

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

May 21, 2017
Baptism

Clergy	Rev. Blair Lewis	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Edie & Peter Gammon
Custodian	Alan Wilcox		

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Acts 17:22-31</i> <i>Psalm 66</i> <i>I Peter 3:13-22</i> <i>John 14:15-21</i>	<i>Acts 1:6-14</i> <i>Psalm 68</i> <i>I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11</i> <i>John 17:1-11</i>

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

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

Organ Prelude:

Choral Opening: *'This Is the Day'* #122 MV
***This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!***
***This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!***
Singing hal-le-lu, Singing hal-le-lu
Singing hal-le-lu
We will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hal-le-lu, Singing hal-le-lu
Singing hal-le-lu
We will rejoice and be glad!

Welcoming:

In the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
who calls us to be the church
and to celebrate God's presence,
let us worship.

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: As we light the Christ candle
we open ourselves to your life-giving power
Holy Trinity, you are Sacred Three, Blessed One.

**All: God of wonder and hope;
we pray to you on this special day
as we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.
God is the Creator,
Sustainer and Redeemer of all life,
we pray that we may give forth
new life-giving love in our daily living.
Christ, may be rooted deeply in this life;
Spirit, that may we soar beyond possibilities.
May your wonder filled and comforting ways
be our ways.**

Call to Worship:

One: We have been called the salt of the earth.
All: Let us remain distinctive and salty.
One: We have been called the light of the world.
**All: Let us shine brightly
in the midst of pain or confusion.**
One: We have been called a city set on a hill.
**All: Let us, like Jerusalem,
lift our gates,
lift our hearts,
lift our voices in the worship of God.**

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** *'We Praise You, O God'* #218 VU

Children of All Ages:

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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

The Sacrament of Baptism proclaims and celebrates the Grace of God. Therefore, we gather at this font to proclaim for **Bryson Bruce Smith** the gift of God's grace and call in Jesus Christ, and to celebrate his welcome into the Family of Faith.

This is the water of Baptism.

Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's Body.

Presentation of Bryson Bruce Smith:

**Son of: Courtney Ann Smith (Reeves)
and
Brent Bruce Smith**

**God Parents: Jamie Dawn Smith McNeely
and
Dexter Gorden Reeves**

On behalf of the Christian Development Team of the Bathurst Pastoral Charge, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, I present **Bryson Bruce Smith** to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Questions of the Parents:

Minister: Brent Bruce Smith and Courtney Ann Smith (Reeves) do you desire to have your child, **Bryson Bruce Smith** to be 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 Savior 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 him the truths and duties of the Christian faith,
that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ
as Lord and Savior?

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 him in faith, hope and love?

Answer: We will!

***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.**

***Church Family Commitment:**

Minister: We pledge to this child and his parents
our support and care.

**All: As a baptized and baptizing Church,
we commit ourselves to support and uphold
this child, Bryson Bruce and his parents,
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 our source of peace.

The Baptism:

I baptize you in the name of the Father
and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

I sign you with the Cross of Christ.

The Laying of the Hands:

Welcome by the Congregation:

Minister: We welcome **Bryson Bruce**
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 Bryson Bruce 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:

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:

O God,
your Word is a lamp to our feet,
and a light to our path.
Give us grace to receive your truth
in faith and love. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Isabel MacLaggan

New Testament Lesson: Acts 17:22-31

Responsive Psalm: Psalm #66 Parts 2&3 #785 VU

Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21

Hymn: 'Holy Spirit, Hear Us' #377 VU

Message: "Christ is our advocate"

Anthem:

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Presentation of Gifts and Self 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)

Music and laughter,
hands and minds,
curiosity and compassion:
we thank you for the abundance of gifts we have!
All these gifts are symbolized in our offering.
We commit ourselves in service to you our God,
as we worship you with presentation of our offering.

Prayer of Confession:

One: Compassionate One, hear our prayer:
stretch out your hand in healing love.

All: Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew your Spirit within us.
Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Maker of all things, Judge of all people:
we confess the sins which we have committed,
by thought, word, and deed,
against your Divine Majesty.
We repent of our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is a grief to us;
the burden of them is great.
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us,
most merciful One;
for Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve and please you
in newness of life,
to the honour and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. 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.

Reflective Music:

Silent Prayer:

Words of Assurance:

Take comfort in the assurance
that even those things that are hidden from memory,
or are too deep for our words,
are not beyond God's forgiving love.
God, who knows us completely,
bestows pardon and peace.

Pastoral Prayer:

One: God is the One who makes us, loves us,
and sustains us.
God is the One who makes, loves, and sustains the world.
Let us offer ourselves and our world to God in prayer.

We thank you, God, that we have lived
in this great world and known its many joys.
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks.

One: Remembering the song of birds,
the strong, sweet scent of grass on a newly cut lawn,
and cooling breezes in the secret dusk,
the flaming sunset at the close of day.
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks.

One: Remembering the lonely hills,
music at night and moonlight on the sea,
the beat of waves on the rocky shore,
and wild, white spray flung high.
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks.

One: Remembering the love of family and the support of friends,
and all that makes life dear and beautiful;
remembering that there has come
a little sorrow, and sometime defeat,
a little heartache, and the loneliness
that comes with parting, and the word "Goodbye".
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks.

One: Remembering the breaking dawn
after dreary hours of pain,
the discovery that night's gloom yields,
and morning light breaks through again.
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks.

One: Because of these and other blessings
poured unasked upon our heads;
because there waits an even richer
and more glorious life;
and most of all, because your only Son
once sacrificed life's loveliness for us,
we thank you, God, that we have lived
in this great world and known its many joys.
For all of life,

All: we give you thanks. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'Jesus, You have Come to the Lakeshore' #563 VU

***Commissioning:** (in unison)

**May the blessing of God,
the giver of every good and perfect gift;
and of Christ, who summons us to service;
and of the Holy Spirit, who inspires generosity and love,
be with us all.**

***Blessing:**

Go into the world in peace.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
with all your strength,
and love your neighbour as yourself.

Mark 12:30-31

Church News

This Week at First United –May 22– May 27

*** Choral Closing:**

*As we go into the future,
As we tell of the Good News,
We will show our love for others,
Just as Christ has told us to.
We will tell the wondrous story,
Of a love that's made for you,
And it's all because of Easter –
Sing a joyous Hal-le-lu!*

See *Gathering* Lent 2011 pg. 81
"Choral Sending Forth" (Tune Promise VU 703)

Monday	Office Closed	Victoria Day
Tuesday	2pm	Bible Study – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Cubs & Scouts – DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9-12pm	TAB – Rms. 1,2&3
Friday	11:30-1pm 4-5:30pm	Chicken Salad Take-Out

Organ Postlude:

Your Baptism Day

*You've been a special blessing
since the day that you arrived,
Bringing so much happiness
and filling hearts with pride...
And now that it's your
Baptism Day,
this brings a special prayer
That God will always keep
you in the shelter
of His care.*

The bulletin today has been placed
in loving memory of

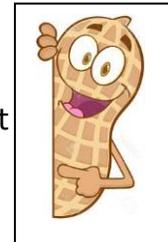
Milly Smith
by Grant and Family

Parents, June and Eldon Payne & Husband, Roger
by Margaret Payne-Chénard

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2017 **900**
Total to Date **465**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
13-14 jars of peanut butter per week.
The Volunteer Center supplies, on average,
500 households monthly.



The Ways and Means Sub-Team would like to express
our sincere thanks to the congregation of First United
Church for your continued support for our many meals. We
are inviting you to attend a FREE lunch in the DEM Hall
today, following the church service. We will serve you
turkey soup, tea biscuits, cupcakes, and tea or coffee.

*Here's to all volunteers,
those dedicated people
who believe in all work and no pay.
~Robert Orben~*

Community Events



Chicken Salad Take-Out

Friday, May 26, 2017

Sponsored by Friends of First United

Pick-up times

11:30a.m.-1 p.m. & 4-5:30 p.m.

\$12. Adults \$6. Children (under 12)

Tickets available at:

Catherine and Company

First United Church office 546-3532

Servant's Heart Ministries: There will be a spaghetti supper and silent auction at the Belledune Recreation Center, Friday May 26th at 5:30. Tickets are \$12 per adult and \$6.00 for children 10 and under. (must be purchased in advance). Live music. All proceeds for projects of Servant's Heart Ministries in the Dominican Republic. Tickets available from Glen and Joyce Daley 546-3764.

Saint George's Anglican Church A.C.W. Organ Guild will be holding a RUMMAGE SALE Friday, May 26th from 12 noon to 6:00 pm and Saturday, May 27th from 8:00 am-12 noon Saint George's Anglican Church Hall, 432 King Avenue.



Ever wondered who was greeting you at the door on Sunday morning? You recognized their face, but were not aware of their name? Starting in April, our greeters may be sporting a name tag. If you are soon to be one of our Greeters, please note your name tags will be available in the Narthex. Let's Get to Know Each Other!

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

Calling all Graduates: If you are a potential graduate of the class of 2017 for either BHS or ESN please advise the church office by June 13. The First United Church service honoring our graduates will be held on June 18, 2017.

Notice from the Property Management Team For security reasons, 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.



Please help Janeville Elementary School in collecting carry out plastic shopping bags (Walmart, Sobeys, Super store, etc.) that will be sent away to be recycled!

Between May 1st and June 4th, simply drop your plastic bags off in the containers provided.

A Huge Thank You from:

Janeville Elementary

Bathurst Christian Women invite you to our Luncheon at Gowen Brae, 150 Youhall Dr, Bathurst on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 \$17 from 11:30am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. We will hear a mini concert with Karen Chamberlain, Bathurst musician and Kendra Sloan, from Moncton, will bring her message of "Choices".

Reservations are required before Saturday, May 20. Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or ejgodin@rogers.com or contact Connie at 546-2127

Central United in Clifton will be holding our annual Plant Sale on May 27th from 9am until 12pm. Vegetables, flowers, herbs, annuals, perennials and houseplants will be available. Everyone is welcome come check us out.

The Ladies Auxiliary to Herman J. Good VC Branch 18,

Royal Canadian Legion

Roast Beef Supper: Includes coffee, tea, and dessert

Sunday, June 11, 2017 Served from: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Cost: \$14.00 Tickets are on sale at the Legion.

John Sands Concert On Monday, June 12th, 2017 a John Sands Concert will be held at Bethel United Church, 23249 Route 134, Nash Creek, NB at 7 pm. John Sands is a master of the key boards. His style shows hints of contemporary, classical, Latin, and original rhythms. His expertise and distinctive styling allow him to create moods in music that have delighted audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. For more information go to www.johnsandsmusic.com. Tickets are \$20 for Adults and No Charge for students. Information and tickets are available from Ruth at 237-2362, Chuck at 684-0178 or at the door. Concert sponsored by Chaleur United Church Congregation

Quilt Tea Central United Church will be having a Quilt Tea on Saturday, July 8th, 2 – 4 pm. Tickets are \$10 each and included admission to the quilt display and the sit down tea (dessert & refreshments). Raffle tickets are also available for a quilt made by the late Avis Scott, the winning ticket will be drawn at the tea, winner does not have to be present. Raffle tickets are 2\$ each or 3 for 5\$. Tickets for the tea and/or the quilt raffle are available from: Debbie Hachey 546-2926, Shirley Scott 546-8285, & Elan Dempsey 548-9160

Bathurst Chamber Music Festival. Artistic Director, David Scott, has recruited 28 emerging professional musicians representing all parts of Canada that will present three wonderful concerts in Bathurst May 20, 21 and 22. Find out more on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bathurstchambermusic> Tickets available at BilletterieAccess ticket outlets. <https://www.billetterieacces.ca/en/music/>

Acts 17:22-31 New International Version (NIV)

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious.

²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands.

²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands.

²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

²⁸ "For in him we live and move and have our being."^[a] As some of your own poets have said, "We are his offspring."^[b]

²⁹ "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill.

³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

John 14:15-21 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[a] in you.

¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

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

²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."