

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

August 26, 2018

Minister Rev. Blair Lewis **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Chesley Eddy
Custodian Alan Wilcox

All musical selections reprinted under licence #A-606499, One License for Churches

<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>I Kings 8:22-30, 41-43</i> <i>Psalm 34</i> <i>Ephesians 6:10-20</i> <i>John 6:56-69</i>	<i>Song of Solomon 2:8-13</i> <i>Psalm 15</i> <i>James 1:17-27</i> <i>Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23</i>

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

We welcome Rev. Jean Herman today and thank him for leading our worship service.

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:

You that are righteous,
 be glad and rejoice because of what the Lord has done.
 You that obey him, shout for joy!
Psalm 32:11

**Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:
 Announcements:**

Lighting the Christ Candle: (in unison)

**For it is the God who said,
 "Let light shine out of darkness,"
 who has shone in our hearts
 to give the light of the knowledge
 of the glory of God in the face of Christ.**

2 Corinthians 4:6

Call to Worship: (in unison)

**God hears our cries for help
 and rescues us from all our troubles.
 God is near the broken hearted
 and saves the crushed in spirit.
 God redeems the life of all people,
 none who take refuge in God will be condemned.
 Come, let us worship the one lifts us to new life.**

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Almighty and everlasting One,
 our souls long to understand your words
 of promise and life.
 We search for you and find your grace
 in unexpected places.
 You are peace and calm when we feel rushed.
 You are tenderness and mercy when we are anxious.
 You are light and comfort
 when we are confused or afraid.
 And so we are moved to worship you
 as the one who created us,
 the one who redeems us,
 and the one who points the way for us,
 one God, this day, and forever. Amen**

***Opening Hymn:** *'I Sing the Mighty Power'* **#231 VU**

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)

**Your thoughts are not our thoughts,
your ways are not our ways;
guide us by your word and spirit
so that in hearing the scriptures
our hearts may be converted
so that our thoughts and ways
are greater reflections of yours.**

Scripture Readings:

Pat MacIntosh

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Kings 8: 1,6,10-11, 22-30, 41-43

New Testament Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20

Responsive lesson: Psalm 84 Page 800 VU

Gospel Lesson: John 6:56-69

***Hymn:** *'God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty'* #310 VU
(tune Spiritus Christi)

Message: You have the words that give eternal life

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)

**Accept our offerings of praise
in grateful thanksgiving
for your presence in our lives
and the many blessings you bestow upon us.**

**Consecrate our offering, O God,
that it may become bread
to fill the emptiness
and heal the brokenness
of the lives in this community and beyond.
And may we be reminded
that our real life begins
when we give with generous hearts
to proclaim the gospel in the name of Christ Jesus.
Amen.**

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

**We profess that you are God, O Holy One.
We have no other gods, and yet,
we do not always serve you
with sincerity and faithfulness.
Help us, O God, to find fulfillment in you.
Forgive us that we are skeptical
of love's transforming power.
We repent of our sins
and turn our hearts again to you. 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

Hear and believe the good news;
in Christ we are redeemed and made new.
Be secure in the knowledge that God loves and forgives you;
have the grace to love and forgive others.

Silent Prayer:

Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
for the privilege of prayer.

Let us find our voice as we lift up our prayers:

Lift up your prayers for those who are ill.

Lift up your prayers for those who are afflicted
with poverty, war, injustice, and the pain of loss.

Lift up your prayers for those
who labor to tell the gospel in all the world.

Lift up your prayers for those
who carry the burden of leadership in this church.

Lift up your prayers for the women, men,
and children in your lives.

Lift up your prayers for the deepest desires of your hearts.

Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who hears our prayers. **Amen.**

And now let us bring before God our family prayer...

Our Father...

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

*Closing Hymn: *'Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love'* #593VU

Benediction

May God's blessing be upon you.

May Jesus' love attend to you.

May the Holy Spirit sustain you until we meet again.

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 –Aug. 27 – Sept. 1

Tuesday	9am	Ways & Means – Eddy Rm.
Friday	Closed	Summer Hours

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **437**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
23-24 jars of peanut butter per week.

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



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

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.

Anniversary service: On Sunday, September 9, 2018 we will be
celebrating the 20th anniversary of the opening of our sanctuary.
The guest speaker for our anniversary service will be Rev. Faith
March-MacCuish, the Executive Secretary, who is the chief
executive officer of the United Church of Canada for:
Gaspé Québec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia,
Bermuda, Newfoundland and Labrador. She will be speaking about
the evolving changes in the church across Canada.
Please spread the word to your friends and family about this
upcoming service of celebration.
Lunch to follow service.

When I stand before God at the end of my life,
I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left,
and could say, "I used everything you gave me."

~Erma Bombeck~



Beef BBQ

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

309 St. Patrick Street

5:00 - 6:30 pm

Takeouts available 4:00 - 5:30 pm

\$15. Adults \$6. Children (under 12)

All tickets sold in advance.

*Tickets available at the office 546-3532
or from Ways and Means team members.*

Community Events

Family & Community Breakfast Saturday, September 8, 2018
8:00 – 10:00 am Saint George’s Church Hall, 432 King Avenue

Meal of the Month – Roast Beef Supper
Royal Canadian Legion Sunday, September 9, 2018, 5 p.m.
Tickets - \$15.00 Take-Outs Available. Tickets can be purchased at
the Legion office.

1 Kings 8:1,6,10-11,22-30,41-43 New International Version (NIV)

The Ark Brought to the Temple

8 Then King Solomon summoned into his presence at Jerusalem the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite families, to bring up the ark of the LORD's covenant from Zion, the City of David.

⁶ The priests then brought the ark of the LORD's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

¹⁰ When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the LORD.

¹¹ And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled his temple.

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven

²³ and said: "LORD, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way.

²⁴ You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

²⁵ "Now LORD, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.'

²⁶ And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

²⁷ "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!

²⁸ Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day.

²⁹ May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place.

³⁰ Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

⁴¹ "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name—

⁴² for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple,

⁴³ then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

Ephesians 6:10-20 New International Version (NIV)

The Armor of God

- ¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
- ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.
- ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.
- ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
- ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,
- ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.
- ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.
- ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,
- ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

John 6:56-69 New International Version (NIV)

- ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them.
- ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.
- ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."
- ⁵⁹ He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

- ⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"
- ⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"
- ⁶² Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!
- ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit^[a] and life.
- ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him.
- ⁶⁵ He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."
- ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.
- ⁶⁷ "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.
- ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
- ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."