

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

September 25, 2022

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

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Proverbs 8:22-31 Psalm 148 Colossians 1:15-20 John 6:41-51	Lamentations 1:1-6 Psalm 137 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10
<i>Today's bulletins have been placed in loving memory of Sprague Wiseman by Holly Vibert and Family</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 *(in unison)*

As we gather to worship together, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original peoples, the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ Candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP "O Beautiful Gaia" MV #41 *(Verse 4)*

Refrain

*O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.*

Loon nesting in marshland, O Gaia, calling us home.
Loon nesting in marshland, calling us on.

Refrain

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Praise is where our worship begins and ends.

Praise is what moves under our feet and stirs our hearts.

Praise is what soars across the skies
and causes us to question all we thought we knew.

Praise is what we were made for.

Praise for Earth. Praise for this life. Praise for each other.

Let's praise the Holy One and lift our heads in wonder and delight.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You" – VU #232

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*)

May the God of peace be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Anne Wilson & Huckleberry

***SINGING A SONG** – "Sweetgrass and Candle"

(*Words by John Oldham/Music by Ron Klusmeier*)

Sweetgrass and candle, the peace pipe and bible,
the stories of elders and beat of the drum;
these are the symbols of hope, faith and justice.
We gather in circle affirming we're one.

Welcome the stranger for he is our brother
and she is our sister of mother earth.
Care for creation for all life is sacred
and we are united by vision's rebirth.

Join in the circle that will have no ending,
for we are all equal and loved in God's sight.
Praise the Great Spirit! We gather as family
to sing of Love's freedom and dance with delight!

Welcome the stranger for he is our brother
and she is our sister of mother earth.
Care for creation for all life is sacred
and we are united by vision's rebirth.

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the stories of elders and beat of the drum;
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ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 8:22-31

Anne Brooks

REFLECTION**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

GIFT OF MUSIC "Holy Ground" (see insert) *Isabel & John Clouston*

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD**

***OFFERING HYMN** – "For the Gift of Creation" – VU #538

***For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.***

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

**All that exists, Creator and Creating One, is actually yours.
We simply give back a portion to help continue your work.
Take these gifts, we pray,
and use them in whatever ways work best.
Amen**

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SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE– “And a child will lead us” *Copyright © 2022 – The United Church of Canada*

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

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

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “Pulsing Spirit” *(tune Beach Spring VU 374)*
(Seasons of the Spirit Songbook vol. 7)

Pulsing Spirit, rippling river, source of mercy’s tender might,
Gentle power, humble glory, subtle, ever dancing light:
Healing Wisdom in us flowing, now reveal our human worth.
Play beneath the muddied waters; come renew the face of earth!

Spirit free, unbounded motion, beauty’s mirror, heart’s delight,
Gift abundant all around us, flood the world with life and light.
Fountain ancient, ever springing, play in new, creative ways.
Lift us, stream of lavish loving, high on waves of joyful praise!

*BLESSING

*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

Flamboyant Autumn

Autumn's picturesque arrival
Is a colorful array
Of red and gold and orange,
In flamboyant, rich display.

Autumn days are shorter;
The nights are getting cool;
Geese fly south in flocks,
As kids go back to school.

Winter still is dreaming
Of snow and icicles,
As we put away our swimsuits,
Our boats and bicycles.

Wisps of smoke from chimneys
Tell of cozy, crackling fires;
Fall is being born,
As summer now retires.

By Joanna Fuchs

September 30: Orange Shirt Day | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Every child matters. On September 30th, people across Canada wear orange and participate in Orange Shirt Day events to recognize and raise awareness about the history and legacies of the residential school system in Canada.



The Canadian government designated September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, beginning in 2021. This responds to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 80, which states that the federal government will work with Indigenous people to establish a statutory day to “honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process”.

Orange Shirt Day originates from the story of Phyllis Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation. In 1973, on her first day at St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, BC, Phyllis's shiny new orange shirt was stripped from her, never to be seen again.

40 years later, on September 30th, 2013, Phyllis spoke publicly for the first time about her experience, and thus began the Orange Shirt Day movement.

Wear orange

Wearing orange is a way to show your support for Survivors and their families and acknowledge the legacy of residential schools.

Church News

Church office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Peanut Butter Update – As of September 23th, 2022, 229 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 **519** including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

UCW Open Circle Members will hold their final meeting Monday, October 3rd at 1:30 PM in the Ruth Morrison Room. **Please note the change of date.**

Annual Fall Rally for all UCW Members, active and inactive, will be held on Saturday, October 15th at 10 AM in the sanctuary. Officials from the Miramichi Presbytery will be presiding and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will also take place. A “new and used” book sale will be set up in the Narthex.

Purses Plus – Community Outreach thanks you for your generosity in supporting Passage House. Currently staff are no longer accepting donations currently, so we request that you delay contributions until further notice.

Thank You: The Ways and Means team would like to express a sincere thank you to all who helped in anyway with our Take-Out BBQ Roast Beef Supper. Because of the generous sponsorship of Hatheway Group of Companies, the Ways and Means team realized a profit of \$4,392.14. The next Ways and Means team event is tentatively scheduled for late November – a takeout turkey supper.

Truth and Reconciliation Day is Friday, September 30, 2022. Our Land Acknowledgement Sub-Team has purchased *Orange Shirts*, in various sizes, which the congregants may purchase by making a \$20 donation to the church. The shirts can be found in the narthex. We encourage everyone to wear an *Orange Shirt* on Friday.

Thanksgiving – October 9th, 2022 - Anyone wishing to contribute items to decorate the church are encouraged to bring them in by 3PM Thursday October 6th. Thank you in advance.

Welcome to Ukulele Church! Ukulele Church welcomes YOU to join on Sundays at 12:30pm Atlantic starting on September 11, 2022!

Ukulele Church is a 75-minute ONLINE (Zoom) Sunday worship time for children and all ages. It brings together Music, Ukulele Teaching, Biblical Storytelling, Art, Play and Liturgy, following a rhythm of Celebration – Contemplation – Devotion with Linnea Good, Catherine Stuart and Nancy Callbeck. Absolutely no ukulele or church experience necessary!

If you have questions, email cstuart@united-church.ca. To register, check out our website <https://ukulelechurch.com/>. We cannot wait to see you! See our invitation at the following link - https://www.youtube.com/supported_browsers?next_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DXiwv6q6xQvc

Community News

“Help Lesotho” Calendars - The Anglophone School District – North has been sponsoring “Help Lesotho” since 2006 as part of its global awareness initiative. As a fundraiser where all of the money raised goes to help finance its work with orphans, vulnerable children, and grandmothers in Lesotho, Africa; “Help Lesotho” has 2023 calendars for sale at a cost of \$15.00. You are invited to support this initiative with your donation. Gary Branch (546-9208) (egbranch@rogers.com) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 10, 2022. Payment can be made in advance by cash or cheque or when the calendars are delivered in November. Cheques are to be made payable to “Help Lesotho”.

St. George’s Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, will be holding **“A Family and Community Breakfast”** on Saturday, October 8th from 8 AM to 10 AM. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food. Free-will offering at the door.

SCRIPTURE READING *(New Revised Standard Version)*

Proverbs 8:22-31

22 The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

23 Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

24 When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.

25 Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—

26 when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.

27 When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

28 when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep,

29 when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

30 then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,

31 rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

May God bless to our understanding this significant part of our Christian story...