

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

July 22, 2018

Minister Rev. Blair Lewis **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Debrah & Rick Watling
Custodian Alan Wilcox

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>II Samuel 7:1-14a</i> <i>Psalm 23</i> <i>Ephesians 2:11-22</i> <i>Mark 6:30-34, 53-56</i>	<i>II Samuel 11:1-15</i> <i>Psalm 145</i> <i>Ephesians 3:14-21</i> <i>John 6:1-21</i>

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

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical 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:

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.
Hebrews 12:28

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Christ said: "come away to a deserted place and rest a while".

God calls us to a place of calm and rest, even as we continue to reach out to those in need.

**ALL: Show us the hidden things,
the creatures of our dreams,
the storehouse of forgotten memories and hurts.**

One: Take us down to the summer of our lives.

Tell us our nature,
and give us our place and role in life.

**All: In lighting the Christ candle
my prayer is that with God's help
I will discover freedom to grow,
so that I may become that self;
the seed of which God planted in me at my making.
Out of the depths I reach out to you, O God.**

Call to Worship:

One: God has given us this beautiful earth,
all that grows, all that lives upon it.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

All: Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Loving God, open our hearts
that we may feel the breath
and play of your Spirit.**

Unclench our hands
that we may reach out to one another,
and touch and be healed.
Open our lips
that we may drink in the delight
and wonder of life.
Open our eyes
that we may see Christ in friend and stranger.
Breathe your Spirit into us,
and touch our lives with the life of Christ. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:**

'Come and Find the Quiet Center' # 374VU

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

God, the words you speak have power:
power to create, power to disturb, power to heal.
Help us to hear your Word for us today. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Helen Knowles

New Testament Lesson:

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Responsive lesson:

Psalms 85, Page 802 VU

Gospel Lesson:

Mark 6:30-34

***Hymn:**

'Jesus Loves Me' # 365MV

Message:

"Come away to a deserted place and rest a while"

Anthem:

'In the Quiet Curve of Evening'

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

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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)

**In the name and in the spirit of Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you, O God.
Help us to give with them
a ready mind,
a willing spirit,
and a joyful heart. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: When we have afflicted others
whether by our own power
or by our silent support of systems
which oppress, enslave, and crush.

All: Break us, Lord.

One: When we have perplexed others
and purposely confused them for our own gain
or driven them to despair.

All: Break us, Lord.

One: When we have persecuted others,
casting them out of our community
leaving them forsaken and alone.

All: Break us, Lord.

One: When we have struck down others
casting stones on their dreams and hopes
until they are destroyed.

All: Break us, Lord.

One: Then broken, we carry in our bodies
the death of Jesus
so that the life of Jesus
may be made visible in our bodies.

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All: Make us, Lord.

One: With the power which belongs only to you,
make us into your treasure.

All: Make us, Lord.

One: We are the clay, and you are the potter.
We are the work of your hands.

All: Make us, Lord.

One: Do not be exceedingly angry
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people. 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:

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether;
the past is finished and gone;
everything has become fresh and new.
Friends, believe the Good News of the gospel;
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer: (in unison)

Lord, have mercy on us;

Christ, have mercy upon us;

grant us your peace.

We pray for those who have no peace:

for children, women, and men

whose homes have been destroyed by war and

whose minds have been damaged by what

they've seen or experienced.

**We pray for all who are hungry or thirsty or ill
because they are refugees or poor or underpaid
or trapped in trafficking.**

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**We pray for those whom you have called to be
peacemakers:**

**leaders of governments and business and
nongovernmental organizations;**

**leaders of churches and scholars and scientists
and educators;**

community organizers and citizens and

**all who are privileged to take personal initiatives
in their community and country.**

**Give us strength and courage and faith to trust
Jesus Christ and to be his advocates**

for the good of the creation you are redeeming.

To the glory of the one who redeems us all,

who with you and the Holy Spirit,

we worship now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'Come, O Fount of Every Blessing' #559 VU

Commissioning:

One: Like the woman who ran to share the Good News
of the empty tomb,

All: let us go forth with joy.

One: Like the travellers walking on the Emmaus Road,

All: let us go forth with opened eyes.

One: Like the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit,

All: let us go forth with peace.

One: Like Thomas, filled with doubt,

All: let us go forth with faith.

One: Like fishers pulling heavy nets,

All: let us go forth with abundant life.

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Blessing:

Lord, help us not to dwell too much on the past.
We do not want to hold you to the Galilean hills
and the streets of Jerusalem,
but to know you more and more
as present Lord and Saviour: risen, ascended, and
always present with us through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

***Choral Closing:** *'Take Up His Song'* **#213 MV**

***Take up his song of hope
And go into the world
Take up his song of hope
in every moment.
In every moment of the journey,
We're laying down our lives;
Lay them down in peace,
Lay them down,
And take up his song.***

Organ Postlude:

Church News

This Week at First United – July 23 – July 28

Wednesday	3pm	Closed
Friday	Closed	Summer Hours

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **369**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
20-21 jars of peanut butter per week.

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



free to take one. A container for donations is located with the
publication.

Summer Hours: Starting June 1 until the end of August the church
office hours will be Monday - Thursday, 8-4. Closed 12-1.

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.

First United Church has received a federal government grant to enable us to hire a student for 6 weeks this summer. The job description includes maintenance help, painting, office help and some outdoor help. Applications will be accepted from students, high school or post secondary, who will be returning to full time studies in the fall. Interested applicants can contact Brenda Parrott at PARMOR3@gmail.com or the office for further information or to apply.

Counters needed for August. Sundays offering is usually counted on Monday mornings and takes about 45 min. Experienced or First Time counters welcome. Training provided. Call the office, 546-3532, if interested.

Community Events

Summer Sizzle: Free family fun day!!! BBQ, Cotton Candy, Games, Face Painting. Presentation by Guest Team "King's Castle" July 28, 2018 2-4pm. Coronation Park, Bathurst. (in case of rain, moved to 150 Basin St.) Adults bring lawn chairs.

2 Samuel 7:1-14 New International Version (NIV)

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 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.