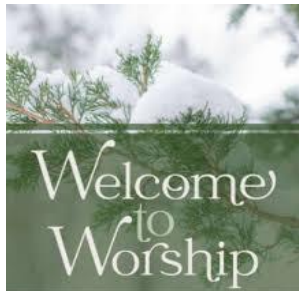


MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED CHURCH
85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton NB E1C 6Z3
Fifth Day of Christmas-December 29, 2024

Worship Leader
Director of Music
Office Administrator
Custodian



Rev. Jacob Shaw
Jason Noble
Liz Simmons
Carson McDavid

Prelude/Gathering Music

God is good, all the time... all the time, God is good.

Words of Welcome/Announcements

Gathering Song: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice – VU#35

**1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!**

Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!

Jesus Christ is born today.

**Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.**

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

**2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!**

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!

Jesus Christ was born for this!

**He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.**

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

**3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

Lighting of The Christ Candle

We anticipate God's light. He gave us a star and that star led us to the light of the world. A small child swaddled in a manger. His light will grow, his light will spread, and his light will become our life's vision.

Call to Worship

The hope of advent has been born.

Our Christ King is here.

The peace we seek is known to us.

Our Christ King is here.

Now Joy and Love will our hearts each and every day.

**Our Christ King is here and He shall reign
forever more.**

Hymn: Angels, from the Realms of Glory

VU#36

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
 come and worship, come and worship,
 worship Christ, the newborn King.**

- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light: R**

- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star: R**

- 4 Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear: R**

Opening Prayer

Lord of Heaven and Earth, we come this day to find refuge in the glow of the twelve days of Christmas celebration. It warms our hearts to know that the Christ child came to usher in a new way of living and a new covenant of faith. Bless our time together as we deepen our understanding of the teacher that Christ's child would grow to be. Amen.

Children come forward during the signing of this song

Children's Gathering Song

Go, Tell It on the Mountain VU#43

Ministry of Music

Prayer of Confession

Lord of Heaven and Earth, we come this day to find refuge in the glow of the twelve days of Christmas celebration. Though we must be truthful, often we rush to see Christmas set aside in pursuit of the normality of life. Help us be patient during our time with Your gracious gifts. Let us soak in all that Christmas has to offer.

(Silence for private prayer)

Words of Assurance

Scripture readings:

Psalm 49 read by Regina Cote

Luke 2:41-52 read by Rev. Shaw

Matthew 22:15-22 read by Rev. Shaw

Message

Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

VU#62

- 1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattleshed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.**
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven
who, with God, is over all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
There among the poor and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.**
- 3 For he is our lifelong pattern;
daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.**
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

Invitation to Share Offering

***Offering Song In the Bleak Midwinter Vs4 VU#55**

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 can I give him – give my heart.

Offertory Prayer

We want our longing, our labor, and our fruit of living all to be in service of you. Help us O God, to give unto offerings of ourselves. Let these gifts be a symbol of our pledge of fidelity to You. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Offertory, Personal Prayers, Lord's Prayer, Given to God

Hymn: There's a Star to the East VU#70

**1 There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,
rise up, shepherd, and follow;
it will lead to the place where the Christ was born;
rise up, shepherd, and follow.**

**Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow,
follow the Star of Bethlehem,
rise up, shepherd, and follow.**

**2 If you take good heed to the angel's words,
rise up, shepherd, and follow,
you'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds;
rise up, shepherd, and follow. R**

Benediction

Go forth in pursuit of God and remember to live a life that belongs to God.

***Sung Benediction: Gloria VU#37**

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!

Postlude † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Bulletins today are In Loving Memory of Garfield and Alfreda Hicks from daughter Ellen Mullin (nee Hicks) and Hal.

Offering: Your offering will be collected during the Service of Worship. Donations may also be made by e-transfer to mtviewteller@gmail.com

If our Church Service has to be cancelled due to severe weather, call the office 506-857-4817 to find out from the phone message. Thank you.

Please have your Annual Reports emailed to the office by January 7th, 2025. Email: mtviewunited@rogers.com

Psalm 49

Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world, both low and high, rich and poor alike: My mouth will speak words of wisdom; the meditation of my heart will give you understanding. I will turn my ear to a proverb; with the harp I will expound my riddle: Why should I fear when evil days come, when wicked deceivers surround me— those who trust in their wealth and boast of their great riches? No one can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for them—the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough—so that they should live on forever and not see decay. For all can see that the wise die, that the foolish and the senseless also perish, leaving their wealth to others. Their tombs will remain their houses forever, their dwellings for endless generations, though they had named lands after themselves. People, despite their wealth, do not endure; they are like the beasts that perish. This is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their followers, who approve their sayings. They are like sheep and are destined to die; death will be their shepherd (but the upright will prevail over them in the morning). Their forms will decay in the grave, far from their princely mansions. But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead; he will surely take me to himself. Do not be overawed when others grow rich, when the splendor of their houses increases; for they will take nothing with them when they die, their splendor will not descend with them. Though while they live they count themselves blessed— and people praise you when you prosper— they will join those who have gone before them, who will never again see the light of life. People who have wealth but lack understanding are like the beasts that perish.

Luke 2:41-52

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians.

“Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?”

But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax.”

They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

“Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.