

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge

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

August 8, 2021

Minister	Rev. Neal Palmer	Music Director	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Margaret Daniels	Greeters	Mike Kierstead
Custodian	Steve White		Margaret Payne-Chenard

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58
<i>We welcome Jennifer Oliver-Lavigne who is leading us In worship today – Thank you!</i>	
<i>Today's Guest Music Leader – Linda Knowles-MacPherson Thank you for leading our music today!</i>	
The bulletin today is in loving memory of my father, Robert (Bob) Archibald <i>(August 8, 1903 – October 27, 1997)</i> Placed by Isabel MacLaggan	

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsively)

One: Jesus gives us the gift of light. We embrace this light in our entire being, and become sources of love, hope and transformation in the world.

All: We celebrate this light and this love. We share it with others. Amen

The Christ Candle is lit.

One: We bless and praise God at all times.

All: God liberates us from all of our fears

One: Those who look to God shine

All: Our faces never feel shame

One: In times of suffering, we cry out

All: God listens and deflects us away from every trouble

One: Messengers protect us in our honouring of God.

All: And we are set free

One: We know first-hand how good God is

All: God is our home, and we are truly happy!

One: One: Let us worship our loving & generous God.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP:

VU #375

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

(Refrain)

***Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow thro' the wilderness
calling and free,***

***Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.***

GATHERING PRAYER:

***GATHERING HYMN:**

VU #567

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY:

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 peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY:

(with those of all ages)

SINGING A SONG:

VU #356

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds out from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Carter Lavigne

John 6:35, 41-51

REFLECTION: "Rev Justin McNeill"

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

Linda Knowles-MacPherson

"The Sweet Bye and Bye"

*(accompanied by a recording done in 2017 at First United Church
with Linda on the piano and Don Eddy playing clarinet)*

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

Pat MacIntosh

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

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

**Creator God, whose hand has given us all that we possess,
we have benefited from your generosity.
May others, in turn, benefit from our gifts.
Use us and enable us to use these gifts,
to reach out in loving compassion, justice & hope.
Amen**

MEDITATIVE MUSIC:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

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:** VU #235
"O Worship the King"

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and broad is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power has founded of old;
has stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

BLESSING:

This day, the Spirit of God, our bread of life, waits on the threshold of
our experience,

Waits to be embodied as always, in responsive human lives.

So, let us renew our commitment to be the vehicles of that Spirit,

**And let us go forth with joy, to set that Spirit free in our daily
living.**

Amen

CHORAL CLOSING "Take Up His Song" MV #213

***Take up his song of peace and go into the world.
Take up his song of peace in ev'ry moment.
In ev'ry moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;
lay them down in peace, lay them down,
and take up his song.***

(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

Peanut Butter Update – As of August 5, 2021, 362 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.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS will remain in place until early in the fall except now you may choose to remove your mask when you are at your seat. **Congregational singing is allowed with your mask in place.**

If you plan to attend the service, please call the church office at 546-3532 by **Thursday** morning, if possible, and give Margaret the name(s) and phone number(s) for yourself and anyone who will be with you. The physical distancing seating plan will remain in use. 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 early in the week.

Rev. Neal Palmer is on vacation and study leave through to September 4th. Rev. Sue White from Central United Church, Clifton, will be available for pastoral emergencies. Rev. Sue may be reached by calling 547-5745.

TAKE OUT Beef BBQ will be held on September 16th from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM. \$15 for adults and \$6 for children. As there are a limited number of tickets they will be sold on a first come-first served basis. Please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or drop by the church office.

Sponsored by Hatheway Auto Group

Community News

Stonehaven New Bandon Community Chapel Service will hold the annual service on Sunday, August 22 at 1:00 PM at the chapel in Stonehaven. Reverend Sue White will be the guest speaker. Donations made to the chapel, perpetual care or cemetery fund will be accepted and tax receipts will be issued. Please place your donation in an envelope with your name and address.

SCRIPTURE READINGS - NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

JOHN 6:35, 41-51

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

42 They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'"

43 Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves.

44 No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day.

45 It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.

46 Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.

47 Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.

48 I am the bread of life.

49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

L'ÉGLISE UNIE DU CANADA



LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND.

God's call to love our neighbours
has NEVER BEEN STRONGER.



Good news!

**The Government of Canada will match your donation
dollar for dollar until September 6.**

You can purchase one vaccine with a donation of \$25, or as many as you like, through [Gifts with Vision](#). We're working with our Mission & Service partners and UNICEF to make sure the vaccines get where they're most needed.

No one is safe until everyone is safe.

By now, you've probably heard that a hundred times. And here in North America, we're doing what we can to keep everyone safe from COVID-19.

[But today, we are asking you to go further.](#)

Our Mission & Service partner ACT Alliance reports that out of all the vaccines administered around the world, **less than 2% reached Africa and less than 7% reached South America**. Many countries in the global South and East won't even be able to start a vaccine program until 2022. If this continues, these countries won't reach vaccination goals until 2024...if ever.

People in these countries need access to the COVID-19 vaccine now, not in 2022 or 2023 or 2024. And we have a way for you to help make that happen.

This is your chance to make a gift that will express how much you care, not only for your family member or friend, but for the person who will receive the vaccine. **We hope you'll take a moment to [give that life-saving gift today](#).**

To donate online please go to:

<https://giftswithvision.ca/collections/featured/products/pay-it-forward>

By Phone: Call 1-844-715-7969 toll free and have your credit card handy and ask for Vaccine purchase.

By Mail: Make cheque payable to The United Church of Canada. In the memo line write: Vaccine purchase. Mail to Gifts with Vision, c/o The United Church of Canada, 3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4.