

2nd after Epiphany

January 14, 2024



The United Church of Canada
75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3
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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>
Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

*The congregation is invited to join in responses printed in **bold**. Stand as you are able.)*

PRELUDE *THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING*

(Words & Music: Franz Joseph Hayden, adapted Hal H. Hopson)

DOXOLOGY (541 VU) (OLD 100TH) (Thomas Ken, Genevan Psalter)

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY

Read by Nancy Black

- Fighting Racism at Home and Abroad: Adele Halliday's Work

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Inspired by Psalm 139)

We praise you, O God, for you are our God,
and we are your people.

**Wonderful are your works, O God,
we know them very well!**

Search us and know us, Creator,
remove us from shadows into your presence.

**Wonderful are your works, O God,
we know them very well!**

Place your hand upon us, Gracious One,
as we worship you and minister in your name.

**Wonderful are your works, O God,
we know them very well!**

HYMN 506 VU *TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE* (MOZART)

(Words: Frances Ridley Havergal / Music: unknown, desc. John T. Wilkinson)

Take my life and let it be, consecrated, all for thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
take my feet, and let them be swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love: and I will pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Sovereign One, we acknowledge your presence among us. Stir up the gifts you have planted among us. Hold us in your care and present a mirror before us so that we may know ourselves as you have known us. Strengthen us in your mercy and let your grace propel us to renewal and righteousness. Lift us so that we might arise in spirit and in truth for your glory. Amen.

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Holy God, You have created us in your holy and divine image. We pray to reflect your goodness in the world. We confess that we have engaged in actions and attitudes contrary to your kindom, and we ask for wisdom, guidance, and fortitude to be the people you have called us to be. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

Beloved creation of God, the Holy One knows you fully, completely, and affirmative from the secret places of your innermost parts. Receive the knowing as a gift of assurance that God's grace is sufficient for new life. God will abide with us as we strive to follow the way of Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

(More Voices 115 / Words & Music: John L. Bell)

BEHOLD, BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

Behold, behold I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

**We pray that the gifts we give today
will go farther in God's world than we can imagine.
Bless these gifts, and those given through our mail
slot, by posted mail, PAR and online. Amen.**

HYMN 509 VU *I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY*

(HERE I AM, LORD)

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *R*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *R*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children up to age 12 yrs. are now invited to go to our Sunday School program time. If you are a child here for the first time, please feel welcome to join the children's group upstairs, or remain here for the rest of the service. If you are a parent or caregiver, there is a kitchen and washrooms on the main and upstairs levels, as well as a diaper changing area upstairs. Please feel free to return to the service at any time.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Read by Kathy Seymour

1 Samuel 3:1–10, 11–20

God calls Samuel.

Psalms 139, p. 861 VU

God has searched and known me.

(Music: Hal H. Hopson)

R *God, you have searched me,
you know me through and through.*

O God, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You discern my path and the places I rest;
you are familiar with all my ways.**

Before a word is on my tongue,
you know it, O God, completely.
You guard me from behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**It is beyond my knowledge; it is a mystery;
I cannot fathom it. *R***

Where can I escape from your spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I lie down in the grave, you are even there.**

If I take wing with the dawn
and alight at the sea's farthest limits,
**there also your hand will be guiding me
your powerful hand holding me fast.**

If I say, "Let the darkness cover me
and my day be turned to night."

**even darkness is not dark to you:
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is a light to you. R**

It was you who formed my inward parts;
you fashioned me in my mother's womb.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully, wonderfully made.
Wondrous are your works; that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you
when I was being fashioned in secret,
intricately woven in the mystery of clay.

**Your eyes saw my substance taking shape;
in your book my every day was recorded;
all my days were fashioned,
even before they came to be. R**

How deep your designs are to me, O God!
How great their number!

**I try to count them but they are more than the sand.
I came to the end – I am still with you.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.

Watch closely, lest I follow a path of error
and guide me in the everlasting way. R

John 1:43–51

Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 384 VU

THE LONE WILD BIRD

(PROSPECT)

(Words: Henry Richard McFadyen / Music Walker's Southern Harmony)

The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with you, nor leaves your sight.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me, too.

The ends of earth are in you hand,
the sea's dark deep and faroff land.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me too.

Each secret thought is known of you,
the path I walk my whole life through;
my days, my deeds, my hopes, my fears,
my deepest joys, my silent tears.

In secret depths you knit my frame,
before my birth you spoke my name;
within my soul, as close as breath,
as near to me, in life, in death.

O search me, God, my heart reveal,
renew my life, my spirit heal;
for I am yours, I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

SERMON

ANTHEM

LEAD ME LORD

(Words & Music: Samuel Wesley, arr. Ruth Heller)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 299 VU *TEACH ME, GOD, TO WONDER* (MCNAUGHT)

(Words: Walter Farquharson / Music Ron Klusmeier)

Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give!*

Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;
let your world of people speak to me. *R*

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake.
in your world of loving, my place take. ,

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet. *R*

BENEDICTION

Go in the peace of being fully known by God.

Go in the hope that God has in you to transform the world.

Go in the love of neighbour and friend.

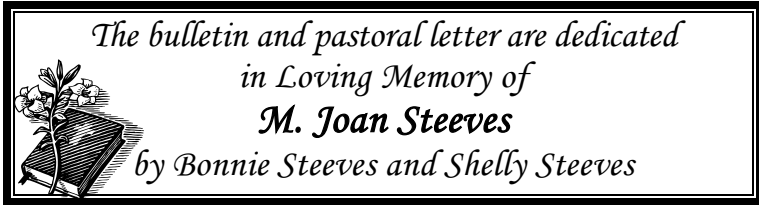
Go in the assurance that God still goes with you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

MARCH OF THE PRIESTS

(Words & Music: Felix Mendelssohn)

***You are invited to join us in the Owen Fraser Hall
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.***



MEMORIAL

*Donations have been made to
St. John's United Church in memory of*

Lois Weatherby

(mother of Vicky Kay and Kim Weatherby)

by Art & Sonja Buck, Eric & Carol Davidson,

Kimberley & Luiz de Jesus,

Graham & Judith Fawcett, Phyllis & Gordon Hicks,

Ron & Shirley Hicks, Sue & Bob Leighton,

Alberta MacLellan, Brenda McFarlane,

Carol Morton, Ron & Phyllis Perry and

Janice Smith

*A donation has been made to the
Mission & Service Fund in memory of*



Lois Weatherby

(mother of Vicky Kay and Kim Weatherby)

by Roberta Bunker

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Check our website at www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
for on-line Worship, calendar, and more.

Jan. 14	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School – in-person and online
Jan. 14	Sun.	12:15 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee (Norman Sinclair Room)
Jan. 16	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Finance & Property Management Committee (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Jan. 17	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	CD Committee (via Zoom & at Nancy Black's home)
Jan. 18-25			Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 
Jan. 18	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Choir Loft/Fellowship Room)
Jan. 18	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Jan. 21	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School – in-person and online
Jan. 23	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Council (monthly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Jan. 28	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School – in-person and online - Grocery Sunday 
Feb. 12	Mon.		Deadline for submissions to the 2023 Annual Report

Announcements from other United Churches, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region 14 and the community are shown on the TV in the Owen Fraser Hall and also located on the bulletin boards located at the Alma St. entrance and outside the Church Office.

SOBEYS & SUPERSTORE GIFT CARDS are sold each Sunday in the Sanctuary before and after Worship and at the Church Office M-F, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



*We make 4% on every card sold.
Your support is needed and appreciated.*

GROCERIES FOR KARING KITCHEN

(Jan. 28 – last Sunday of the month)

We are starting up grocery Sunday again! The Outreach Committee would like to bring your attention to the Karing Kitchen's need for these groceries: sugar, can milk, corn starch, Worcestershire sauce, flakes of ham. *White baskets will be at the main entrance for your donations.* Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP SECOND – Have you heard God calling? Do not let God's words fall to the ground—with a generous heart, seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH CARES... To notify the Minister of personal concerns, anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations or deaths, or to pass along a prayer request, contact Rev. Aaron Billard at 506-858-8289 or sjucrev@gmail.com

Greeters & Offering

South Door – Alma St.
Kathy Seymour

North Door – Victoria St.
Mona Miller



January 18-25, 2024

CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



Rev. Aaron Billard, *Minister*
sjucrev@gmail.com



Karen Geldart
Office Administrator
sjuc@nb.aibn.com



Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
Minister Emeritus
douglasimaceachern@gmail.com



Rev. Melvin G. Fawcett
Music Director
melvinfawcett7@gmail.com



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*

Church Council

Chair: Roland Gallant

Secretary: Karen Teed

Treasurer: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Board of Trustees: Graham McCrea

Christian Development: Nancy Black; Sunday School: Sonja Webster

Finance & Property Management: Marlene Godfrey

Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region reps.: Rev. Aaron Billard,
Kimberley Buck de Jesus and Karen Teed

Ministry & Personnel: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Nominating: Karen Teed

Outreach: Rev. Aaron Billard (acting Chair)

Pastoral Care & Membership: Valerie Roy

UCW: Brenda McFarlane

Worship & Music: Sheri Brooks

