

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

August 14, 2022

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

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2 Luke 12:49-56	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17
<i>We welcome Linda Knowles MacPherson as our guest musician & we welcome Isabel & John Clouston, today's guest vocalists, and thank them all for the beautiful gift of music</i>	

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

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE *(responsively)*

Creator and Creating One,

in a time of change and confusion,

we need a source of unwavering light.

In a time of transition and change,

we need a light to show us the way.

May the light of Christ be that light for every one of us.

May it shine in our hearts forever.

The Christ Candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP – "Praise to the Lord"

VU #835 *(Verse 1)*

Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's servants.

Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.

From the rising up of the sun

may the Lord be praised, praise to the name of the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

We are your vine, Holy One, your tree

planted by your grace, watered by your mercy.

We are yours: planted in your deep, rich loam

of scripture, story, and song.

We are yours, cherished one,

growing in your care.

Water us, we sincerely ask,

with your Spirit.

Nourish us,

with your word.

Hear us, as we gather:

to learn, to pray, to ask, and to grow in you.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” VU #288

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

(Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.

(Refrain)

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*)

May the God of love and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Margaret Payne-Chenard & Wayne Lord

Luke 12:49–51

***SINGING A SONG** – “Let There Be Light” VU #679

Let there be light,
let there be understanding,
let all the nations gather,
let them be face to face;

open our lips,
open our minds to ponder,
open the door of concord
opening into grace;

perish the sword,
perish the angry judgment,
perish the bombs and hunger,
perish the fight for gain;

hallow our love,
hallow the deaths of martyrs,
hallow their holy freedom,
hallowed be your name;

your kingdom come,
your spirit turn to language,
your people speak together,
your spirit never fade;

let there be light;
open our hearts to wonder,
perish the way of terror,
hallow the world God made.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Gary Branch

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49-56

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “It Is No Secret”

Isabel & John Clouston

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

**Like countless others before us, Holy One,
we offer ourselves to you.**

**Take all we have and are, we pray,
and use it for the work
of making your reign real
on earth as it is in heaven.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #921 (Ecumenical Version) *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “O God of Bethel”

VU #650

O God of Bethel, by whose hand
thy people still are fed,
who through this weary pilgrimage
hast all our fathers led;

Our vows, our prayers, we now present
before thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.

O spread thy covering wings around
till all our wanderings cease,
and at our Father's loved abode
our souls arrive in peace.

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL CLOSING** – “When You Walk from Here” – VU #298

***When you walk from here,
when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God’s humble care.***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

Church News

The summer church office hours are now in effect – open Monday to Thursday – 9 AM to 3 PM – closed on Friday.

Peanut Butter Update - As of August 11th, 2022, 211 jars of Peanut Butter has been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. **Our goal is 900 jars for the year** and we currently have **445** including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

Purses Plus – UPDATE – Deliveries, on your behalf to Passage House, have been received with gratitude. Later, in the fall, they will provide a list of supplies, most needed by their clients. In the interim, we may donate gift cards, such as Tim Hortons or Dollarama. Thank you again for your generous donations.

Thank you to our volunteers in July:

Counters –Gary Branch and Edie Gammon; **Greeters** – Mike Kierstead, Margaret Payne-Chénard , Brenda Parrott, Gayle Ferron, Harvey and Julie Spence; **Minute for Mission** – Pat MacIntosh, Catherine Eddy, Bev Murphy and Helen Knowles; **Scripture Readers** – Cheryl Brewster, Wayne Lord Anne Brooks and Isabel MacLaggan; **Vocalists** – Cindy Doucet, Marlene Noel, Carol Abfalter, and Rhonda Chiasson, John and Isabel Clouston, Ann Marie Hocquard, Julia Henry and Karen McCrea; **Sharing a Story** – Margaret Payne-Chénard, Mike Kierstead, Margaret Daniels, Anne Wilson, Cheryl Brewster, Mya Brewster and Brenda Parrott; **Sound System** –Shirley Allain, Brenda Parrott, Ralph Jamieson and Charles Ramsey and **Videographer** – Don Eddy as well as to Josh Gammon for uploading our services to the website and Facebook.



SCRIPTURE READINGS *(New Revised Standard Version)*

HEBREWS 11:29—12:2

29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.

31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

32 And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—

33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

34 quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

35 Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.

36 Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

37 They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—

38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised,

40 since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

LUKE 12:49-56

49 "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!

50 I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!

51 Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!

52 From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three;

53 they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

54 He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens.

55 And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.

56 You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?