

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

**October 2, 2022**

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

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<b>Lectionary for today</b>	<b>Lectionary for next Sunday</b>
Lamentations 1:1-6 Psalm 137 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 100 Philippians 4:4-9 John 6:25-35
<i>Today's bulletins have been placed in loving memory of Bill McCallum by Dorothy Ann and Family</i>	
<i>Today's bulletins have been placed in loving memory of John M Daley by Helen 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**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

...We light the Christ candle to remind us we aren't to hide the light of Christ under a bushel basket or within the walls of a church building,

but to take it out into the world so everyone will know and experience God's love, peace, and justice.

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP** - "Find A Home Here"

***Find a home here, live out faith here,  
gather strength here, find fam'ly here.  
Be yourself here, feel secure here,  
celebrate here, be at home here.***

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsively*)

Who is welcome at Christ's table?

**Everyone!**

Everyone?

**Yes! Everyone!**

No matter our economic status? No matter our social status? No matter how society labels us?

**Yes! Everyone!**

You... and me?

**Yes! Christ welcomes everyone to the banqueting table.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** – "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing" – VU #223

Eternal, Unchanging, we sing to your praise:  
 your mercies are endless, and righteous your ways:  
 your servants proclaim the renown of your name  
 who rules over all and is ever the same.

Again we rejoice in the world you have made,  
 your mighty creation in beauty arrayed,  
 we thank you for life, and we praise you for joy,  
 for love and for hope that no power can destroy.

We praise you for Jesus, our Master and Lord,  
the might of his Spirit, the truth of his word,  
his comfort in sorrow, his patience in pain,  
the faith sure and steadfast that Jesus shall reign.

### **PRAYER OF HUMILITY**

**CHORAL RESPONSE** – “Take, O Take Me as I Am” – MV #85

***Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me, in me.***

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

**\*SINGING A SONG** – “I Am a Child of God”  
(*Seasons of the Spirit vol. 8*)

I am a child of God,  
I am a glimpse of God’s new creation.  
I am a child of God,  
I am a child of God.

I am an endless prayer,  
I am a yearning for contemplation,  
I am an endless prayer,  
I am an endless prayer.

I am an angry voice,  
I am compassion and consternation,  
I am an angry voice,  
I am an angry voice.

I am a cry for peace,  
I am commitment and dedication,  
I am a cry for peace,  
I am a cry for peace.

I am a song of joy,  
I am the moment of jubilation,  
I am a song of joy,  
I am a song of joy.

*ENGAGING*

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Helen Knowles*

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

#### **REFLECTION**

#### **MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**GIFT OF MUSIC** - “Come Touch Our Hearts”

*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*)

**Holy One,  
may our hearts be attentive to your voice.  
Open our eyes, we pray, to the needs of the world.  
Strengthen in us the mission and spirit of our Community of  
Faith.  
Accept and use this offering towards furthering the work you  
consider truly necessary.  
Amen**

**\*COMMUNION HYMN –**

“When We Gather at the Table”

When we gather at the table  
wine is poured and bread is broken.  
Then love claims us, offering healing,  
we hear welcome, gently spoken.

Jesus offers our thanksgiving  
blessing God for life we're given.  
From the earth comes grain to feed us  
watered by the rains of heaven.

Word of promise claims attention  
earth renewed by God's designing.  
All the creatures join in praises –  
God's intended wholeness finding.

Come, invited, now draw nearer,  
join this holy celebration.  
Here be strengthened, called to justice,  
living now God's new creation.

Christ, your coming and your hosting  
gives us place at widening table  
now embracing world and neighbour  
Spirit strong, by love enabled.

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

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

**And also with you.**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**INVITATION**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(responsively)*

God is with us.

**We are not alone**

Christ is present here.

**The Spirit is among us.**

Let us give thanks to God,

**in memory and in hope.**

...In the hope people may be brought together from the ends of the earth, into your reign of justice and compassion, we gather with those of every time and every place to give you praise, singing...

**“Holy, Holy, Holy”** – MV #203

***O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.***

***All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.***

***Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.***

***And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!***

...Great is the mystery of faith. This we remember; this we believe:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen!**

...We gather these and all our prayers, thankful we may turn to you as to a loving mother, saying together...

**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...**

**"Great Amen" – MV #205**

***Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!***

***Amen, amen, O Holy One, Hosanna and Amen!***

The bread of tomorrow.

The cup of new life.

***Congregational Response – "Amen" or "Thanks be to God"***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** *(in unison)*

**Eternal One, we give thanks  
that people from east and west,  
and north and south,  
have been called to feast  
at the table of Jesus Christ.  
Keep us faithful, we pray, to your will.  
Go with us to the streets, to our homes,  
and to our places of labour and leisure—  
that whether we are gathered or scattered,  
we may be the servant church of the servant Christ,  
in whose name we pray.  
Amen**

*GOING OUT (as Spirit people)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CLOSING HYMN –**

MV #173

**"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands"**

Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands  
like bread we break for sharing;  
look people warmly in the eye:  
our life in meant for caring.

As at communion, shape your hands  
into a waiting cradle;  
the gift of Christ receive, revere,  
united round the table.

Put Christ into each other's hands,  
he is love's deepest measure;  
in love make peace, give peace a chance,  
and share it like a treasure.

**\*BLESSING** *(responsively)*

Go now in the promise of God's steadfast love.

**We go in the promise of God's new mercies.**

Go now as bearers of faith, ancient and new.

**We go with the kindled faith of our forebears.**

Go now, and, may our paths

**shine with light and love.**

**Amen**

**\*CHORAL CLOSING** – “As We Now Go”

*(Seasons of the Spirit Songbook vol. 6)*

***As we go now from this moment,  
as we leave behind our time together.  
May we walk with one another,  
may we help each other on the way.***

***As we go now from this moment,  
as we go into the future together.  
May we treasure one another,  
may we realize how precious we are.***

***May we realize how precious we are.  
May we realize how precious we are.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**POSTLUDE**

## *Church News*

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

**Peanut Butter Update** - As of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 283 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 **573** 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.

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

**Sunday School** will begin October 16<sup>th</sup> for an eight week rotation, ending with the White Gift service December 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Fall Rally** for all UCW Members, active and inactive, will be held on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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](mailto: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%3DXiww6q6xQvc](https://www.youtube.com/supported_browsers?next_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DXiww6q6xQvc)

**For anyone interested in transferring their membership** to First United, a meeting will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Ruth Morrison Room.

## *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](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM to 10 AM. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food. Free-will offering at the door.

Are you a Facebook user? Do you like great deals? If so, **Saint George’s Anglican Church invites you to join our Online Auction Group** found at St. George’s Online Auction. We have lots of lovely items offered on a bi-weekly basis.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** (*New Revised Standard Version*)

2 Timothy 1:1-14

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy.

5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.

6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands;

7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God,

9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,

10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,

12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him.

13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

14 Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Luke 17:5-10

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

6 The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

7 "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?

8 Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'?

9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?

10 So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

*May God bless to our understanding these significant parts of our Christian story...*