

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

**June 6, 2021**

**Minister** Rev. Neal Palmer    **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels    **Greeters** Gary Branch  
**Custodian** Steve White                      Shirley Sealy

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<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b>	<b><u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u></b>
1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) Psalm 138 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1	1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Mark 4:26-34
The bulletin today is in loving memory of <b><i>Betty and Clarence (Nib) Gammon</i></b> placed by Peter, Edie & family	
The Canadian flag currently being flown has been donated in loving memory of <b><i>Clinton CL Gammon, a D-Day Veteran,</i></b> by Bev & Brian Murphy	
We welcome Rev. Blair Lewis who is leading us today in worship Thank you!	

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

*GATHERING*

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER:**

**WELCOME:**

God, forgive us when we don't hear the music of the universe,  
 or see the harmony of life God intended.  
 Open us to your hymns and music in life,  
 and place a song in our hearts.

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

**One:** Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.  
**All:** **We come to celebrate God's presence,**  
**One:** and God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.  
**All:** **We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,**  
**One:** and the life we are called to live.  
**All:** **We come as a pilgrim people searching for ways to live out of our faith.**  
**One:** We come to celebrate as we light the Christ candle.  
**All:** **Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!**

*The Christ candle is lit.*

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP:**

"There Is Room for All"

MV #62

***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:** *(in unison)*

**God you are the essence of life,  
 as we enter into the life of your Spirit,  
 teach our hearts to be psalms, singing forth your praise;  
 teach our minds to be proverbs, shining forth your wisdom;  
 and teach our lives to be parables,  
 showing forth your glory in every gesture and deed.**

**GATHERING PRAYER:**

**One:** Our God, as a gentle rain soaks the earth, may your peace  
 and love fall upon us, bringing growth and life.

**All: Soak into our innermost being.  
Quiet all that makes us anxious.  
Help us to linger in your presence, and send us out  
refreshed, to carry your peace to others. Amen**

**\*GATHERING HYMN:** "We Praise You, O God" VU #218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you,  
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,  
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,  
to you, our great Redeemer, forever we praise!

#### **PRAYER OF HUMILITY:**

**One:** Jesus taught us not to be anxious about our lives or about  
tomorrow. Are there anxieties that cause us to feel separated  
from the peace which Christ promises?  
Let us turn to God in prayer.

**All: Forgive them all, O Lord:  
our sins of omission and our sins of commission;  
the sins of our youth and the sins of our riper years;  
the sins of our souls and the sins of our bodies;  
our secret and our more open sins;  
our sins of ignorance and surprise;  
and our more deliberate and presumptuous sins;**

**the sins we have done to please ourselves;  
and the sins we have done to please others;  
the sins we know and remember;  
and the sins we have forgotten;  
the sins we have striven to hide from others;  
and the sins by which we have made others offend;  
forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all for his sake,  
who died for our sins and rose for our justification,  
and now stands at your right hand to make  
intercession for us, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen**

*John Wesley 1703-1791*

#### **Words of Assurance:**

This is the Good News in Jesus Christ:  
God loves us more than we love ourselves.  
God sets us free to love others.  
Thanks be to God.

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** "How Deep the Peace" MV #95

**How deep the peace, the confidence,  
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.  
How deep the peace, the confidence,  
of those whose hearts are healed.**

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

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

**Alleluia!**

God's in us and we're in God.

**Alleluia!**

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

**SINGING A SONG:** "Jesus Loves Me" VU #365

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to Him belong, in his love we shall be strong.

*Refrain*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

*Refrain*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

*Refrain*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:**

**O God, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as the scriptures are read  
and your Word is proclaimed,  
we may hear what you are saying to us today.  
Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

*Catherine Eddy*

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

\*Psalm 138 (*responsively*)

(*see back page of bulletin*) VU Page 860

2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

**REFLECTION:**

**"The Past, Present and Future – moments in time"**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION:**

**GIFT OF MUSIC:**

*Martha Vickers*

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

*Bev Murphy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:**

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

**God of the hungry, make us hunger and thirst for the right,  
till our thirst for justice has been satisfied,  
and hunger has gone from the earth. Amen.**

**SHARING OUR CONCERNS:**

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

VU #400

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send you Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

**O Great Spirit,  
whose voice we hear in the winds,  
and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear us.  
We come before you as your children.  
We are small and weak; we need your strength and wisdom.**

**Let us walk in beauty,  
and make our eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.  
May our hands respect the things you have made,  
May our ears be sharp to hear your voice.  
Make us wise,  
that we may know the things you have taught your people,  
the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.**

**We seek strength, not to be superior to our brothers and sisters, but to live in harmony with ourselves and all your creation.**

**Help us to be ever ready to come to you, so when life fades as a fading sunset, our spirits may come to you without shame. Amen.**

*Traditional First Nations Prayer*

**Response to Prayer:**

To wake from sleep into this day  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To hear a child's delight in laughter  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To sip a glass of clean, cold water  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To watch the sunset paint the sky  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To share a moment with a friend  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To smell the fragrance of moist soil  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To feel the comfort of clean clothing  
**is gift enough for thanks.**

To form the words that make a prayer  
is gift enough for thanks

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** – VU #921 (in unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

VU #651

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee  
I will ever give to thee.

**BLESSING:**

May the grace of God,  
deeper than our imagination;  
the strength of Christ,  
stronger than our need;  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
richer than our togetherness;  
guide and sustain us today  
and in all our tomorrows.

## CHORAL CLOSING:

"Go Now in Peace, Guided by the Light" MV #211

**Go now in peace,  
guided by the list of Christ,  
so you may be nourished  
by the Word of Life.**

## POSTLUDE:



## Church News

**Summer Hours** - the church office will be closed on Fridays. The hours are now Monday to Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM Closed 12 to 12:30

**The Upper Room** for July and August are in the Narthex as well as on the table under the office window. Please feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with the publication.

**Ways & Means Committee Meeting** will be held on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM in the Donald Eddy Hall gymnasium. All COVID protocols will be in place and wearing of a mask is mandatory.

**Property Management Committee Meeting** will be held on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Ruth Morrison Room. All COVID protocols will be in place and wearing of a mask is mandatory.

**Peanut Butter Update** - As of June 3, 2021, 253 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; cheques can be delivered or mailed to the Bathurst Volunteer Center at 464 King Ave., Bathurst NB E2A 1P5. Please indicate on your cheque that it is for the purchase of Peanut Butter for the First United contribution.

**Annual General Meeting** will be held on Sunday June 13, 2021 following the church service. COVID 19 protocols will be in place including proper social distancing. Copies of the Annual Report are available for pick up during office hours. If you wish to receive an electronic copy, please email the office at [firstadmin@nb.aibn.com](mailto:firstadmin@nb.aibn.com).

**The Graduates of First United** will be honoured during the worship service on June 13, 2021.

### **A Special Thank You to our Volunteers in May:**

Counters – Beth and Bob Sullivan  
Greeters – Peter and Edie Gammon  
Minute for Missions – Bev Murphy and Catherine Eddy  
Readers – Isabel MacLaggan, Wayne Lord, Catherine Eddy, Mike Kierstead and Anne Brooks  
Sound System – Shirley Allain and Ralph Jamieson; and  
Videographer Don Eddy

**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 **Thursday** 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 in due course.

## ***Psalm 138***

### ***Refrain***

*We worship in your holy place and  
praise you for your truth and grace.*

I praise you, O God, with all my heart;  
Before the gods I will sing your praises.

**I bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your name for your love and faithfulness;**

For you have exalted your name  
And your word above everything.

**On the day that I called, you answered me,  
and put new strength in my soul.**

### ***Refrain***

*We worship in your holy place and  
praise you for your truth and grace.*

All earth's rulers shall praise you,  
When they hear the words of your mouth.

**They shall sing of your ways, O God,  
sing that your glory is great.**

For though you are high, you care for the lowly.

**As for the proud, you humble them from afar.**

### ***Refrain***

*We worship in your holy place and  
praise you for your truth and grace.*

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me;  
**you stretch out your hand against my enemies' rage;  
your powerful hand delivers me.**

You will fulfil your purpose for me.

**Your love, O God, is eternal.**

**Do not leave unfinished the work of your hands.**

### ***Refrain***

*We worship in your holy place and  
praise you for your truth and grace.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS - NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

### 1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

**4** Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah,

**5** and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations."

**6** But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the LORD,

**7** and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.

**8** Just as they have done to me,[a] from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you.

**9** Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

**10** So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king.

**11** He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots;

**12** and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots.

**13** He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.

**14** He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers.

**15** He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers.

**16** He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle[b] and donkeys, and put them to his work.

**17** He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves.

**18** And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day."

**19** But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! but we are determined to have a king over us,

**20** so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles."

### 1 Samuel Chapter 11:14-15

**14** Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship."

**15** So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

### 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

**13** But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak,

**14** because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

**15** Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

**16** So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.

**17** For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure,

**18** because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

### Chapter 5

**1** For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.