

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

**July 18, 2021**

**Minister** Rev. Neal Palmer    **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels    **Greeters** Bev Murphy  
**Custodian** Steve White    Pat Thibideau

*All musical selections reprinted under license #4-606499, One License for Churches*

<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b>	<b><u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u></b>
2 Samuel 7:1-14a Psalm 89:20-37 Ephesians 2:11-22 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalm 14 Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21
<p><b><i>The potted flowers at the front and back entrance of the church are in loving memory of Fran, John &amp; Nancy Barbery from Bob &amp; Beth Sullivan</i></b>  <i>(Special thank you to Gary Branch for setting up the outdoor flowers)</i></p>	

*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**

Friends, the light is all around us — a sign of the season.

*The Christ candle is lit.*

...Thanks be to Creator for fire and sun, for flame and symbol, for Christ's light.

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP**

"Wind is Moving" (2X)

***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.***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**GATHERING HYMN** "Let Us Build a House"

MV # 1

Let us build a house where love can dwell  
And all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell  
How hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions;

*(Refrain:)*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
And words are strong and true,  
Where all God's children dare to seek  
To dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

*(Refrain:)*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
Beyond the wood and stone  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
And live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
Bear the image of God's face;  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

*(Refrain:)*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where all are named,  
Their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
As words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
Prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

*(Refrain:)*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.*

## **PRAYER OF HUMILITY**

**CHORAL RESPONSE** "Listen, God Is Calling" MV #97

***Listen, God is calling,  
through the Word inviting,  
offering forgiveness,  
comfort and joy.***

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

.....Peace be with you!

**And also with you.**

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

**SINGING A SONG** "Draw the Circle Wide" MV #145

*(Refrain:)*

*Draw the circle wide.  
Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song,  
No one stands alone,  
Standing side by side  
Draw the circle wide*

God the still-point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms.

*(Refrain:)*

Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call.

*(Refrain:)*

Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door.

*(Refrain:)*

*ENGAGING*

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Anne Brooks*

A Reflection on 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

*(Now You're Settled Down by Neryl McCallum)*

Based on Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Ephesians 2:11-22

### **REFLECTION**

### **MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

## GIFT OF MUSIC

*John & Isabel Clouston*

"Mansion Over the Hilltop"

*RESPONDING*

## MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Bev Murphy*

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

**Holy One,  
we, by offering our time, concerns, and resources,  
seek to take part in your work  
of care and compassion.  
Amen**

### SHARING OUR CONCERNS *(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

VU #606

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

*(tune St. Peter VU #344)*

In Christ there is no east or west,  
In him no south or north;  
But one great family of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord  
Close binding human-kind.

Join hands, then people of the faith,  
Whate'er your race may be!  
All children of the living God  
Are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
In him meet south and north;  
All Christ like souls are one in him,  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

## BLESSING

### CHORAL CLOSING

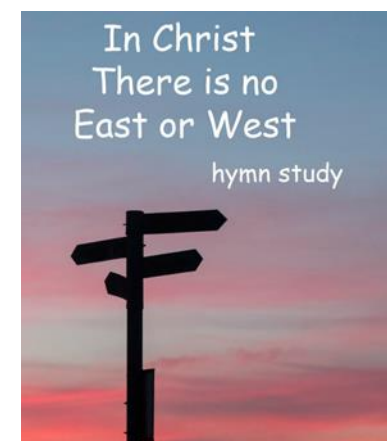
"May the God of Peace"

MV #224

***May the God of peace and of all good,  
may the God of peace and of all good  
be always with you. Amen!  
May God's peace be with you. Amen!***

*(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 church office will be closing on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM.

**Peanut Butter Update** – Correction to July 8<sup>th</sup> count – 340 jars of Peanut Butter were collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. And as of July 15<sup>th</sup> the total number collected is 347.

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 **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. 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.

**Ukulele Church Camp** - Calling All Ukulele Enthusiasts! If you're not one yet, you just don't know it! From July 19-23, join Linnea Good and Catherine Stuart for a week of Ukulele Church Camp! Each day from 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Atlantic. Follow the link to the website for more information! <https://ucceast.ca/62424-ukulele-church-camp/>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS - NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

### A REFLECTION ON 2 SAMUEL 7:1-14A

*(Now You're Settled Down by Neryl McCallum)*

It feels like you were forced into a house,  
that your hand was twisted,  
that what your heart really longed for  
was to continue to roam wildly and freely, unfettered,  
able to pack up at a moment's notice  
and be with your nomadic people  
on mountains, in the desert,  
in every place,  
in every circumstance.

Once they were planted  
and took root in a place of their own,  
once they'd settled themselves, and you, down,  
things changed.

Were you happy?  
Or did you miss the heady days  
of a hand to mouth existence  
that brought you an intimacy  
with your people  
that you can't get  
once you are allocated into a separate room?

### BASED ON MARK 6:30-34, 53-56

Voice 1: The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all they had done and taught.

Voice 2: [Jesus] Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest for a while.

Voice 1: For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went way in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Voice 3: Can you feel the busyness? Jesus' close friends are keen to tell him everything they have done and taught since they last

saw him. Eager to share the excitement of who they've met, their work, their discoveries.

Voice 2: What would you like to tell Jesus about your week?

Voice 1: Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When Jesus and his disciples had crossed over the lake, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized Jesus and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Voice 3: Can you feel the busyness? The crowd recognizing Jesus, hurrying to find him. Waiting for him. Wanting to hear him speak, wanting connection and healing for themselves and those they cared for.

Voice 2: What would you ask for from Jesus? How would you ask him? Notice Jesus' response to the disciples and the crowd. His concern that they rest, his compassion. What might Jesus say to you?

### EPHESIANS 2:11-22

**11** So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—

**12** remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

**13** But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

**14** For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.

**15** He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,

**16** and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

**17** So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near;

**18** for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

**19** So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,

**20** built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

**21** In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;

**22** in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.