

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

April 15, 2018

Minister	Rev. Blair Lewis	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Margaret Payne-Chénard
Custodian	Alan Wilcox		Mike Kierstead

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Lectioary for today	Lectioary for next Sunday
<i>Acts 3:12-19</i>	<i>Acts 4:5-12</i>
<i>Psalm 4</i>	<i>Psalm 23</i>
<i>I John 3:1-7</i>	<i>I John 3:16-24</i>
<i>Luke 24: 36b-48</i>	<i>John 10:11-18</i>

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

We welcome Linda Knowles MacPherson today and thank her for leading our music.
We also welcome The Treble Makers.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

Choral Opening:

'This is the Day That God Has Made' **#175 VU**
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!

Welcome:

One: The bread of life opens our eyes.
All: **The word of life opens our ears.**
One: The risen one shows us God's own brokenness
All: **and by those wounds we are healed.**
One: Peace be with you.

Greetings:

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: As we light the Christ candle this morning,
we sing to the Lord a new song,
God has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have given him the victory;

All: **The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication
in the sight of the nations.
We offer thanks to God,
who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Call to Worship:

With what shall I come before the Lord,
and find myself before God on high?
He has shown us what is good.
What does the Lord require of us but to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God. *Micah 6:6,8*

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Our God on the first day of the week
you began the work of creating us.
On the first day you raised your Son from the dead;
on this first day, good Lord, refresh and remake us.
As the week is new, let our lives begin again
because of Jesus who shows us your loving power.**

Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** 'For the Beauty of the Earth' #226 VU

Children of All Ages:

***The Lord's Prayer:**

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

Our God, creator of light,
by your word you have given light to our souls.
Pour down on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding.
Grant that being taught by you in holy scripture,
we may receive with faith the words of eternal life.
May we see and understand your wisdom through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Anne Brooks

New Testament Lesson: I John 3:1-7

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 4 # 727VU

Gospel Readings: Luke 24 :36b-48

***Hymn:** 'Jesus Hands Were Kind Hands' #570 VU

Message: "What Does Jesus' Resurrection Mean?"

Anthem: 'Love Lifted Me'

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:

Lord God, we offer to you only a portion
of what you have given us.
All that we have is from your creative hand.
All that we can give away we do. Through Jesus' love,
all our renewal comes from the Holy Spirit's wisdom.
Deal graciously with these gifts
so that others may have joy
in Jesus name. Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

One: How many people have done something wrong?
Part of growing up
is being able to take responsibility
for our lives and our actions.
One helpful way to do that is to name before God
our pain and our faults,
our sins, as we call them in church.
That's what we do in our prayer of confession.
Compassionate One, hear our prayer;
stretch out your hand in healing love.

All: **Good and gracious God,**
we are creatures of dust,
ignorant of your revelation,
misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection.
You are among us; we need forgiveness.
We repent of our failure
to give as you have given to us.
We beg your mercy for our fallen world.
We seek your word that we may live
with the faith of Jesus.
Be our solace in this life and always.
We ask this as your own children
for we are incomplete.
Forgive us and lead us. 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.

Words of Assurance:

In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
your plea for absolution has been heard.
God's promises are sure; your sins are forgiven.
Peace be with you.

Silent Prayer /Reflective Music:

The Apostles' Creed: (in unison)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer:

One: In the silence following each petition,
let us offer our prayers of intercession and concern
for all those in need:

All: **We remember those who suffer from illness,
from the pain of memory,
for all who are in hospital or long-term care,
or at home,
for those who face uncertainty
with their health and well-being.**

All: **For those who suffer from torture, or victimization,
especially those hurt by the church or its members .**
(Moment of Silence)

One: Let us pray for those who are outcast,
or in prison, or oppressed . . .
(Moment of Silence)

All: **Let us pray for those who are hungry,
or homeless, or poor,
and those who are unemployed, or exploited . . .**
(Moment of Silence)

**Let us pray for the coming of justice in the world,
offering what we have and receiving what we need
of the earth's beauty . . .**
(Moment of Silence)

One: Let us pray for peace that is a just reconciliation.
This morning we think of the citizens
of Great Britain and Russia,
may the tensions between countries be resolved...
(Moment of Silence)

All: **Let us pray for the earth on which we walk
and to which we will one day return . . .**
(Moment of Silence)

One: And let us offer our own petitions,
trusting in God's wisdom and compassion . . .
(Moment of Silence)
God hears the prayers of the faithful
and in God we find safe harbour and understanding.

All: **Amen.**

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'To Show By Touch and Word'

#427 VU

Commissioning: (in unison)

**The word of God assures us;
what we will be has not yet been revealed.
Live therefore with hope,
share your joy,
shed your disappointments,
turn to all people with gentleness.**

Blessing:

May the Lord bless and keep you.
May the love of God shine upon you with grace and mercy
and give you what is needed for each day.
May God our Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer,
be with us each day of life
and may God's blessing be our hope for tomorrow.

***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)

Organ Postlude:

*The resurrection
gives my life meaning and direction
and the opportunity to start over
no matter what my circumstances.*

~Robert Flatt~

Church News

This Week at First United –April 16- April 21

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	9am	Ways & Means – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Beavers – rms 1,2,&3
Tuesday	2pm	Bible Study – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Scouts - DEMH GYM
Wednesday	9am	TAB – Rms 1,2 &3
	9 -11am	Badminton
Thursday	7pm	Christian Dev. - RMR

The bulletin today is
in loving memory of Betty Lavigne
placed by Judy, Macky & Jennifer.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are
in loving memory of Lillian Jagoe
placed by her children.

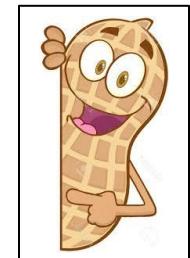
Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **212**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
16-17 jars of peanut butter per week.

The Volunteer Center supplies, on average,
500 households monthly.



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

The Ministry and Personnel committee is looking for individuals who
would be willing to fill in for the Office Administrator and/or the
Custodian during vacation time or when sick. If you are interested
please contact the office at 546-3532.

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.

Clean up crew needed: The Ways and Means team are looking for people who would be willing to have their names placed on a list to work on the clean-up crew after their functions. You would not be asked to work at all the functions. Even a couple of times a year would be appreciated. Call the church office to volunteer 546-3532



Sunrise Breakfast
(pancakes, sausages, baked beans, scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee & tea)
Sunday, April 22, 2018
8:30 a.m. to noon
Donald Eddy Memorial Hall
\$10.00 adults - \$3.00 children



Flowers for Mother's Day. If you would like to donate towards flowers for our sanctuary in honor or in memory of your mother or another woman who has played an important part in your life, donations can be dropped in the offering plate on Sunday or brought to the office. An insert will be included in the bulletin on Mother's Day, May 13th, with your dedications. Cut off day for dedications is Monday, May 7th.

*I remember my mother's prayers
and they have always followed me.
They have clung to me all my life.*

~Abraham Lincoln~

Community Events

Country & Gospel Music Night Saturday, April 28, 2018 7pm Christ Church Hall, Clifton. Featuring: The Country Capers, Bernard Arseneau, John & Isabel Clouston, Bill McLean and others. Free will offering - for the Anglican Parish of New Bandon. Contact: Allen Miller 544-5625

RSVP Ministries invites you to our Golden Oldies Luncheon at House of Lee – Grand Buffet, 315 Main Street, Bathurst on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 \$17.50 from 11:30am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. "Golden Oldies" Evelyn MacNeil, a gifted musician, will energize us with favourite tunes from former years, and Sandra Scott-Grebenc of Bathurst will deliver her message on "Making Life Decisions". **Reservations and cancellations are necessary before Saturday, April 21.** Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or eigodin@rogers.com or contact Connie at 546-2127. Note: for those who have dietary restrictions, please contact Joanne for the alternate meal.

Saint George's Guild Coffee Party and Bake Sale
Saint George's Anglican Church Hall 432 King Avenue
Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 10 am to 12 noon
Tickets \$ 10.00
Available from Church Office (546-3225)

The Annual Ecumenical Fishermen's Service will be held on Sunday April 22, 2018. 7PM Christ Church in Clifton The general public are invited and welcomed to come and join in the blessings of the fisheries for 2018. The offering received will be donated to the Janeville Elementary Healthy Learners program.

*April is a promise
that May is bound to keep.
~Hal Borland~*

Apple Blossoms

*I sit in the shadow of apple-boughs,
In the fragrant orchard close,
And around me floats the scented air,
With its wave-like tidal flows.*

*I close my eyes in a dreamy bliss,
And call no king my peer;
For is not this the rare, sweet time,
The blossoming time of the year?*

*I lie on a couch of downy grass,
With delicate blossoms strewn,
And I feel the throb of Nature's heart
Responsive to my own.*

*Oh, the world is fair, and God is good,
That maketh life so dear;
For is not this the rare, sweet time,
The blossoming time of the year?*

*I can see, through the rifts of the apple-boughs,
The delicate blue of the sky,
And the changing clouds with their marvellous tints
That drift so lazily by.*

*And strange, sweet thoughts sing through my brain,
And Heaven, it seemeth near;
Oh, is it not a rare, sweet time,
The blossoming time of the year?*

1 John 3:1-7 New International Version (NIV)

³ See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,^[a] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

⁷ Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Luke 24:36-48 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,

⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,

⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.