
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Bethany United Church, Carbonear

Clergy: Rev. Beverly Matthews (Youth and Christian Education)

Rev. Stephen Matthews (Worship and Pastoral Care)

Worship Led By: Senior Choir

Organist: Leslie Forward Sunday School Pianist: Kathryn Baker

Supply Organists: Sharon Dean, Ruth Davidge & Louise Drover

Caretaker: Wayne Parsons Secretary: Lisa Butt

Website: www.bethanyunitedchurch.com

December 20th 2009, 11:00am

INTROIT: (*Sung first by Choir and then by Congregation*) VU 28

Herald! Sound the note of gladness!

Tell the news that Christ is here;

Make a pathway through the chaos,

For the one who brings God near.

Sound the trumpet!

Tell the message!

Christ the Saving One has come!

WELCOME AND LIFE & WORK OF OUR CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We gather awaiting many things in our lives:

ALL: We sometimes long for gifts, special items, new things in the hope of something great.

L: We long for joy, hope and peace;

ALL: Yes, wholeness and love.

L: Christ is the answer to all our longing. With an openness for knowing the Christ and making known the Christ to all we meet, we gather to worship.

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God who provided the Natal Star
and who now calls us to journey to the Christ
who is longing to be born in our hearts;
grant us a calmness of Spirit.**

**There are many things that can hinder peace and joy
- the heavy expectations we place on pleasing others.**

**Help us to be freed from such weights
and assist our lives to be love-filled.**

**May this time of worship enable our minds to be cleared,
our hearts to be put at ease
and our lives be made more open to worshipping you
through song, prayer and the ways we live.**

In the name of Jesus, we pray. AMEN

Opening Hymn: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear - VU 44

**Advent Candle-lighting - Ruth and Catherine Ruth Davidge
(See back cover of bulletin)**

Offertory Hymn: As With Gladness Men of Old - VU 81

As with gladness men of old, did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright.
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, to that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Christ whom heaven and earth adore.
So may we with eager pace ever seek your throne of grace.

As they offered gifts most rare at the manger crude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ to you, our heavenly King.

CANTATA - MODERN MARY

(Part of Modern Mary played by Amanda Serrick)

MUSIC: Silent Night, Holy Night (Joseph Mohr / Franz Gruber)

CHOIR: All Is Calm, All Is Bright (Words & Music by Jay Althouse)

CHOIR: Dream a Dream (Shirley E. Murray / Ron Klusmeier)

CHOIR: Under the Stars (A. S. Driscoll / M. C. Brown / R. C. Wilson)

CONGREGATION: Away in a Manger (VU #69 Cradle Song)

HARMONY: In the Bleak Midwinter (VU #55 - Rossetti / Holst)

CHOIR: Song of the Crib (German Carol / arr. Walter MacNutt)

CHOIR: Joyful, Joyful To the World (Arranged by Jay Althouse)

Closing Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem (VU #64)



WELCOME

We welcome everyone to our worship this morning with a special welcome to all visitors.

A memorial has been received to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Poppy Piercey & Nanny Brien** love Brooke.

Flowers were place in our church this morning to the glory of God and in loving memory of son & brother **Zach Rowe** love Mom, Dad, Shane, Lucas & Andrea.

REMINDERS

Today: Farewell POTLUCK for Rev. Stephen & Rev. Beverly & Family. This will take place downstairs after this mornings church service. See You All There!

Today @ 3pm service at Luxury Estates. (Please note time change)

Tonight: 7pm Vesper Service led by our Explorers

Thursday Night @ 7pm Christmas Eve Service

Friday - MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Next Sunday (Dec. 27th) - 11am Worship

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CHRISTMAS HAMPERS - 2009

If you can help with some of the items, please let Rev. Stephen know. If you or someone you know is in need of a Hamper, let Rev. Stephen know.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR Mission and Service Fund.

Our National Church has contacted Churches asking for a special Appeal.

Put an extra loonie, two-onie, extra change in your envelope for M and S.

UPCOMING OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday (Dec. 22) - 10am - 4pm

Wednesday (Dec. 23) - 10am - 4pm

Thursday (Dec. 24) - 9am-4:30pm

Friday (Dec. 25) - Sunday (Dec.27) - Office will be closed!

Monday (Dec. 28) - 10am - 4pm

Tuesday (Dec. 29) - 10am - 4pm

Wednesday (Dec. 30) - 10am - 4pm

Thursday (Dec. 31) - 11am - 5pm

Friday (Jan.1) - Monday (Jan.4) - Office will be closed!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Christmas Eve Worship (Dec.24) - 7pm