm Sunday – Soup Day
Apr. 12	11:00	Easter Sunday – Communion & Baptism & Soloist, Holly Lloyd Smith
May 03	11:00	146 th Anniversary

New Office Hours: **Monday – Friday:** 8 a.m. – 12 noon and 1 – 3:00 p.m. I will be out of the office **some** Friday afternoons running errands, shopping for supplies for the dinners, etc. Please call the office on Fridays to see if I'm in before you visit!

Vacation: I, Marsha Daley, will be on vacation, March 16, 17 & 18. If you need anything during this time you can leave a message on my phone and I will get back to you on the 19th or if there is an emergency you may call me at 458-8390 or 461-7740.

Sunday School Announcement:

The Sunday School is already thinking about September and all the **FUN** we are going to have with our children. And we want to know if you would consider giving 30-40 minutes of your time to our children on ONE of those Sundays between September 13-December 20th. We already have very good Sunday School teachers who are committed to creating a safe and fun learning environment for our children. We use the **WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD** curriculum and it is easy to use. And if you have never used this curriculum before we will show you what to do. **The reality is that we need more teachers and helpers so that our current teachers also get to be part of a worship service or two during the Fall.** So...if you are willing to give of your time... we would love to have you! You can teach the children a song that is close to your heart or help them make a favorite craft of yours or **maybe bake cookies in the kitchen** or teach a Sunday School lesson. Thanks for your consideration. If you are interested please speak to Ashley, Jessica or Kelly.

On Sunday, March 29th 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 by Mar.20.

Offerings & Attendance Update: 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>+/- to date</u>
Jan.	closed three Sundays	1,218	- 5,779
Feb.	88	3,062	- 4,180
Mar. 01	86	2,756	- 4,087

Finance Notes:

-We need approx. \$2,663* each Sunday to meet the Budget. PAR (\$990 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.

-\$2,663 is comprised of Local, Special Projects & Offerings

“Keep the Heat On” update:

- In 2019 we have raised **\$8,917** for the “Keep the Heat On” Fund and to date in 2020 we have raised **\$525.00**. Thanks everyone for supporting this project!

Community Events: (see posters on bulletin board for more info)

- Mar. 14 JIGGS DINNER at Nashwaaksis United Church, \$14/person, to reserve call 457-1338 by Mar. 11th
- Mar. 24 Canadian Chamber Choir Solo Concert at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, 8 p.m. \$25/Adults and \$10/Students
- Mar. 14, 21, 28 & Apr.4 Annual Village of Hope Maple Syrup Festival
All you can eat homemade pancake breakfast!
\$12 adult \$6 child under 10. 9 a.m. 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. RSVP by calling 506-368-2600.

Upcoming Fundraising Events

- Apr. 21 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- Apr. 22 Progressive Credit Union Dinner – 6:00 p.m.
- Apr. 28 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- Apr. 29 Retired Nurses Dinner – 12 noon
- May 12 Pie Day – 9:30
- May 13 Chicken Breast Dinner – 4 – 6 p.m.
- May 19 Fredericton Quilters Dinner – 6 p.m.
- May 26 Catering to Folks on Spokes – 12 noon
- May 29 Set up for Yard Sale & Breakfast
- May 30 Yard Sale & Breakfast – 8 – 11:30 a.m.
- June 3 Elm City Quilt Guild – 6:30 p.m. (Cold Plate)
- June 8 Wilmot United Church Women Dinner – 6 p.m.
- June 16 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- June 17 Steak & Chicken BBQ – 4 – 6 p.m.
- June 23 Pie Day – 9:30 a.m.
- June 24 Retired Nurses Dinner – 12 noon

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!**

Remember the Parable of the Sower?

The sower throws the seed...and where it lands...

determines if it will grow or not.

Jesus is being drawn to Jerusalem.

Where is God calling you? What is God calling you to do?

This week, you are being invited to plant seeds of generosity.

You might give a gift card to someone who is sitting on the street and has nothing to eat, or buy a coffee for someone behind you in

the line-up of your favorite coffee shop, or

give food to the food bank or donate to a favorite charity on-line.

Who knows where you will throw your seeds of generosity?

May your seeds awaken God's love in someone's life this week.

Amen.

