

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge
First United Church, Bathurst
www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

February 6, 2022

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Isaiah 6:1-13	Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalms 138	Psalms 1
1 Corinthians 15:1-11	1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 5:1-11	Luke 6:17-26

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP MV #12 (Verse 2)
"Come Touch Our Hearts"

***Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us,
come touch and bless our souls.***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Working through dreams and visions,

we're called here.

Working through the world around us,

we're called to action.

Working through those we encounter,

we're called to love.

Working through this time of fellowship,

we're called to renew God's kin-dom.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN –

VU #563

"Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain

*O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.*

You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
—you will find there my nets and labour.

Refrain

You need my hands, full of caring
through my labours to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving.

Refrain

You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me.

Refrain

*O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.*

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE – “Don't Be Afraid” MV #90

***Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised, promised to be always near.***

GREETING ONE ANOTHER (*responsively*)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.



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

Carter Lavigne & Jennifer Oliver Lavigne

Luke 5:4

SINGING A SONG – “Friend to Friend”

(Seasons of the Spirit Vol. 7)

Let us now as God's own people,
give the sign of peace,
proclaiming our love for one another,
binding friend to friend.

Chorus

*Christ Jesus calls us to love one another,
to be one in him, friend to friend,
in love to each other,
we shall give our hands.*

In our care for one another,
by each kindly word,
by ev'ry loving deed, we make known
the love of Jesus Christ.

Chorus

We feed the hungry, clothe the naked,
give drink to those who thirst,
for Jesus came in love as a servant
and we follow him.

Chorus

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Helen Knowles

Luke 5:1-11

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

Martha Vickers

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

Please see insert for additional information

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Holy One,
the desire of our hearts for these gifts
is that they be a source of healing:
bringing together what has been broken,
soothing what is painful,
and allowing people to move forward
in the abundance of life
with which many are blessed.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS –

VU #148

“Jesus, Remember Me”

***Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

...For all those who follow,

we give 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 – “I Feel the Winds of God” – VU #625

I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift,
through heavy oft with drenching spray
and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water’s crest,
and Christ my bark will use,
I’ll seek the seas at his behest,
And brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries
my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts shall rise
the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease
or pleasure I should be,
O let me feel your freshening breeze,
And I’ll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love
and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above;
it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way,
you will not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift.

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

The regular church office hours are Monday to Friday 9 AM to 3 PM.

2021 Tax Receipts will be mailed out on February 7th.

On line services will be available for Sunday morning on the church website or our Facebook page during the suspension of in- person services. Bulletins can be found on the church website as well.

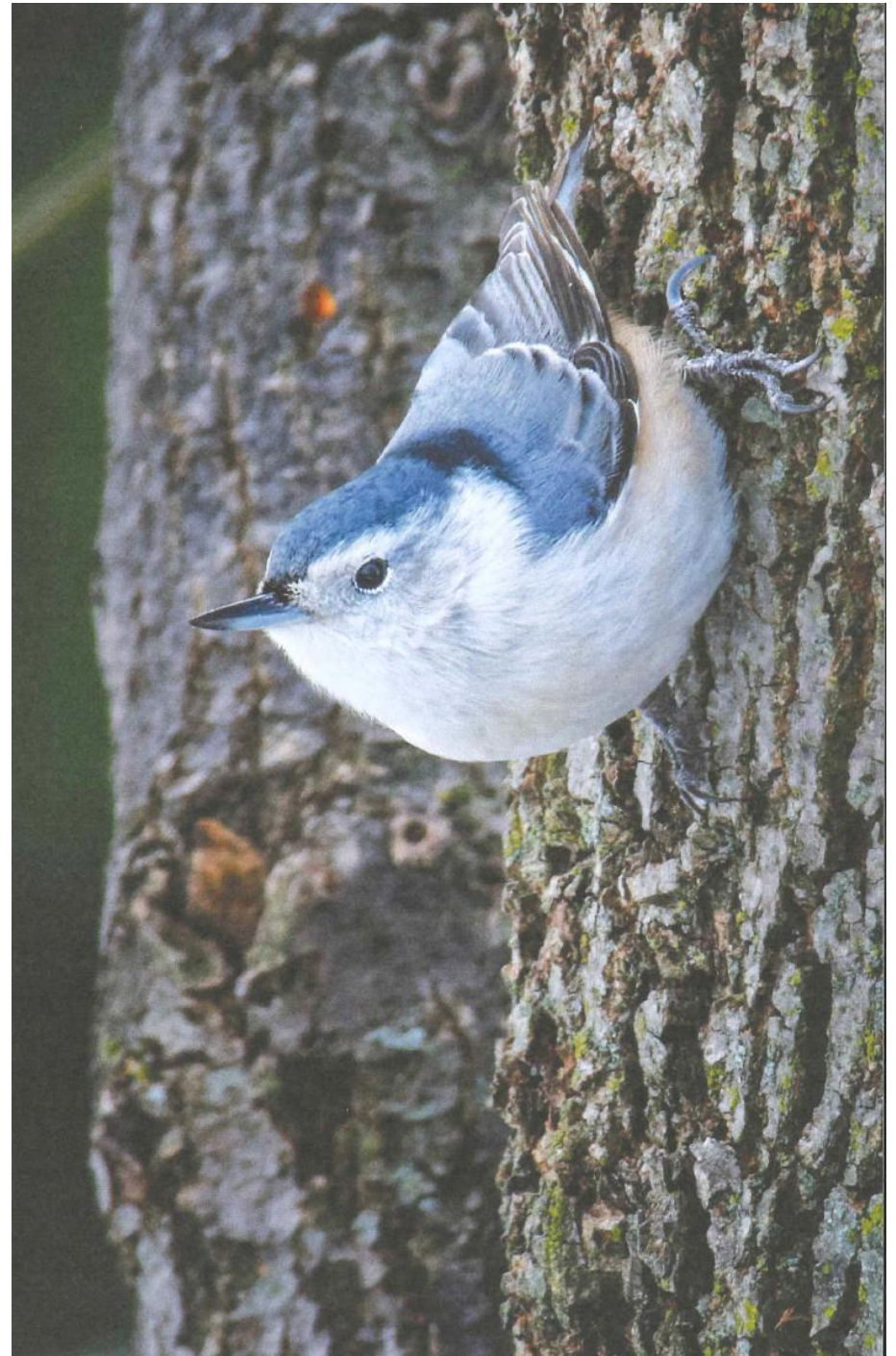
Update for in-person services – The Covid Response Team met by Zoom on Monday, January 31, 2022. **IF things remain stable** on the COVID front, we'll be returning to in-person services on Sunday, February 20th. Anyone 5 years of age or older will be asked to show proof of being fully vaccinated (two doses) or medically exempt when entering the church building. This practice will continue for Sunday services and those visiting the Church office and buildings during the week, until further notice. We are also required to wear masks at all times while in the church building. Physical distancing in the seating arrangements will also continue.

Peanut Butter Update As of February 2, 2022, 16 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. To date we have also collected \$375 at the office.

Zoom webinar presented by the FSLDW Region Affirm Committee. Open to all members of the Region. **The Peace and Friendship Treaties: A Complicated History** is scheduled for **February 10th at 7 PM.** The website to receive the Zoom link for the webinar is <https://ucceast.ca/65376-fsldw-webinar-the-peace-and-friendship-treaties-a-complicated-history>

Topic: This workshop aims to help people better understand the history of the documents known today as the **Peace and Friendship Treaties**. The workshop will explore the history around the creation of the Peace and Friendship Treaties, consider the key components of the various treaties and explain some of the historical consequences of the Peace and Friendship Treaties. The workshop will also provide some information on where to go for further information on the topic.

Presenter: Julielynn Anderson, Chair of the Archives and Records Committee of the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council.



Mission & Service

February 6, 2022

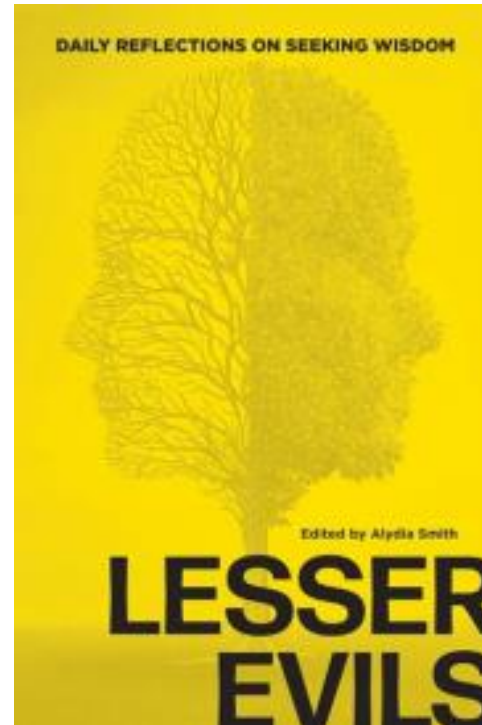
Have you ever had to make a decision knowing that all of the choices in front of you felt wrong somehow? As if you were caught between a rock and a hard place? Regardless of how righteous we might feel about our decisions, we choose evils every day, hoping that we are choosing the lesser ones.

The United Church's Lenten book and study guide *Lesser Evils* (<https://ucrdstore.ca/collections/lent-and-easter>), published by United Church Publishing House, explores everyday dilemmas of seeking the good while choosing the lesser evil from a Christian perspective. This collection of devotions challenges all followers of Jesus to faithfully attempt to do and seek good in our actions and choices.

"We confront dilemmas every day: Do I wear this mask? Do we close in-person gatherings? Do I take this parking space? People are trying to work for good. There are a lot of holier than thou judgements going on these days. We wanted to write about making tough decisions. What's hopeful about this book is the faithfulness of the struggle," says editor Alydia Smith.

Your generosity through Mission & Service (<https://united-church.ca/donate>) helps deepen faith by lowering the cost of important faith resources such as *Lesser Evils* and the accompanying book study webinar. Hosted online through United In Learning (<https://united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars/426-lesser-evils-lenten-study>), the study runs every Tuesday at 1 pm ET from March 8 to April 12, 2022.

"What does it mean to be Christian in this time when we don't always feel good about the many choices before us?" says Smith. "When systems are broken and we are in those systems, how do we deal with it? *Lesser Evils* is really for all of us coping with uncertainty. This book is about being faithful while wrestling with what's best."



Regardless of how righteous we might feel about our decisions, we choose evils every day, hoping that we are choosing the lesser ones. *Lesser Evils* explores everyday dilemmas of seeking the good while choosing the lesser evil from a Christian perspective. This collection of Lenten devotions challenges all followers of Jesus to faithfully attempt to do and seek good in our actions and choices. A study guide is included. Softcover \$15.95 or e-book \$7.95

<https://ucrdstore.ca/collections/lent-and-easter>

Join in group discussion of this book with United-in-Learning's Lenten Study webinar series!

Running weekly sessions from March 8th to April 12th

<https://www.united-in-learning.com/index.php/webinars/426-lesser-evils-lenten-study>

SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

LUKE 5:1-11

1 Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,

2 he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

5 Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.

7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.

8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"

9 For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;

10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.