



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

St. Andrew's United Church

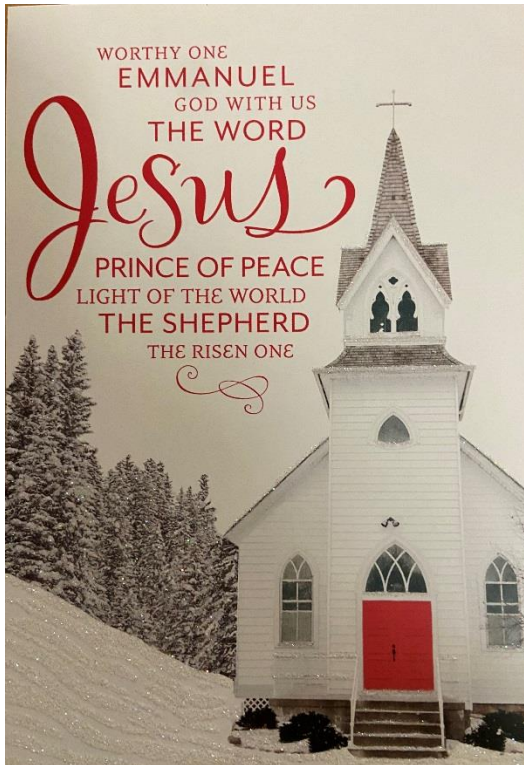


December 29, 2024.

1st Sunday after Christmas

Our Mission Statement

"St. Andrew's United Church is a Christian Community of Faith
that shares Christ's love through
Worship, Fellowship, Spiritual Growth, and Outreach."



Rejoice! Rejoice!
< Photo Credit: Cynthia Duplessie >

188 Wellington Street. Miramichi, NB. E1N 1M4
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Church Email: chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com

Sunday Worship Service

(December 29, 2024. 1st Sunday After Christmas)

Worship Leader: Daniel Szemok, LLWL
Organist & Choir Director: Lois McKinnon
Greeters: Patty Deitch & Cynthia Duplessie

* Symbol indicates to stand as able.

We Gather To Worship

Music Prelude:

Introit: VU #82, “A Light is Gleaming” chorus
A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God’s radiant love
is burning bright, living in the light.

Lightning the Christ Candle: *Carol Johnston*

We light the Candle of Christ to remind ourselves of the light that defeated darkness. Of the baby who was born; of the lamb who came to be slaughtered. Look at the Lamb of God who came to take away the sins of our hearts.

(As candle is lit we sing) (*VU#87, chorus*)

I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you’ll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

Welcome

Call to Worship: (unison)

God of Hope we are confident that as we gather in your name you are here among us. God of gentleness as we pause to rest and look to you, fill our hearts with the beauty of your love, fill our mind with the peace of the Holy Spirit. Come to us Lord as we wait with expectation for the arrival of your will and your way. In Jesus name, Amen.

*Opening Hymn: VU #87, “I Am the Light of the World”

Opening Prayer: (read bolded sections)

All glorious God, we give you thanks! In your Son, Jesus, you have given us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.

You chose us, before the world was made, to be your holy people without fault in your sight.

You adopted us as your children in Christ. You have set us free by his blood and you have forgiven our sins.

You have made known to us your secret purpose, to bring heaven and earth into unity through Christ.

You have given us your Holy Spirit, the seal and pledge of your inheritance.

All praise and glory be yours, O God, for the richness of your grace, for the splendour of your gifts, for the wonder of your love. Amen.

*Hymn: VU #58, “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

The Word of God Proclaimed

Message: Resolutions

Pastoral Prayer:

We Respond to God’s Word

*Hymn: VU #75, “While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks”

Invitation to the Offering:

*Offering Hymn: VU #55, “In the Bleak Midwinter”

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

*Offering Prayer: (read together with congregation)

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. It is easy for us to be grumpy in our desire for more and reluctant in your call to give. Help us to see how much we have; how much you have blessed us with. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Amen.

Praise Before Prayer: MV #119, "God Our Protector"
**God our protector, keep us in mind,
always give strength to your people.
For if we could be with you one day at a time
it is better than a thousand without you.**

Prayers of the People:

WE GO OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Closing Hymn: VU # 62, "Once in Royal David's City"**

***Commissioning and Benediction:**

***Choral Closing: VU #37, "Gloria"**

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Musical Postlude

Announcements

Worship:

- **Greeters: Dec. 29th** – Cynthia Duplessie & Patty Deitch/**Jan. 5** – Elvina Sobey & Julia Campbell
- **Sound System: Dec. 29** – Barry Campbell/**Jan. 5** – Paul Rose
- **PowerPoint: Dec. 29** – Karen Rose/**Jan. 5** – Jennifer Walker
- Offering Collectors: Dec. 29** - Bev & Barry Campbell, Holly Daley, Debbie Stymiest
- **Offering Counters: Dec. 29** - Betty MacDiarmid & Karen Rose/Jan. 5 - Karen Rose & Cynthia Duplessie

This Week:

- 1) You are invited to celebrate **New Year's Eve here with your church** family at St. Andrew's on Tuesday, December 31st. People are invited to bring appetizers, dips, desserts etc. beginning at 7:00 p.m. The evening will include games and other fun activities. Hope you will join us, and feel free to bring a friend!
- 2) **We will resume our "Hymn Sing's on Sunday, January 5th.** Please select your favourite Christmas hymns from Voices United and be ready to sing at 10:50 a.m. We will only be doing the hymn sick every 3rd month.

Community:

1) CELEBRATING 20 YEARS IN CANADA: Rev. Alice & Rev. Geza and their family moved to Canada 20 years ago this December. To honour and celebrate this happy occasion with the Szemóks, we are inviting you to join us on Sunday, December 29th at 4:30 PM at the United Church Centre, 556 King George Hwy., for a Meet & Greet, followed by dinner at 5:00 PM.

Pastoral Care:

Rev Alice Szemok is covering for any pastoral emergencies. If you need pastoral care, please contact the church office at 506-773-9932, and Karen will arrange it.

May this year of 2025 be

A year of Health & Happiness..

A year of Wealth & Wisdom...

A year of Peace & Prosperity

A year of Glee & Glow

And also a year of Love & Laughter...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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St Andrew website.

Online St. Andrew's United Church

www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org

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Offering E-Transfer:

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Minute for Mission Story



Becoming a new parent can be overwhelming, with the constant demands of caring for a newborn, sleepless nights, and the pressure to make the right choices for your child. The exhaustion and balancing daily responsibilities while navigating the unknowns of parenthood often leaves new parents feeling unsure and isolated. It's a time filled with great joy, but also uncertainty, as parents adjust to their new roles and work to create a safe and nurturing environment for their little one.

At Fairview Resource Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the New Parents Support group aims to walk with parents as they navigate the complexities of raising a newborn. Once a week, parents gather to meet with a public health nurse who provides education and answers questions. From expectant parents to those with babies up to 18 months, the program provides resources for those who might not otherwise have access to in-person support or resources.

Parents connect not only with health professionals, but form deep bonds with each other, and some are still in contact many years later. Many of us have heard that “it takes a village to raise a child,” and Fairview Resource Centre is truly taking action to give a positive space for children in the community to flourish. Thank you for walking alongside our Mission and Service partners as they help children and communities grow.

Your support of [Mission and Service](#) is vital to the continuation of incredible programs like these.