

MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED CHURCH
85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton NB E1C 6Z3
Epiphany Sunday - January 5th, 2025

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 Arise, Your Light Is Come VU#79

- 1 Arise, your light is come!**
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.
- 2 Arise, your light is come!**
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light is come!**
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

**4 Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.**

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

Arise, for the light of the world has come and God's glory is upon you.

Nations shall come to witness God's Light, and the wise will come to worship.

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the wisemen came saying: Where is he who is born king of the Jews?

We have seen God's star, followed its illumination, and have come to worship Christ.

The wonderful light of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn A Light Is Gleaming VU#82

**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.**

- 1** When light comes pouring into the darkest place,
it hurts our eyes to see the glow.
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,
our memories and tears. R
- 2** When night is round us and every shadow grows,
a star is there to light our way.
It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:
'God's light will ever stay.' R
- 3** And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.
He showed us things we hadn't seen.
Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,
and this will be a sign: R
- 4** So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,
and let us rise to see the dawn.
We trust that God is here asparkle and ablaze,
- warming all our days. R

Opening Prayer

O God, who on this day revealed Your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in Your mercy that we, who know You already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of Your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Children come forward during the signing of this song
Children's Gathering Song

Ministry of Music

Prayer of Confession

Light of the World, we have rejoiced over Your light, but we still too often shy away from it. You call us to clarity but we settle for shadows. We follow you to feast and bounty, but we stray when you guide us to challenges and meekness. Help us to trust Your light and clarity in all moments, for all time.

(Silence for private prayer)

Words of Assurance

Scripture readings:

Psalm 1:1-6 read by Mo' Ogunbambo

Matthew 5:17-19 read by Rev. Shaw

Message

Hymn Midnight Stars Make Bright the Sky VU#85

**1 Midnight stars make bright the skies,
Bethlehem in slumber lies:
glistening heaven sends forth great light,
shepherds see a wondrous sight!
Angel ranks in chorus sing.
Silken sounds from heaven ring.
Frightened shepherds hear them say:
'Christ comes down to earth today!'
Glory be to God on high,
blest are all beneath the sky.**

2 Midnight slumber lies o'er all;
one lone bright lamp lights the stall.
Choose old clothing, wrap him warmly,
manger shall his cradle be.
Born to save us from our sin,
Word made flesh, our lives to win.
Came to earth from heaven's throne,
mortals' sin to bear alone. R

3 Wise men long foretold the way,
saw the strange star's shining ray.
Knew a child was born in Jewry,
worship would be joy for aye!
Took strong camels hurrying,
crossing desert sought their king.
Reverently to him present
gold and myrrh and frankincense. R

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

Lord, we seek to trust the wisdom of the Law, the fulfillment of it through Christ, and by this practice of trusting You with the bounty of our livelihoods, may we deepen our faith, and may Your will and power multiply the fruit of our offering so that it may be used for Your will and Your glory. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Hymn The First Nowell VU#91

**1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay akeeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

**2 They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. R**

**3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. R**

- 4 This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. R**
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. R**
- 6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought. R**

Benediction

Go now as the body of Christ, shining with God's light.

We honor the Lord, His law, His fulfillment.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

***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 † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Join us in the church hall following the Service of Worship for Coffee & Conversation.

If you can help with the un-decorating of the sanctuary after church it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Wednesday: Scrapbooking 9-11:30 a.m. Boardroom

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.

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

If you would like church envelopes, please call the church office at 506-857-4817 between 8 to 11 a.m. or print your name/address and phone number on the sheet on the table in the narthex.

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 1:1-6

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the Wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.

Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Matthew 5:17-19

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

¹⁹ Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.