

**Mountain View United Church  
85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton NB E1C 6Z3  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Worship Leader**

**Music Leader**

**Office Admin**

**Sunday School**

**Custodian**



**Rev. Jacob Shaw**

**Jason Noble**

**Sarah Shaw**

**Sarah Nelson**

**Eduardo Nerona**

**Gathering Music**

**Words of Welcome/Announcements**

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

**Gathering Hymn:**

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

**VU 2**

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free: from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

- 2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king; born to reign in us for ever; now thy gracious kingdom bring
- 4 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

### **Call to Worship/Lighting of the Candle of Peace:**

A shoot shall come up from the stump of Jesse; from forgotten roots, a new King rises.

**The Spirit of wisdom and might rests upon him; he is the Lion of Judah and the Lamb who was slain.**

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard lie down with the kid; on God's holy mountain, nothing shall hurt or destroy.

**Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Come, let us worship the One who is coming—both fierce in justice and gentle in mercy.

**We come with open hearts, ready to repent and rejoice. Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

**Hymn: A Candle is Burning**

**VU 6 v.2**

A candle is burning, a candle of peace, a candle to signal that conflict must cease: for Jesus is coming to Show us the way; a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

**Where Are We: Advent 2**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Almighty God, on this second Sunday of Advent you stir our hearts with hope and holy fear. You promised a branch from Jesse's stump— a righteous King filled with your Spirit, a Lion who roars against evil, a Lamb who lays down his life for the world. As we wait for his coming again, awaken us from sleep, open our eyes to your justice, and soften our hearts to your mercy. Make us ready to receive the One who is both Judge and Savior, that we may walk in the light of the Lord. Through Jesus Christ, our coming King, we pray. Amen.**

## **Children's Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain**

**VU 43**

R Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. R

2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth! R

3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn. R

## **Children's Ministry: Rev. Jacob's Toy Bag**

### **Ministry of Music**

### **Prayer of Confession:**

**Merciful God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way, crying, "Repent, for the kingdom is near!" Yet we have been slow to listen. We have trusted in our own goodness**

**and ignored the unfruitful places in our lives. We have walked crooked paths of pride and selfishness, and we have been deaf to the cries of the poor and oppressed. We have feared the Lion's roar more than we have loved the Lamb's sacrifice. Forgive us, O God. Burn away the chaff of our sin with your refining fire. Wash us clean in the waters of repentance, and plant in us the desire to bear fruit that lasts. Amen**

### **Scripture readings:**

**Isaiah 11:1-10** read by Inzwi Munikwa

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord -<sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the

breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. <sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling<sup>[a]</sup> together; and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. <sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

**Matthew 3:1-12** read by Rev. Jacob Shaw

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea <sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup> This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" <sup>4</sup> John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was

locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup> Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup> The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

## **Message**

## **Hymn: There's A Voice in the Wilderness VU 18**

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!
- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King. Like the flowers of the field they perish, like grass our works decay; the power and pomp of nations shall pass, like a dream, away.
- 3 But the word of our God endureth, whose arm is ever strong; God stands in the midst of nations, and soon will right the wrong. God shall feed the flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold; to pastures of peace will lead them, and bring them safe to fold.
- 4 There's a voice in the wilderness crying a call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!



**Presentation of Memorial Angels** (Angels are placed on the tree as the names are read)

<b><u>In Loving Memory of</u></b>	<b><u>Placed by</u></b>
Brian Rietzel Sr.	Brian Rietzel Jr. & Krista Rietzel
Gordon & Marie Leaman	Their daughter and 2 sons
sister Fay Steeves	Joan DeLong and family
brother Gordon Howland	Joan DeLong and family
Dan Melanson, son of Gerry	Donna & Gerry Melanson
Evelyn and Lee Rogers, parents of Donna	Donna & Gerry Melanson
Their Grandson Matthew Veers	Gramie & Grampie Shirley & Doug Carter
His brother Gerard	Gary Carey
George & Hazel Bannister	Their daughters Shirley & Georgie

Olla McLellan Briggs	Jean Marshall
Donna Moore	Husband James Moore
Sheila Marie Hoyt	Husband Douglas Hoyt
Sheila Marie Hoyt	Daughter Allison Finnamore
Sheila Marie Hoyt	Son Scott Hoyt

## **Sacrament of Communion** **For the Season of Advent**

### **Invitation**

The celebration of communion is always a festival of friends, a pulling together of our loves and our hopes, our moments of agony and our glimpses of victory. It is here, where bread is broken and wine is shared, that we can most fully be ourselves and see others for who they truly are: sons and daughters of the living God. Here the common things of life—bread and wine, memories and dreams—become holy, touched by God. Here that which is earthly becomes divine, and that which is human becomes more than it has ever dreamed.

## **Call to Give Thanks**

Glory to God in the highest!

**And on earth, peace to all!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is good to give thanks and praise.**

## **Thanksgiving**

We give you thanks, God of peace and promise. Through the words of your prophets and the faith of your followers you prepare the way of our redemption and bring hope to birth. And though we often grow weary of waiting, your signs call us to keep watch for that day when all things shall be made new. In assurance of this hope, we join with all the company of heaven and earth to give you praise:

## **Song of Creation**

**Holy, holy, holy God, Power of life and love!  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna  
through the ages! Blest is the One who comes to  
bring your justice to earth!**

## **Remembering Jesus at Table**

As we gather at this table, we remember that on the night before he died, Jesus had supper with his friends. He took a loaf of bread, thanked you as we have thanked you, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: “Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.” Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying: “Drink. This cup is the promise of God, made in my blood. Each time you drink from this cup, remember me.”

## **Prayer of Self-Giving**

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace, remembering Christ’s life and death, proclaiming his resurrection, waiting in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

## **Affirmation of Memory and Hope**

**Christ’s death, O God, we proclaim. Christ’s resurrection we declare. Christ’s coming we await. Glory be to you, O God.**

## **Prayer of Transformation**

We pray you, God of Love, send your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here, that we, and these gifts, touched by your Spirit, may be signs of life and love to each other, and to all the world.

## **Concluding Praise**

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. **Amen**

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Breaking the Bread and filling the Cup**

The body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God for the bread of life.**

The blood of Christ.

**Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.**

### **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

The gifts of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

**For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, for the life we have received, we thank you God. Grant that what we have done and have been**

**given here, may so put its mark on us, that it may remain always in our hearts. Grant that we may grow in Christian love and understanding, and that ours may be lives of faithful action, in Christ's name. Amen.**

## **Invitation to Share Offering Musical Offering**

### **Offertory Prayer**

**God of the peaceable kingdom, you make the wolf dwell with the lamb and turn spears into pruning hooks. Receive these gifts we now return to you— our money, our time, our very lives. Use them to feed the hungry, to proclaim justice for the poor, and to prepare a highway for your coming. May our offering be a sign that we long for the day when the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. We present these gifts in the name of the Lion and the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Offering of Personal Prayers to God Lord's Prayer**

## **Hymn: On Jordan's Bank**

**VU 20**

- 1 On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lamb is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of Kings.
- 2 Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within; and let each heart prepare a home where such a mighty guest may come.
- 3 In you, we find abundant life, our refuge in the midst of strife; without your grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore, and help us rise to fall no more. O let your face upon us shine, and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won; and praise to God whom we adore, with Holy Spirit evermore.

**Spoken Benediction:** Go now into the watching world, bearing the peace of the Lamb and the courage of the Lion. May the Spirit of wisdom and understanding rest upon you. May the knowledge of the Lord fill your hearts and guide your steps. And until the Day dawns and the Morning Star rises in glory, may Almighty God - Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit - keep you steadfast in hope, burning with love, and ready for his appearing. Amen. Go in Peace!

**Benediction: Hope is a Star**

**VU 7 v.2**

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

**Postlude**





## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **This Week at Mountain View**

**Today: Coffee & Conversation after Service**

**Wednesday: Choir Practice 7:00p.m. Sanctuary**

### **Coming Up at Mountain View**

#### **Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>: White Gift Sunday**

Please bring a non-perishable donation for the food bank, or a gift for a child, to Service and we will distribute to those in need.

#### **Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>: UCW Potluck Luncheon 11:30 a.m.**

Join us at the Home of Joan MacLeod (82 Crestwood Dr.) for our annual Christmas Potluck Luncheon. Reminder to all U.C.W. members of baby layette item for Moncton Hospital.

#### **Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>: Christmas Pageant Service 10:30 a.m.**

Join us during regular service time for a no-rehearsal Christmas pageant. Tons of fun for the whole family so bring everyone you know!

**Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>: Blue Christmas Service 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for a contemplative service on the longest night of the year. Our service is designed to create space for the acknowledgment of the heaviness often carried during the holiday season, offering hope that Jesus gives.

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Eve Service 6:30 p.m.**

**Events Calendar** - We are developing an Events Calendar for 2026 so if you or your group know of an event that should be booked in, please contact the office.

**Scripture Readers Needed** – we need volunteers to read scripture during service. Please sign up in the Narthex.

**Calendars** – now available in the church office for \$8.00 each. Organize your 2026 with beautiful Canadian Churches!

**Keys** – we are changing the key system and require every key-holder to return their existing keys (with your name on it please). If you believe you still need a key, please contact the office with your key number and reason it is needed.

**Christmas Stocking Fundraiser** - Mountain View UCW is once again doing their Christmas Stocking Fundraiser to raise money for the less fortunate. Please remember to deposit your envelopes in the box in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support.

**Grocery Cards Available** for Sobeys and Superstore (\$25, \$50 or \$100) every Sunday and can be purchased with cash, cheques, or e-transfer. Superstore cards can also be used at Independent, No Frills, and Wholesalers Club.

**Mitten Tree** - The mitten tree is up and waiting for the mittens that many of you have knit for children who do not have any to wear this winter. They will be collected and distributed to schools in our neighborhood for dispersal to students in need. Thank you to all who donate to this project.

**If you or you know someone that would like a home or hospital visit from Rev. Shaw please contact the church office. Please note that due to hospital policy, Rev. Shaw is unable to visit patients without an express request from the patient or their next-of-kin. Home visits and/or phone calls can also be arranged by advising the office.**

**Contact Us:**

Phone: 506-857-4817

Email: [office@mountainviewunited.ca](mailto:office@mountainviewunited.ca)

Website: [mountainviewunited.ca](http://mountainviewunited.ca)

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