

*The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge*

First United Church, Bathurst
www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

June 13, 2021

Minister	Rev. Neal Palmer	Music Director	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Margaret Daniels	Greeters	Gayle Ferron
Custodian	Steve White		Shirley Sealy

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Mark 4:26-34	1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 Psalm 9:9-20 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41
<i>The bulletin today is in loving memory of Jessie Horsley, Jean Holt, Linda Newell, Maurice Horsley and Beulah & Bill O'Donnell placed by William (Bill) Horsley</i>	

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

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

***PROCESSION OF GRADUATES** – “Land of Hope and Glory”

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

...Begging the question, how might worship, learning, and serving help us see the potential God sees?

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*)

We walk by faith, and not by sight,

seeking your company, Holy One, desiring your presence.

As the Spirit moves, let's welcome the unexpected:

your unfathomable love, your astounding grace.

Surprise us again

and again and again.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN

VU #820

“Make a Joyful Noise/Psalm 100”

Refrain

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!*

Know that your God has made you.
Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.
Worship your God with a song!

Refrain

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!*

Enter these gates, thanksgiving.
Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.
Worship your God with a song!

Refrain

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!*

Ages through endless ages,
seasons of endless years,
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.
Worship your God with a song!

Refrain

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!
Worship your God with gladness.
Make a joyful noise all the earth.
Come to this place with a song!*

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE

"And When You Call for Me"

MV #96

***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) (Based on Mark 4:26-34)

SINGING A SONG "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

PRESENTING

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

Cheryl Brewster

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sandra Boone

A Surprise for Samuel [Based on 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13]

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER *Jennifer Oliver-Lavigne*

MESSAGE *(to the Graduates)* *Madison Lee*

EXTENDING APPRECIATION *Jennifer Oliver-Lavigne*

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – Solo “Homeward Bound”
Gifted by Amanda Godin

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Bev Murphy*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

Holy One,
for the gift of those in leadership - whether anticipated or unforeseen - may we offer our support, and in so doing, respect your role in their choosing.
For the gift of talents you provide – those that come easily, or those that need cultivating – may we be thankful.
Help us commit to exercising them to do your work.
While our offering today may seem small compared with your generosity, may it be the seed used to grow our community into a place where all find rest and welcome.
Amen

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

Holy One, like Samuel, we grieve over endings.

Help us find comfort in your presence.

Like Jesse, we overlook people whom you deem valuable.

Help us see others the way you see them.

Like David, help us be the people we’ve been created to be.

Help us live into our gifts, the ones that come naturally and those needing nurture. Surprise us with your grace...

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

VU #216

“Wherever You May Go”

Refrain
*Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.*
*Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

Say the word and I will stay,
I will never go away,
we will travel side by side
and God’s love will be our guide.

Refrain
*Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.*
*Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

From beginning to the end
I will always be your friend,
when you need me, I’ll be there,
you can trust my faithful care.

Refrain

*Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

***BLESSING**

***RECESSIONAL** - "Land of Hope and Glory"

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

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.

Peanut Butter Update – As of June 10, 2021, 270 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.

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 10 AM **Thursday**, 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.



A Graduation Blessing

*Embarking on a journey which began some time ago,
how could you have imagined all the things
you'd come to know.*

*You learned to use each challenge as an opportunity,
to overcome each problem, despite adversity.*

*It wasn't always easy keeping up with what was "cool", but
you held on tight to your beliefs
and carried them through school.*

*You found your voice and chose a path that honors
who you are, and that, I think, may be
your greatest lesson learned thus far.*

*For no one could be prouder of the person you've become,
and that is why we're confident that
the best is yet to come.*

*May you never waste a moment
"wishing" life was not unfair.
Rather use the gifts God gave to you,
to change the world out there.*

*Your Graduation signals us that you are on your way,
so spread your wings and fly my dear, forever and a day!*

By Barbara D. MacAdam



Graduation 2021

James Riley Buzas

Bryce Eddy

Kyle Eddy

Hannah Fortune

Victoria Lane

Breanna Lee

Sierra Spragg

Guest Speaker

Madison Lee

Special music provided today by:

Vocalist: Amanda Godin

SCRIPTURE READINGS - NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

A Surprise for Samuel [Based on 1 Samuel 15:34–16:13]

Quite some time had passed since Samuel helped the Israelites make Saul their king. Things had gone well at first; but before long, Saul turned from following in God's way, and God was very disappointed. Samuel was disappointed in his friend as well. One day, Samuel felt God speak to him. "Cheer up, Samuel!" God said. "I have found a new king to rule the Israelites. Fill your horn with oil and go find a man named Jesse in Bethlehem. One of his sons is fit to be king. I'll tell you which of the sons it is; then you can anoint his head with oil as a symbol that one day he will be the true king over Israel."

"I can't do that!" Samuel protested, "If Saul finds out, he will have me killed!" "Take a sacrifice with you," God replied, "That way you can tell everyone you are there to make an offering to God. Invite Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice as well, and I will show you which son is to be king."

The leaders of Bethlehem were nervous as they greeted Samuel. "What's wrong?" they asked, "Why are you here?" Samuel smiled and reassured them, "I come in peace to make an offering to God. Please, join me, all of you."

Now, having invited everyone, including Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice, Samuel waited for God to show him the future king. Jesse arrived and began to introduce his sons. "This is Eliab," Jesse said, proudly patting the tallest of his boys on the shoulder. Eliab was strong and muscular. He smiled confidently at Samuel and Samuel thought, "Surely, this is the one God means." But God spoke within Samuel's heart, saying, "Don't be so quick to judge someone by how they look, Samuel, for this is not the one. Remember, you may look on the outside, but I look on the inside. It's what is in a person's heart that matters to me."

Jesse called to his next son, Abinadab, to come and meet Samuel, but Samuel said, "No, this isn't the one God has chosen either." So Jesse brought him Shammah, but again Samuel shook his head. Jesse introduced all seven of his sons, but none of them was the one God had chosen. "You must have other sons, for none of these young men is the one God wants me to find," said Samuel.

"Well," said Jesse, looking down at the ground, "there is one other, my youngest son, David." At this, the brothers began to laugh quietly and shake their heads. Surely Samuel didn't think their little brother, who spent all day making up songs on his harp, was the one God had chosen to do something special. "He is just a boy," Jesse continued, "and we left him at home to watch the sheep." "Send for him," Samuel said, "I'll wait."

After a while, Jesse came back, leading a messy-haired, ruddy-faced boy by the shoulders. "And this," he sighed, "is David." Samuel looked into the bright, youthful eyes of David and deep down and all around heard God say, "Anoint him, this is the one!" As his brothers stared in amazement, Samuel poured the oil from his horn onto David's head, and David was filled with a purpose from God for the rest of his life.