

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

November 11, 2018

Minister	Rev. Jean Herman	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Shirley Sealy
Custodian	Steve White		Beth Sullivan

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Ruth 3:1-5;4:13-17</i> <i>Psalm 127</i> <i>Hebrews 9:24-28</i> <i>Mark 12:38-44</i>	<i>I Samuel 1:4-20</i> <i>Psalm 16</i> <i>Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25</i> <i>Mark 13:1-8</i>

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

Choral Opening: 'Praise to the Lord' # 835 VU vs1
Praise to the Lord,
all of you, God's servants.
Blessed be the name
of our God now and ever.
From the rising up of the sun
may the Lord be praised,
praise to the name of the Lord!

Welcoming:

Lord, I love the house where you live,
the place where your glory dwells.

Psalm 26:8

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: Send me your light and your faithful care,
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy mountain,
to the place where you dwell.

**All: Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my joy and my delight.
I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.**

Psalm 43:3-4

Call to Worship:

One: What to you bring before the Lord this day?

All: We bring our hopes and our dreams to the Lord

One: What do you seek?

All: We seek peace for our weary souls.

One: You will find it in this place,
for this is the house of the Lord.

**All: Open our hearts and our spirits, O Lord,
to hear your words of comfort and peace. AMEN.**

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Lord, we have come to you this day
bringing all that we have,
our lives, our hopes and dreams,
our fears and sorrows.**

**We place these before you in faith and hope,
knowing that no matter what has happened
you are with us and blessing us.**

**Open our hearts to receive your words and your spirit,
that we may find healing and comfort.**

**Open our lives to the wondrous possibilities
for service and joy that you offer to us.**

**Ease our minds and spirits
that we may hear the words
of encouragement and peace this day. AMEN.**

***Opening Hymn: 'Immortal, Invisible' #264VU**

Children of all ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)

**O God, as we hear your Word today,
let us see, and by seeing, let us understand.
Let your Word, heard in faith, make us well,
that with our eyes opened,
we too might follow your Son. Amen.**

Scripture Readings: Joanne Wiseman

Old Testament Lesson: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Responsive Psalm : Psalm 127 (VU pg. 851)

Gospel Lesson: Mark 12:38-44

***Hymn:** *'Make Me a Channel of Your Peace'* #684 VU

Message: *'The widow offers two small copper coins'*

Anthem: *'When Will People Cease Their Fighting'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Invitation to the offering:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

*We bring our gifts to share,
and lift our grateful prayer
That with our faithful care,
our world will grow.
Through work of minds and hands
in gestures small or grand,
Let willing hearts expand the love You sow.*

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

**Forgiving God,
people give for so many reasons –
guilt, joy, obligation, gratitude, obedience,
hope, control, thankfulness.
Remind us of your call
to examine everything that we have; after all,
our money and possessions are really gifts from you.
You call us to use them wisely –
to share them openly –
to give them generously.
So thank you for this celebration of giving.
Receive this offering and release us
from the foolish temptation to believe
that it is best spent on ourselves. Amen. *Mark 12:38-44***

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

**Gracious God, so often we look at ourselves,
our gifts and our talents,
and wonder what you would do with these offerings.
We don't think that we have much to give.
So, far too many times,
we belittle the gifts and turn our backs
on the needs and opportunities present to serve,
believing that our gifts
cannot possibly make a difference.
We think that we must possess
the greatest of talents and wealth
in order to truly please and serve you.
How foolish we are!
Forgive us when we stop listening
to your healing and comforting words
and focus on our anxieties.
Heal us, Lord.
Help us know that you have given to us
such blessings and that these blessings
are truly wonderful and meant to be used
to joy and service to others.
Help us to bring our lives,
just as they are, to you
and to receive your gentle touch and healing grace.
For we ask this in Jesus' Name. 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:

God has given to each one of us such blessings and talents.
With joy we bring these gifts to God.
You are blessed by God's absolute love for you.
Rejoice in that love and find healing and hope. AMEN.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer: (in unison)

**Lord, you have placed before us your wonderful world,
with its blessings and its difficulties.
You have called us to be peacemakers
and people who will work for you,
offering our lives and our gifts in your service.
But we sometimes hold back from trusting
in these gifts you have given to us.
We wonder if they will be enough to make a difference.
And we become caught in the trap of believing
that only the largest gifts have any worth.
Forgive us when we slide so easily
into our fears of inadequacy.
Each of us has been blessed,
and each is called to be a blessing.
There are no small and insignificant gifts
for God to bless and use.
Free us from our fears of "not enough"
and help us to joyfully place
our hopes, dreams and lives in your care.
As we have lifted up names and situations today,
seeking your healing mercies and comforting power,
help us to feel those same mercies
and comfort active in our lives,
reminding us that your love
is poured out on us so that we may serve.**

**Strengthen and encourage us
as we move forward in ministry,
seeking to be good stewards
of all that you have given us.
For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

And now let us bring before God our family prayer...
Our Father Amen.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** 'I See a New Heaven' #713 VU

Benediction:

You have heard the words of healing and of peace.
You have been blessed by the Spirit of God.
Go now into God's world to be the spirit of hope,
peace and blessing for others,
knowing that God is always with you.
Go in peace. **AMEN.**

***Choral Closing:** 'May God's Sheltering Wings' #214MV
*May God's sheltering wings,
His gathering wings protect you
May God's nurturing arms,
His cradling arms sustain you,
And hold you in his love
And hold you in his love.*

Organ Postlude:

*Lord, bid war's trumpet cease;
Fold the whole earth in peace.
~Oliver Wendell Holmes~*

*THE INQUISITIVE MIND OF A CHILD
A Poem for Remembrance Day*

*Why are they selling poppies, Mummy,
Selling poppies in town today?
The poppies, child, are flowers of love
For the men who marched away.*

*But why have they chosen a poppy, Mummy?
Why not a beautiful rose?
Because my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.*

*But why are the poppies so red, Mummy?
Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child
The blood that our soldiers shed.*

*The heart of the poppy is black, Mummy.
Why does it have to be black?
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief
For the men who never came back.*

*But why Mummy, are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you my child;
For the world is forgetting again.*

Author Unknown

Church News

This Week at First United –Nov 12 - Nov. 17

Monday	Closed	Remembrance Day
Tuesday	6:15	Scouts – DEMH Gym
	7pm	Property Management - RMR
Wednesday	9am – 12pm	TAB - Rooms 1,2 & 3
	9-11am	Badminton
	3pm	Office Closed
	6:30	Choir Practice
Thursday	7pm	Christian Dev. - RMR

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**
 Total to Date **684**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 27-28 jars of peanut butter per week. The Volunteer Center supplies, on average, 500 households monthly.



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



"Bells of Peace" is a project being co-ordinated by The Royal Canadian Legion, Herman J. Good VC Branch # 18 .This project consists of ringing of bells one hundred times at the setting of the sun on November 11, 2018 in honour of Armistice 100. Join with us at the bell tower outside of First United. The bells will start to be rung at 6pm. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. We would like to thank the Mullin family for insuring our bell was able to be rung for this event and Beth Sullivan for providing the refreshments.

Turkey Harvest Supper

*Sponsored by
 Kenny's Trucking LTD.
 and
 Shine House*

(A Division of Stothart Automotive)

Thursday, **November 29, 2018**

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

Adults \$ 15 – Children (12 and under) \$ 6

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Takeouts available 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

All tickets sold in advance.

For information call 546-3532

Members of the Property Management Team are asked to meet in the Ruth Morrison Room on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 7:00 P. M. The purpose of the meeting is to approve a budget for 2019 to be submitted to the Finance Committee for their approval.



Christmas Luncheon, Bake Sale and Craft Sale

Friday, Dec. 7, 2018 Donald Eddy Memorial Hall 11:00 am-1:00 pm
 Lunch is assorted sandwiches, fruit salad and small cakes, coffee/tea.
 Bake table with pies, fudge, preserves, cookies and cakes, jams/jellies
 All benefitting First United Church.

Anyone wishing to donate baking, homemade beans, preserves, tea biscuits etc. for the bake table is asked to bring it to the DEMH on Thursday , Dec. 6 between 9 & 1 or Friday morning prior to the Luncheon.

Team Esperanza will have crafts for sale.
 Christmas Wreaths and Evergreen Baskets will be sold in support of Servants Heart Ministries. Orders will be taken upon request.
 Admission \$10, children (12 & under) \$5 Tickets available from the First United Church office.

Missing Dishes? There are a number of baking dishes and other containers in the Donald Eddy Memorial Hall kitchen that have been left after suppers. If you are missing your, it could be here.

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.

2019 Envelopes: The Contribution Envelopes for 2019 are located in the Narthex. Please insure that envelopes for the correct year are used as individual contribution #'s may have changed.

Community Events

Dinner Theatre 2018 – Politically Incorrect

Mark your calendar for another great adventure at St. Georges Church! We are back! November 21, 23 at 6pm with a full turkey dinner and November 24 at 12 noon featuring a sandwich luncheon. The evening performances are \$30.00 each and the Saturday show is \$20.00. Tickets go on sale in the church Hall on Tuesday, October 16. Tickets are still available for the Wednesday and Saturday performances.

The Anglican Parish of New Bandon is holding their annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale this coming Saturday, November 17 at Christ Church Hall in Clifton. The event runs from 9 AM until 12 noon. Cost is \$5 to enjoy morning coffee/tea, muffins, coffee cake and much more. Hope to see you on Saturday.

The Anglican Parish of New Bandon would like to invite you to join us in worship at 5 PM Christ Church, Clifton. Sunday November 11th for a Service commemorating the 100th armistice. The service will conclude at 6PM with the ringing of the church bell 100 times, **Bells of Peace in collaboration with the Royal Canadian Legion imitative**

RSVP Ministries invites you to our "Annual Silent Auction" Luncheon at House of Lee – Grand Buffet, 315 Main Street, Bathurst on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 \$17.50 from 11:15am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. We will be holding our silent auction, as well as selling baked goods and preserves, the musical group "The Chaleurettes", will bring us lots of fun, and Kate Kristoffel, former elite athlete and owner of Atlantic Stars Academy will tell us a "King Size Love Story".
Reservations and cancellations are necessary before Saturday, November 24. Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or ejgodin@rogers.com or contact Connie at 546-2127. Note: for those who have dietary restrictions, please contact Joanne for the alternate meal.

A "**Spirit of Christmas 2018**" Holiday Show will feature performances by local musicians Rosalind Kennedy – Townsend, Anick Turner, and Dorothy Roy- Nini ; Marc Melanson and the Bandits; Stacy Hickey-Buraglia; Jody Lavigne; Alysa Collins; Derek Knowles; Chad Townsend; Take Note; B.H.S. Choir and Choral Ensemble; Jeff Long; Jocelyne and Marc Hachey; Stephane and Michelle Hebert; Bernie Beaudoin; Eddie Edwards; and the Landry Highland Dancers. The concert will take place at the Gwendolyn Kent Auditorium, Bathurst High School, on Saturday, December 1, (7:00 P.M.) and Sunday, December 2, (2:00 P.M.), 2018. The concert is being held in support of the "Spirit of Christmas" Senior Initiative. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available from participating members, committee members (Gary Branch 546-9208), Tower Jewellers (181 Main Street), and at the door.

*For love of country
they accepted death...
~James A. Garfield~*

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 New International Version (NIV)

Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

³ One day Ruth's mother-in-law Naomi said to her, "My daughter, I must find a home^[a] for you, where you will be well provided for.

² Now Boaz, with whose women you have worked, is a relative of ours. Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor.

³ Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking.

⁴ When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do."

⁵ "I will do whatever you say," Ruth answered.

Naomi Gains a Son

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

¹⁴ The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!

¹⁵ He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him.

¹⁷ The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Mark 12:38-44 New International Version (NIV)

Warning Against the Teachers of the Law

³⁸ As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,

³⁹ and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets.

⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

The Widow's Offering

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.

⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.

⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."