

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

May 14, 2023

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Audio & Visual Technicians Shirley Allain & Donald Eddy
Greeters Peter & Edie Gammon

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21	Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11
<i>The bulletins have been placed in loving memory of</i> Alice Jagoe by the family & Laura Vibert by the family	

The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where you are invited to present yourselves, body, mind, and spirit, as is comfortable for you today...

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

***WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** (in unison)

...As we gather to worship, 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 in friendship with its people.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

...It is in his name; we light this candle.

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)

Come, mothers and those who mother! Come, all who have mothers,
through birth, adoption, fostering, or simply by being taken under the wing of someone with a kindly mothering soul.

Come, those for whom today is hard, those for whom today brings grief for many reasons, those who need to be enfolded in the care of this community.

Today we worship in music and prayer the God who loves with a maternal love, a love beyond anything we could ask or imagine, or hope for!

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** –

VU #395

"Come In, Come In and Sit Down"

(Refrain)

*Come in come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.*

You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain,
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family.

(Refrain)

*Come in come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.*

God is with us in this place,
like a Mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace,
for we are a part of the family.

(Refrain)

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,
but we are a part of the family.

(Refrain)

There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family.

(Refrain)

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE – "Love Us into Fullness" – MV #81

***Love us into fullness,
touch us with your grace;
Jesus, in your mercy,
draw us to your face.***

***Love us into fullness,
hold us in your care,
cheer us with your presence
here and everywhere.***

***Love us into fullness,
and we will be strong;
Jesus, walk beside us,
fill our hearts with song.***

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

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Autumn & Grace Ronalds

John 14:15-16

***SINGING A SONG** – "Praise Our Maker" – VU #316

Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:
God is love, God is love!
Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:
God is love, God is love!

Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:
God is love, God is love!
Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:
God is love, God is love!

Care for others, children of the Spirit:
God is love, God is love!
Care for others, children of the Spirit:
God is love, God is love!

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 17:22-31

John 14:15-21

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “I Am the Dream”

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

The Ronalds Family

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD

*OFFERING HYMN – “These Gifts We Bring”

*These gifts we bring with grateful hearts,
to reconcile, make new.
Gather us in grace, show us the way,
to live our lives in Truth
to share Your love in all we do.*

*OFFERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Loving One,
our lives have been blessed with relationships
that both inspire and challenge.
We offer, these our gifts,
so we might continue to build relationships
with one another and all creation.
May they bring wholeness
and life abundant to all.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jennifer Oliver

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #916 (A Translation) *(in unison)*

**Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
may your name be made holy,
may your dominion come,
may your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts,
as we have forgiven our debtors;
and do not put us to the test,
but rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power,
and the glory forever.
Amen**

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN –

VU #556

“Would You Bless Our Homes and Families”

Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love’s expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that’s ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking
and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured,
 with the love that shapes us there,
 teach us, God, to claim as family
 every one whose life we share.
 And through all that life may offer,
 may we in your love remain;
 may the love we share in families
 be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries
 of our daily thought and care
 till the family you have chosen
 spills its love out every where.
 Help us learn to love each other
 with a love that constant stays;
 teach us when we face our troubles
 love's expressed in many ways.

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL SENDING FORTH** – "I Wish You the Blessing" (2X)

***I wish you the blessing of faith to sustain you,
 friends to support you, challenge to stir you,
 songs to empower you, peace to refresh you,
 tears to release you, laughter to heal you,
 love to nurture your soul.***

The Christ Candle is extinguished.

POSTLUDE

Church News

This Week at First United – May 15 th to 19 th		
Monday	9:00 AM	Ways & Means Committee - RMR
	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Wednesday		Supper Preparation – DEMH GYM
Thursday	3:30 -5:30	Take out Ham & Scallop Supper
	4:15 PM	Choir Practice

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

Peanut Butter – Our pledge this year to the Bathurst Volunteer Center is 900 jars. As of May 11th 361 jars have been donated.

TAKE OUT Ham & Scallop Potato Supper will be held on Thursday, May 18th from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Tickets are \$17 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 McDonald Restaurant, Bathurst**

Prayer Request Box - If someone has a prayer request you can write the request and put it in the box. The box will be brought forward to Rev. Neal when the offering is presented.

Thank you to our volunteers during the month of April: **Greeters and Counters** - Margaret Payne-Chenard and Mike Kierstead; **Scripture Readers** - Jini Palmer, Wayne Lord, Gary Branch, Brenda Parrott and Anne Wilson; **Minute for Mission** - Anne Wilson, Sally Ronalds, Pat MacIntosh and Judy Losier; **Story time** - Chelsey MacLaggan, Addison MacLaggan, Mya Brewster and Cheryl Brewster; **Lenten Tenebrae** - Alexa Chamberlain, Chelsey MacLaggan, Katie, Grace & Avery Scott, Clinton, Sally, Autumn & Grace Ronalds; **Good Friday Participants** - Helen Knowles, Gary Branch, Mike Kierstead, John Wiseman, Margaret Payne-Chenard and Joanne Wiseman; **Sound System** – Brenda Parrott, Shirley Allain, Lester Scott and Ralph Jamieson and **Videographer** – Don Eddy as well as to Josh Gammon for uploading our services to the website and Facebook.

Church News

Job and Volunteer Opportunities - Are you ready to make an impact? Check out all the job and volunteer opportunities available using the following link: <https://united-church.ca/opportunities> including a number of new Canada Summer Jobs positions.

See why The United Church of Canada is the perfect platform to grow yourself and your career! [Apply now!](#) Or go to the United Church of Canada website and search 'Job and Volunteer Opportunities'.

Community News

Anglican Parish of New Bandon will host a take-out Lobster Supper on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at the **Christ Church Hall, Clifton**. Pick-up between 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm. All tickets will be sold in advance. Ticket prices - Adults \$25.00 - Children [under 12] \$15.00. For tickets, please contact:

Kay Addison	506-350-0960
Darlene Dempsey	506-544-6997
Nancy Hodnett	506-545-5263
Lesa Scott	via Facebook Messenger





Mom

*When we think of those
We know and love
We can't think of one
You didn't tower above.

You were better by far
Than all the rest
These four words say it all,
"Mom you were the best!"*

*Mother's Day Flowers
have been donated*



In Loving Memory of

Our Mothers, **Ella Irene Lewis** and **Sarah Doris Moore**
from Blair & Ruth Lewis

Our Mothers, **Vera Cameron** and **Betty Gammon**
from Peter & Edie

Laura Parrott from Brenda Parrott & Dave Morison

Emily Wiseman and **Dot Clouston** with love Isabel & John

Lois Gammon and **Agnes Murphy** from Brian & Bev

Our mom, **Alice** from the Jagoe family

Aunt Lollie from Pam Smith

Winifred Hierlihy and **Emma Mullin** from Blake & Kathy

Our mother, **Lil Robertson** from
Sharon Duncan & Catherine Robertson

Geraldine Hatheway by Michael, Jane, Marilyn and family

Agatha McLean by her daughter, Kellie

Phyllis Green Rowe by daughter Debbie & family

Recently departed mother, **Edie Warren**
by Duane & Kellie Marks

My mother, **Sadie Faulds** from Joan

Marion Fallon, Ellen Cooper and **Eva Young**
from Jean Young & family

Our mother and grandmother **Sadie Cormier**
from Wayne, Phyllis & family

Our mother, **Lynn Vance**, from Marlene & Travis

Laura Branch from the family

Our mothers **Evelyn Russell** and **Dora Carroll**
from Clara & Wayne
and, our daughter, **Melissa Carroll**, with love, Mom & Dad

Mildred & Edith Hatheway and **Alice Williamson**
from Hayden & family

Our mothers, **Sue Palmer** and **Margarct Watt** from Neal & Jini

Our mothers, **Vera Godfrey** and **Agnes Fowlie**
from Archie & Jean

Our mother **Violet Smyth** from Nancy & Sharon

Betty Chamberlain from Ann Chamberlain

My **mother, grandmothers** and **aunts**
from Gayle & Yvon Ferron

Our mothers, **Phyllis Wiseman** and **Lillian Murphy**
from Cheryl & Gordon

Ruth Branch from Elizabeth & Gary Branch

Sara Eddy from Elizabeth & Gary Branch

Our mother, **Isalee Dempsey** by the family

Elaine Scott, our sister, by Shirley & Wilma

Essel Smith by Alton & family

Mildred Smith from Grant & family

My mother, **Edith Payne** from Peggy

My mother, **Florence Scott** from Francis

Mildred Smith by Carl, Helen (Honey) and families

My **mother, grandmothers, aunts** and **step-mother**;
"gone but never forgotten" from Margaret Payne-Chenard

My mother, **Myrtle Kierstead** and wife **Vivien** from Mike

Margaret (Mum) Scott, Gladys Branch and
Aunt Wanda Glendenning from Lela, Percy & family

Sisters, **Paula** and **Diane** from Brenda & family

Our mother and grandmother **Vivian Howatt**, from the family

Mrs. Helen Cumming from David, Judy & family

Mrs. Winnifred Craig from Judy, David & family

Debra Oliver from Ian & family

Irene Ramsey by Charles Ramsey

Rita (Walsh) Murray by Linda Knowles MacPherson

G. Merle McLellan placed by daughter, Barbara & her family

Our mothers, **Mary Hare** and **Stella Norton**
by Helen & Harvey Norton

Lena Davis by daughter, Brenda DeGrace

My mother, **Mildred Archibald** (90), her sisters, **Maude MacMinn** (63) and **Ethel Vance** (77) mothers as well,
from Isabel MacLaggan

Our mothers, **Dorothy Scott** and **Eleanor Branch**
by Lester, Shirley & family

In Honour of

My **mother-in-law** from Gayle Ferron

Rita Brown from the Brown family

Betty Garrett from Brenda & family

SCRIPTURE READINGS *(New Revised Standard Version)*

ACTS 17:22-31

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way.

23 For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

24 The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,

25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

26 From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,

27 so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.

28 For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

29 "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

30 While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

31 because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

JOHN 14:15-21

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

17 This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18 "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.

19 In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

20 On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

21 They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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