

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

February 3, 2019

Minister	Rev. Jean Herman	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Lois Beaven
Custodian	Steve White		Lester Scott

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Jeremiah 1:4-10</i>	<i>Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)</i>
<i>Psalm 71</i>	<i>Psalm 138</i>
<i>I Corinthians 13:1-13</i>	<i>I Corinthians 15:1-11</i>
<i>Luke 4:21-30</i>	<i>Luke 5:1-11</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: ‘*Arise, Your Light Is Come*’ #79 VU vs. 1
Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit’s call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God,
Which shines on you today.

Welcoming:

⁷We said, “Let us go to the Lord's house;
let us worship before his throne.”

⁸Come to the Temple, Lord, with the Covenant Box,
the symbol of your power, and stay here forever.
(Psalm 132)

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: This light reminds us of Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who is the light of the world and the light in our darkness

All: **Father in heaven, the light of Jesus
has dispersed the darkness of hatred and sin
Accept this candle and let the light of your truth
guide us to your kingdom
Inflame our heart with your grace
Keep us in the radiance of your truth
Fill our heart with your divine love Amen.**

Call to Worship:

One: Love is patient; love is kind; love rejoices in the truth.

All: **God’s love is in all creation.**

One: Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things.

All: **By God’s love, we are daily nurtured.**

One: Love endures all things. Love never ends.

All: **Through God’s love we find salvation.
Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three;
and the greatest of these is love.**

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Almighty and everlasting One,
your power is incomparable, your majesty infinite,
and your love beyond imagination,
you are hidden in mystery, ultimately unknowable,
so other and yet so present.
In a hectic and busy world
you are peace and you are rest.
In a harsh and unforgiving world
you are tenderness and you are mercy.
In a dark and cold world you are light
and you are comfort,
and so we are moved to worship you
as the one who created us,
the one who redeems us,
and the one who guides us, one God,
this day, and always.**

***Opening Hymn:** ‘*Praise to the Lord the Almighty*’ #220VU

Children of all ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)
God of wisdom,
we long to hear your holy Word
in new and fresh ways.
Open our ears to the call of your voice.
Open our eyes to your kingdom.
Open our minds so that we understand your truth.
Amen.

Scripture Readings: Cheryl Brewster
New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Responsive Psalm : Psalm 71:1-6 (p 789 part one VU)
Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:21-30

***Hymn:** 'Love Divine, All Love's Excelling' # 333 VU
(Tune Blaenwern VU 389)

Message: "Love"

Anthem: 'I, the Lord of Sea and Sky'

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Invitation to the offering:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:
*Praise God with songs that never cease,
Praise God who fills the earth with peace.
Praise God for love and joy within,
The Holy Child is born again*

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)
Nurturing God,
You remind us that faith without love is meaningless.
We present these gifts with love.
We rejoice in our ability to share.
May this moment of giving warm our hearts
and stir our souls so that we remember to act
consistently out of love in the name of Jesus.
In His name, we pray. Amen

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)
You do not desire for us
to live in darkness or in sinful exile;
you call us to liberation through confession,
so out of desire to be free
we confess to you our sin.
God of loving kindness,
we know the truth that your love is infinite
and ours is so often narrow and conditional.
We focus on ourselves
and seek to receive love
rather than to give it,
to be served rather than serve,
to be forgiven but not forgive.
Create in us clean hearts,
forgive who we have been,
help us accept and give forgiveness,
and let us be at peace with you and one another.
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:
The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is God's love;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far has God removed our sins from us.

Silent Prayer:

Reflecive Music:

Pastoral Prayer: (in unison)

**Your love is patient
and we give you thanks
for all those who have been patient with us
and have taught and cared for us;
and we pray for the patience to love others
as you have loved us.
Your love is kind;
give us the courage to be kind to others
and to serve those with patience
who are so often unkind, rude,
difficult to love, or our enemies.
They are your children
and our sisters and brothers
and they were made in your image.
Your love does not seek its own interests
and we thank you and pray for those
who serve the poor and those in need,
who give tirelessly of themselves
and who have much to do
and little time for themselves.
Your love is not quick-tempered;
we pray for those who are angry
and for the violent and their victims;
for children who fear,
elders who are abused,
and people trapped in relationships
that injure and harm.
Your love bears all things;
we remember before you
those with heavy burdens,
many cares, much stress,
and too little comfort and help.
Open our eyes
to those around us and their needs
and give us the wisdom to offer help
without any prying or sense of superiority.
And now we pray together
in the words that Jesus taught; Our Father...**

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:**

'I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me' #575 VU

Benediction:

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself,
and God our Father,
who loved us and gave us eternal comfort
and good hope through grace,
comfort your hearts and establish them
in every good work and word.

Amen

(2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

***Choral Closing:** *'I Am Walking a Path of Peace'* #221MV

***I am walking a path with heart
I am walking a path with heart
I am walking a path with heart
lead me home, lead me home.***

Organ Postlude:

*There is no surprise more magical
than the surprise of being loved.
It is God's finger on man's shoulder.
~Charles Morgan~*

Church News

This Week at First United –Feb. 4 – Feb. 9

Monday	9am	Ways & Means – Eddy Rm
	9-11am	Badminton
	6:15	Beavers Rms 1,2 & 3
Tuesday	6:15	Cubs & Scouts – DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9-11am	Badminton
	9-12am	TAB
	3pm	Office Closed
	6:30	Choir Practice
Friday		Valentine Luncheon

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2019 **900**

Total Collected **75**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 17-18 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.

Receipts: The 2018 income tax receipts are in the Narthex.

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.

UCW would like to thank all who volunteer to help in any way with the receptions that are held. Without your willingness to bake and work at these functions they would not be able to continue this service.



Valentine Luncheon

&

Bake sale

Sponsored by Catherine & Company and Elm Tree Resources

Friday, February 8, 2019 (Storm Date: Feb. 9, 2019)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm \$12.00/person

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

Tickets available at the church office (546-3532)

Anyone wishing to volunteer on the day of the Luncheon please call the church office or Brenda Parrott (545-7425). Donations of baking would also be appreciated for the Sale Table.

Thank you to Cheryl & Dave Brewster, Debrah & Rick Watling and Beth & Bob Sullivan for being our greeters and to Shirley Allain and Pat Brown for being the counters for the month of January.

*Spread the foundation
of love everywhere,
so that it grows up
through the cracks in hatred.
~Terri Guillemets~*

Community Events

Family & Community Breakfast

Saturday, February 9, 2018

8:00 – 10:00 am

Saint George's Church Hall

432 King Avenue

The Bathurst Volunteer Centre is looking for volunteer(s) to deliver hot meals to 7 clients in the Bathurst downtown area on Wednesdays. For more information, call Michel or Mireille at 549-5955.

*A joyful heart
is the inevitable result
of a heart burning with love.
~Mother Teresa~*

1 Corinthians 13 New International Version (NIV)

13 If I speak in the tongues^[a] of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,^[b] but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part,

¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.

¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Luke 4:21-30 New International Version (NIV)

²¹ He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"

²⁴ "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

²⁵ I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land.

²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon.

²⁷ And there were many in Israel with leprosy^[a] in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this.

²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff.

³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.