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

July 19, 2015
Baptism

Clergy
Rev. Blair Lewis
Office Adm.
Isabel Clouston
Custodian
Alan Wilcox

Organist
Martha Vickers
Greasers
Brenda Parrott
Pat Thibideau

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

Organ Prelude:

*Choral Opening: ‘Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness’ #375 VU

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness
Blow thro’ the wilderness
Calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
Stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

Welcoming:
By water and the Spirit,
we are called, claimed, and commissioned:
we are called God’s own,
welcomed as children of God;
we are claimed by Christ,
united with Christ.

Welcoming One Another:
Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:
Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:
One: Creator Spirit, moving over the waters,
you renew our baptism.

All: God of the flood,
you save us from destruction.

Holy Spirit, Jordan dove,
you came upon Jesus,
descend now upon us.

One: On this Baptism Sunday may the light of your love
Show us our way.

We light the Christ candle
as an expression of you love fo one and all.

All: Voice from heaven,
call us by name.
We are your beloved.

Call to Worship:
One: We come, like Abraham, Sarah, and John the Baptist,

All: people with vision.

One: We come, like Job, Thomas, and the Samaritan woman,

All: people with questions.

One: We come, like Moses, Jeremiah, and Mary,

All: people with self-doubts.

One: We come, like Joshua, Deborah, and Stephen,

All: people with courage.

One: We come, like David, Mary Magdalene, and Paul,

All: people with regrets.

One: We come, like Hagar, Uriah, and the Syrophoenician woman,

All: people with wisdom from the margins.

One: We come, like Rebekah and Samuel,
like Hosea and Esther, like Nathaniel and Martha,
like John, Mark and Priscilla,

All: people with a part to play in the story of faith.
Prayer of Approach:
Wondrous God:
you touch our lives with healing and with justice;
new life is your gift.
We praise you for the Good News
which is ours through Jesus Christ.
May this time of worship nourish us
with your promise of meaning and purpose.
May we be empowered to carry your goodness
into the coming week.
We pray in Jesus’ name, our Source and Saviour. Amen

*Opening Hymn: ‘The Church’s One Foundation’ #331 VU

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Introduction to the Sacrament of Baptism

Minister: Parents, Family, Relatives, Friends in Christ, we gather now
around this font to celebrate the gift of grace in the Sacrament
of Baptism.

They were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them,
and bless them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when
Jesus saw it he was indignant and said to them.

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them, for to such
belongs the realm of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does not
receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

And then Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying
his hands upon them.

*Baptismal Hymn: ‘Out of Deep, Unordered Water’ #453 VU

Baptismal Prayer:
One: Sisters and Brothers, let us celebrate
God’s gift of grace given to us in the sacrament of baptism.

All: There is one body and one Spirit;
we have one hope in Christ.

One: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God, Creator of us all.

All: Out of the water of baptism we rise with new life,
forgiven, renewed, and one with Christ, members of
Christ’s body.

Ephesians 4:4-6

Presentation of children for Baptism:
On behalf of the Christian Development Team of the Bathurst
Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of
Canada, I present Emmeline Virginia Clowater and Alice
Evelyn Jagoe to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The Sacrament of Baptism proclaims and celebrates the Grace
of God. Therefore, we gather at this font to proclaim for
Emmeline Virginia Clowater and Alice Evelyn Jagoe
the gift of God’s Grace and the Call of Jesus Christ,
and to celebrate their welcome into the Family of Faith.

Questions of the Parents

Minister: Do you desire to have your children
baptized into the Family of Faith of Jesus Christ?

Answer: We do!

Minister: Therefore, I ask you before God,
and your families and friends,
do you profess your faith in God your Heavenly Father,
in Jesus Christ your Saviour and Lord,
and in the Holy Spirit your teacher and guide?

Answer: We do!
Minister: Will you bring up your child in the knowledge and love of God, teaching her the truths and duties of the Christian Faith, that she may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour?

Answer: We will, God being our helper!

Minister: Will you join with your brothers and sisters in the mission and ministry of Christ’s Church?

Answer: We will!

Minister: Will you share with your child the Christian Life, and seek to grow with her in faith, hope and love?

Answer: We will!

Minister: As chosen faith witnesses will you promise to support Stephanie and Christopher and Daniel and Melissa as they provide Christian nurture, education and love for their children?

Answer: We will God being our helper.

**A New Creed:**

We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen

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**Church Family Commitment**

Minister: We pledge to *Emmeline Virgina Clowater and Alice Evelyn Jagoe* and their parents our support, love and care.

All: As a baptized and baptizing Church, we commit ourselves to support and uphold Emmeline Virgina Clowater and Alice Evelyn Jagoe within the Community of Faith.

May God grant us the Grace to live out our Baptism.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pouring of Water:**

Minister: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to God

Minister: Let us give thanks to God

All: It is good to give God thanks and praise

Minister: (As Water is being poured).

Eternal and present God,
we thank you for the Water with which you bless us.

Pour out, O God, Your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water, that this font may become our font of blessing and your gift of peace.

All: Gracious and Holy God,
we bless you for the gift of life, and, within it, the gift of water.

Over its unshaped promise
your Spirit hovered at creation.

By water, comes the growth of the earth.

Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom.

In the waters of the Jordan
your Child Jesus was baptized.

Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do, that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.
The Baptism
Emmeline Virgin Clowater and Alice Evelyn Jagoe
I baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. I sign you with the Cross of Christ. may God bless and keep you as you grow in wisdom and grace.

Welcome by the Congregation:
Minister: We welcome Emmeline Virgin Clowater and Alice Evelyn Jagoe into the Household of Faith. We welcome you with joy and thanksgiving.

All: We are members of the Body of Christ. We are inheritors of God’s promise. So, in the Name of Christ, we welcome these children into the family of faith.

Choral Response: ‘A Little Child the Saviour Came’ #445 VU
(tune Hamburg)

Placement of Banner Sheep:

Presentation of Stole, Certificate, Candle, and Bible:

The Lord’s Prayer:

Blessing
The Grace of Christ attend you, the love of God surround you and the Holy Spirit keep you. Amen. All who are united in the Covenant of Baptism are the Body of Christ in the world. Go now in peace, and remember always who you are and whose you are!

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:
In our struggle to hear your Word, O God, bless even our doubts, our wonderings, our wanderings, our soul-struggles, life’s deep questions, and deeper mysteries. Teach us to love our questions as well as our answers. Amen.

Scripture Readings:
Lindsay Lord-Doucet
New Testament Reading: II Samuel 7:1-14a
Responsive Psalm: Psalm #89 Page 804 VU
Gospel Lesson: Mark 6:30-34,53-56

*Hymn: ‘Draw the Circle Wide’ #145 MV
Refrain: Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song, No one stands alone, Standing side by side, Draw the circle wide
God the still-point of the circle, ‘round whom all creation turns; nothing lost, but held forever, in God’s gracious arms.
Refrain:
Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our love know no borders, faithful to God’s call.
Refrain:
Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we’ve ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.
Refrain:

Meditation: “The healing power of Faith”

Anthem:

THE COMMUNITY Responds
Presentation of Self and Gifts to God:

*Choral Response: ‘Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow’ #541 VU
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures high and low, Give thanks to God in love made known: Creator, Word and Spirit, One.
*Prayer of Dedication:  (in unison)
God of the hungry,
make us hunger and thirst for the right,
till our thirst for justice has been satisfied,
and hunger has gone from the earth.  Amen.

Prayer of Confession:  (in unison)
Jesus, who sat at the table with outcasts and sinners,
we confess that too often our words and actions
are not consistent with our beliefs.
Often we ignore the needy,
show indifference to the lonely,
and reject those who seem different from us.
Forgive us, we pray.
Empower us to reach out in love and acceptance.  Amen

Choral Response:  ‘How Deep the Peace’  #95 MV
How deep the peace, the confidence.
Of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence.
Of those whose hearts are healed.

Assurance of Pardon:
No matter where we are, God is there.
No matter what we have done, God forgives.
No matter our reluctance to accept God, God has accepted us.
With that assurance, receive forgiveness,
and live in fullness and in hope.

Silent Prayer/Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:
One:  God, you did not create us to live in isolation.
You have not made us all alike.

All:  We pray for our families
with whom we live day by day.
By all that we do and say
help us to build up the faith
and confidence of those we love.
When we quarrel, help us to forgive quickly.

Help us to welcome new members
into our families without reserve,
and not to neglect those who in our eyes
have become less interesting or more demanding.

One:  We pray for the places where we work,
that there we may be workers
who have no need to be ashamed.
Whether those we work with the many or few,
may we help to give them the sense
that they are personally wanted and cared for.

All:  We pray for the communities to which we belong,
that we may be good citizens.
Make us willing to accept responsibility
when we are called to it;
make us willing also to give place to others,
that they too may have their opportunity.

One:  We pray for the generation to which we belong,
those with whom we share a common fund of memory,
common standards of behavior
and a common attitude toward the world.
Grant that the presence of Christ may be so real to us
that we may be able to help our generation
to see him also as our contemporary.

All:  God, into your world we come
and from your world finally we must go:
we thank you for all those people, great and humble,
who have maintained the fabric of the world’s life
in the past and left us a great inheritance.
May we take up and encourage what is good,
and handed on to those who come after, believ
ing that our work in your name
will not be wasted.  Amen
THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

*Closing Hymn:  ‘Blest Be the Tie That Binds’  #602VU

*Commissioning:  (in unison)
  Living God, we put our trust in you—
  risking disappointment, risking failure,
  working and waiting expectantly.
  We sing in solidarity with all people of God,
  and join in the hymn of all creation.

*Blessing:
  May God bless you and keep you.
  May God’s face shine upon you
  and be gracious to you.
  May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.
  Numbers 6:24-26

Choral Closing:  ‘When You Walk From Here’  #298 VU
  When you walk from here,
  Walk with justice, walk with mercy,
  And with God’s humble care.

Organ Postlude:
**Church News**

The bulletin today has been placed *in loving memory of Maurice Horsley* from Jessie, Linda, Bill and David.

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**Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre**

Commitment December 31, 2015  
Total to Date  
900  
441

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 19-20 jars of peanut butter per week. The Volunteer Center supplies, on average, 430 households monthly.

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**The Upper Room** for July and Aug. are in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with the publication.

**Summer Hours:** Starting June 1st – Sept 1st the First United Office hours will be Tuesday – Thursday, 8-4pm. For security reasons, starting June 1 and continuing for the summer months (June - August), all doors to the sanctuary will be kept locked except the one closest to the office. To enter the church during business hours, please use the St. Patrick Street entrance.

**Pictorial Directory:** First United along with Universal Portrait Studios, will be compiling a Pictorial Directory this fall. The photos will be taken Sept 22-26 and, if needed, Sept 28- Oct 2. Universal Portrait studios will be contacting you to set up an appointment time for your photo shoot starting Sept.1st. If you wish, you can set up a time convenient to you online at www.universalportraits.com

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**Community Events**

**Saint George’s Anglican Church Hospitality Days Breakfast**

432 King Avenue, Saturday, July 25, 2015, 8 – 10:30 a.m.  
Tickets – Adults $ 7.00  
Children (12 and under) $ 4.00

Available in advance or at the door  
Tickets available from Don/Maxine Goodspeed (546-5387) or at the Church Office (546-3225).

**St. Lukes Presbyterian Church,** 395 Murray Ave., Bathurst will be hosting a team from Teen Challenge (Memramcook NB) on July 26 at 4:00 pm. Teen Challenge is an international organization with centres across Canada. Teen Challenge is a faith-based residential treatment program for men and women, 18 years of age and over, dealing with addictions to drugs and alcohol. Come and hear some incredible testimonies of how God has worked in the lives of the students to overcome their addictions. There will be an opportunity to meet with staff, to learn about the year long program and how to get help for those dealing with addictions. A free will offering will be taken to support the Centre.

**Herman J. Good VC Branch 18, The Royal Canadian Legion**

Summer BBQ, Sunday, August 23, 2015  
Bingo: 2:30pm  
Meal: 5:00pm-6:00pm  
Cost: $14.00  
Tickets are on sale at the Legion.  
The War Museum is now open for the summer the hours are Monday- Saturday 9am – 5pm (closed for Lunch from Noon-1:00pm).

**Bathurst Christian Women** invite you to their ”Mid-Summer Garden Party ” Luncheon Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at Danny’s Inn and Conference Center $15.00, 11:15 to 1:00 pm. Relax, enjoy punch and be entertained by Brandon Vienneau in the gazebo. Indoors Hank Veenhuis, NS resident, delivers his inspiring message of “Sometimes the Road is Rough”. Reservations are necessary. Call Edith 548-3924 or Connie 546-2127

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*Life is a flame that is always burning itself out, but it catches fire again every time a child is born.*  
~George Bernard Shaw~

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*A baby is God’s opinion that the world should go on.*  
~Carl Sandburg~
God’s Promise to David

7 After the king was settled in his palace and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him,

2 he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.”

3 Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the LORD is with you.”

4 But that night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying:

5 “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?

6 I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling.

7 Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”

8 “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel.

9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth.

10 And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning

11 and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders[a] over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“‘The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you:

12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands.

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.

31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

33 But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.

34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

53 When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there.

54 As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus.

55 They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was.

56 And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.