

*The United Church of Canada*  
*Bathurst Pastoral Charge*  
**First United Church, Bathurst**  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

**May 23, 2021**

**Minister** Rev. Neal Palmer    **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels    **Greeters** Peter Gammon  
**Custodian** Steve White                      Edie Gammon

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<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b>	<b><u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u></b>
Ezekiel 37:1-14	Isaiah 6:1-8
Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 29
Psalm 104:24-34,35b	Romans 8:12-17
Romans 8:22-27	John 3:1-17
John 15:26-27;16:4b-15	
Flowers in the sanctuary are in loving memory of Debra Oliver placed by the Family	

*The asterisk \* identifies those times in the service where the congregation is invited to stand as able.*

*GATHERING*

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER**

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE** *(responsively)*

...They differ because the various evangelists recorded the experiences of Jesus' life as they remembered them throughout the three years of his ministry, his death, and resurrection.

**All four authors remember the challenge in understanding Jesus' teachings and his Way.**

Today, on this Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit, who leads us in understanding and following Jesus today.

**May we receive the inspiration offered in its entirety.**

*The Christ candle is lit.*

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP**

MV #62

"There Is Room for All"

***There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;  
There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.  
And I rejoice and sing,  
"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."  
There is room for all, there is room for all!***

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively)*

Christ has sent the Spirit of truth to dwell with us.

**We receive the Holy Spirit.**

We have an advocate who intercedes on behalf of us all.

**We receive the Holy Spirit.**

The Spirit comes upon the mighty and the lowly equally.

**We receive the Holy Spirit.**

The Spirit helps us in our weakness and translates our cries for help when words fail.

**We receive the Holy Spirit.**

The Spirit breathes life into the dry bones of our faith.

**Hallelujah! We receive the Holy Spirit.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

## GATHERING HYMN

VU #375

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

### Refrain

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of the restlessness,  
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes.

### Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
And down in the city you called once again,  
When you blew thro' your people on the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
with bold new decisions your people arise

### Refrain



## PRAYER OF HUMILITY

### CHORAL RESPONSE

MV #96

"And When You Call for Me"

***And when you call for me,  
I have already answered.  
And when you call for me,  
I am already there.***

### \*GREETING ONE ANOTHER *(responsively)*

...The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### SHARING A STORY *(with those of all ages)*

### SINGING A SONG

"Wind is Moving" (2x)

*Season of the Spirit Volume 1 page 30*

Wind is moving over water,  
patterns shifting out across the bay.  
Grass is bending on the hillside;  
clouds are drifting right across the sky.  
O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.  
O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives

*ENGAGING*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Mike Kierstead*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Acts 2:1-21

### REFLECTION

### MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Martha Vickers*

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Catherine Eddy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Life-giving Spirit,  
bring to the bones of these gifts  
the flesh of our actions,  
and the breath of our caring,  
that our church and our service to others  
may truly come to life.  
Amen**

**MEDITATIVE MUSIC**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** – VU #921 (Ecumenical Version) *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*GOING OUT (as God’s people)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN** “As the Wind Song Through the Trees”

As the wind song through the trees, as the stirring of the breeze,  
so it is with the Spirit of God, as the heart made strangely warm,  
as the voice within the storm, so it is with the Spirit of God.

Never seen, ever known where this wind has blown  
bringing life, bringing power to the world,  
as the dancing tongues of fire, as the soul’s most deep desire,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

As the rainbow after rain, as the hope that’s born again,  
so it is with the Spirit of God, as the green in the spring,  
as a kite on a string, so it is with the Spirit of God,

making worlds that are new, making peace come true,  
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,  
as the rising of the yeast, as the wine at the feast,  
so it is with the Spirit of God.

*Musiklus Subscription Licence Number: S 13422 U 308*

**BLESSING**

**CHORAL CLOSING**

“May the Peace of God Be Your Peace” MV #222

***May the peace of God be your peace.  
May the love of God be the love you show.  
May the joy of God be the joy you know, and  
May the world that God would see be found in you.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**POSTLUDE:**

*How beautiful a day can be  
when kindness touches it!  
~George Elliston*

# Church News

The regular office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, closed for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30.

Please note the office will be closed on Monday, May 24th in honour of Victoria Day.

**On May 26, 2021 only**, the office will open at 11:00 AM

**Peanut Butter Update** – As of May 20, 2021, 237 jars of Peanut Butter have been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Peanut butter can be dropped off at the church office anytime during office hours.

Thank you to those who have dropped off peanut butter or made donations directly to the Bathurst Volunteer Centre. Cheques can be delivered or mailed to the Bathurst Volunteer Center at 464 King Ave., Bathurst NB E2A 1P5. These jars/donations are not included in the count noted above. Please indicate when dropping off or donating directly at the Volunteer Center it for the First United contribution.

**Reminder** – As the in-person worship services have resumed, if you plan to attend the service, please call the church office at 546-3532 by Friday morning, and give Margaret the name(s) and phone number(s) for yourself and anyone in your bubble who will be sitting with you. A seating plan will be pre-arranged based on the required physical distancing rules. *As seating capacity will be much less than usual, please call the office if your plans change and you are unable to attend.* On-line services will continue, on a delayed basis, as the in-person service will be recorded and then uploaded to the church website and Facebook page as soon as possible.

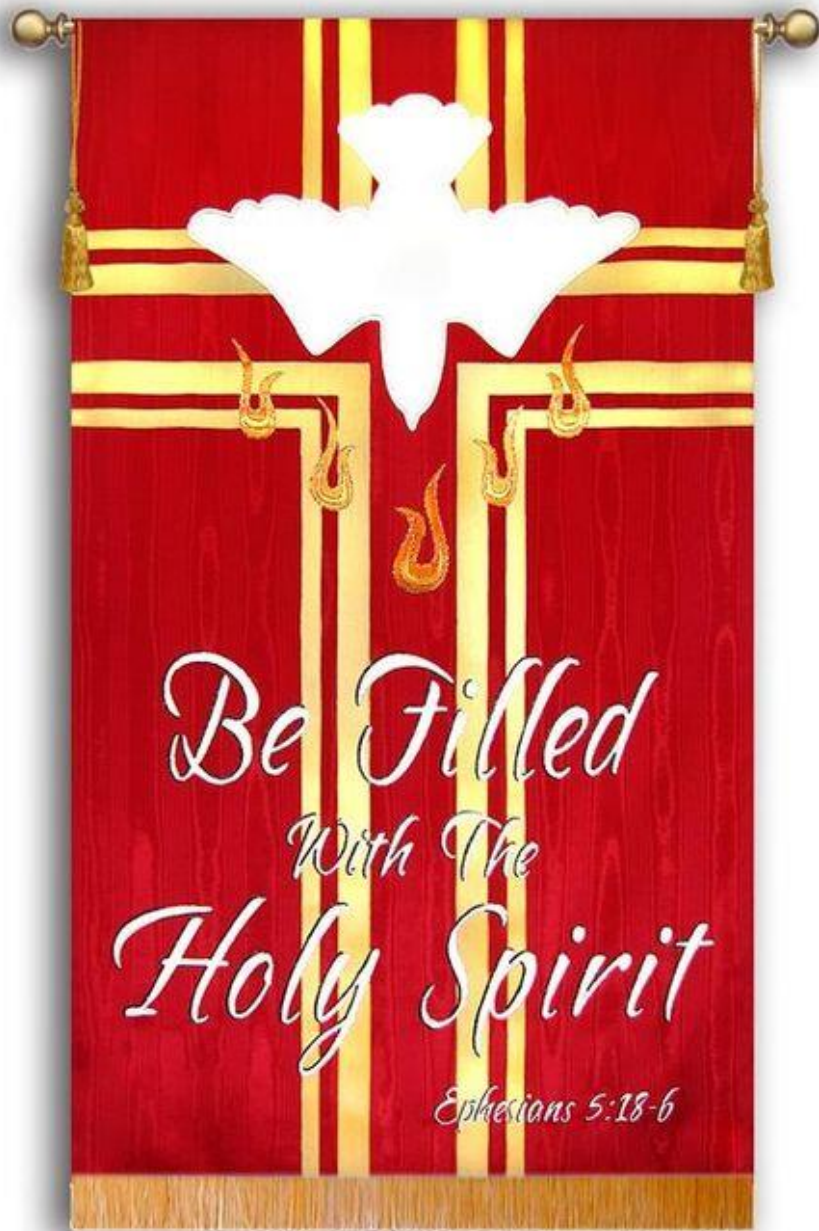
**Thank You** to those who donated to the *Mother's Day Potted Mums Flower Fund*. A total of \$660.00 was contributed.



## Community News

**Central United Church** will be having a plant sale at the church hall on May 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Please come and share your plants, and buy your plants!! Donations of plants, pots and garden stuff appreciated. For more info call Rev Sue at 546-4817, THANK YOU!! All COVID protocols and regulations will be in place.

**The Anglican Parish of New Bandon** is holding a take-out only lobster supper on Saturday, **June 5**. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12.50 for children under 12. All tickets are being sold in advance and can be purchased by contacting Norma Ellis 546-9638, Kay Addison 350-0960, Mitzi Whelton 545-0298, Darlene Dempsey 480-1078 or Nancy Hodnett 545-5263.



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

#### Ezekiel 37:1-14

1 The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.

2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry.

3 He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know."

4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

6 I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

8 I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.

9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'

12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

13 And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people.

14 I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

### **Acts 2:1-21**

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"

8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?"

9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'