

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

May 5, 2019

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Edie & Peter Gammon
Custodian Steve White

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
<i>Acts 9:1-20</i> <i>Psalm 30</i> <i>Revelation 5:11-14</i> <i>John 21:1-19</i>	<i>Acts 9:36-43</i> <i>Psalm 23</i> <i>Revelation 7:9-17</i> <i>John 10:22-30</i>

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

We welcome Linda Knowles-MacPherson and thank her for leading our music today.

GATHERING

MUSICAL PRELUDE

***CHORAL OPENING** – “This Is the Day” – MV #122

***This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!
This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu!
We will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu!
We will rejoice and be glad!***

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

In Christ’s communion, there are seekers and believers, wonderers and wanderers, people of certainty, and people of uncertainty—
people on Christ’s Way.

In Christ’s communion, there are Marthas and Marys, Peters and Thomases, disciples of every kind—
people on Christ’s Way.

...Many hopes and dreams and doubts.

Christ’s communion. People on Christ’s Way!

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** –

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” – VU #326

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)

Holy One, the stories we tell ourselves, the history we recount, the images we create, the songs we sing, commonly remind us that we’ve been and are living in accordance with your will.

**Some have taught that your will
is mirrored in our success
and by defending our way of living
we are fulfilling your purpose.**

But, every now and then, we hear a voice that unsettles our certainties with the simple question, “Why do you persecute me?”

**Whose voice is this?
Who are those we persecute?**

**Could it be the voice of Creation:
the trees, oceans, rivers, animals,
and all living things that depend on the vitality of Earth,
and the water and air we breathe?**

...Could it be the millions of refugees, those excluded from global prosperity, those who suffer discrimination’s assault on dignity and life?

**Holy One, remove the scales from our eyes
that we might see with clarity,
be transformed by your grace,
letting our witness join with all who recognize
the time of turning that we so badly need
and to which we’re called.**

Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE – “How Deep the Peace” – MV #95

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose hearts are healed.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** (responsively)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (with children of all ages)

***SINGING A SONG** – “Just as I Am” – VU #508

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Chesley Eddy

Epistle: Acts 9:1-20

Gospel: John 21:1-19

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ANTHEM: “Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS GATHERED

(in support of the ministry and mission of the church)

***CHORAL RESPONSE** –

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” – VU #541

*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.*

***OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

You break bread, Holy One, and we recognize you.

You are the fire that burns within us.

Use us and these gifts, we pray, to light the world.

Amen.

SHARING OUR CONCERNS –

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” – VU #400

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

send us love, send us power, send us grace!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

Holy One, sometimes, we have been a people without sight, blind to injustice, blind to suffering, unable to recognize our own complicity.

You invite us to get up, promising our sight will be restored.

...We hunger for justice.

You tell us to come and eat, the meal is ready.

Our hunger will be filled.

Sometimes—we’re a people known by your name, but uncertain of what that actually means for how we’re to live.

You call us to “feed my sheep”

with the same abundant love you offer us.

In this turning point in our lives, your transforming grace is at work shaping us into a new people.

Light of the World,

help us live as witnesses

to your resurrection abundance,

feeding all who hunger with your love and grace.

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #921 (in unison)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” – VU #703

***BLESSING** (responsively)

...Never underestimate the power we've been given as witnesses to the Spirit's transforming love.

Our vision has been restored. We will live as instruments of God's peace, love, and justice.

...The Spirit's at work among us and through us.

We journey with confidence in the risen Christ.

Amen.

***CHORAL SENDING FORTH** – “As We Go into the Future”

[Tune Promise VU #703]

*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!*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*May the holes in your net
be no larger
than the fish in it.
~Irish Blessing*

Church News

This Week at First United –May 6 – May 11

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	1:30	UCW – Eddy Rm
	6:15pm	Beavers – Rms 1,2 &3
Tuesday	6:15	Cubs & Scouts – DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9-11am	Badminton
	9-noon	TAB
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	1:30pm	Pastoral Care Team - RMR

The family of Bertram Demmings dedicates today's bulletin in recognition of Bert's centenarian birthday. May he be abundantly blessed with good health and happiness today, tomorrow and the days to come.

*"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.
He causes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
for His name's sake."*

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2019 **900**

Total Collected **309**

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 May and June are in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with the publication.

The Ways and Means Sub-Team would like to express our sincere thanks to the congregation of First United Church for your continued support of our many meals. We are inviting you to attend a FREE lunch in the DEM Hall today, following the church service. We will serve you turkey soup, tea biscuits, cupcakes, and tea or coffee.

Thank You to all who supported the Sunrise Breakfast held on April 28th \$ 2100.00 was raised. Thanks to all the volunteers who make these events possible. Be sure to mark your calendar for our next Ways and Means event, the Beef BBQ, to be held on Sept. 26, 2019.

Save the Date!

**Gospel Hymn Sing at First United Church
Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 2pm**



Come join us for a relaxed time of gospel music, old favorites and some new. You will have a chance to sing along to some gospel favorites, or just sit back and enjoy!

Special guests will include Emma Vickers, Kurt Hadley, Alysa Collins, Take Note and The Treble Makers.

If you are interested in joining the choir for this event, we'd love to have you! Practices will start May 8 at 6:30pm for 4 weeks. The more the merrier and it's a great chance to try out a choir seat!

Admission is adults \$10, youth \$5.

Flowers for Mother's Day. We will be having flowers placed in our sanctuary in honor of Mother's day. Those wishing to contribute to the Mother's Day flower fund may place an envelope in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Please mark clearly on the face of the envelope – Mother's Day Flowers with your name, PAR or envelope number. Donations can also be dropped in at the office. An insert will be included in the bulletin on Mother's Day, May 12th with your dedications. Please have your dedications in by Monday, May 6th.

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.

Chicken Salad Takeout

Friday, May 31, 2019
Donald Eddy Memorial Hall
Adults \$12 - Children (12 & under) \$6
Pick-up times

11:30am-1pm & 4-5:30pm

For tickets call 546-3532

Sponsored by Colin Brewster
of Assante Wealth Management



Community Events

Formal Evening

Black & White Event

3 Course Meal

Danny`s Inn and Conference Center

Saturday, May 18 2019

Doors open at 5:30 / Evening starts at 6:00

Small testimony by Albert Cyr, Psychologist

Dance to follow with Highway 11 Band

All profits to go to the Mental Health Association

Come and enjoy a beautiful evening with us

For tickets \$49 / each

Julie Spence – 547-2949 / Joanne Wiseman – 546-3690

Family & Community Breakfast Saturday, May 11, 2019 8:00 – 10:00 am Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

Central United Clifton. The fundraising committee will be having a plant sale on Saturday June 8 from 9-1 in the Central United church hall in Clifton. Plant donations can be brought to the hall on Friday the 7th at 6pm. If you have any questions please contact Pat Scott @ [546-3819](tel:546-3819)

Evening of musical entertainment

Kitchen Party Style. Saturday May 25, 7 pm

Christ Church Hall Route 11, Clifton

Variety of entertainers Free will offering with all proceeds to support the children's summer program "Camp on the Road"

RSVP Ministries invites you to our "Be Healthy" Luncheon at House of Lee – Grand Buffet, 315 Main Street, Bathurst on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, cost \$18.50, from 11:15am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. Marie-France Losier, Registered Dietitian with Sobey's will present "The New Canadian Food Guide", Karen & Jim Chamberlain and Alvin Pitre will entertain us with their musical selections, and Pat Donkin, retired court reporter with the Nova Scotia Justice System will tell us about being "All Dressed Up and Going Nowhere".

Reservations and cancellations are necessary. Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or ejgodin@bellaliant.net or contact Connie at 546-2127. Note: for those who have dietary restrictions, please contact Joanne for the alternate meal.

Bathurst Heritage Museum Come and help us celebrate the First Annual Jessica Ryan Day at the Bathurst Heritage Museum! On this day, Jessie's birthdate, we will honour her life and legacy with a musical celebration featuring The Treble Makers and a voluntary donation fundraiser for the Museum – one of Jessie's crowning achievements and of which she was Founding President. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 10, 7:00 to 9:00 PM. For further information contact Charles Ramsey, Vice-President Bathurst Heritage Trust Commission. (506) 440-6243

The Anglican Parish of New Bandon will be holding their annual Lobster Supper on Saturday June 1, 2019. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12.50 for children 12 and under. Sitting are at 4:30 pm and 6 pm, takeouts also available. Only 400 tickets will be sold- 200 eat in and 200 take out For tickets, or for more information, please contact Norma Ellis 546-9638, Elaine Good 546-2970, Kay Addison 350-0960 , Lorna Veneau 546-2948 or Mitzi Whelton 546-4969. Thank you.

*I love fishing.
You put that line in the water
and you don't know
what's on the other end.
Your imagination is under there.
~Robert Altman~*

Bathurst Chamber Music Festival

May 16, 2019 at 7pm (The Point Church) – Tintamarre Ensemble

ClassikFest Chaleur is proud to host the premiere performance of Tutta Musica Orchestra's newest chamber group, Tintamarre Ensemble. The program will feature Mozart's magnificent quintet for clarinet and strings, as well as composer-in-residence, Jason Noble's Bathurst Suite.

May 17, 2019 at 8pm (Studio2 – 18yrs and older) – Symphonic Distortion

Back by popular demand, ClassikFest Chaleur and Studio 2 present, Symphonic Distortion. This concert will venture outside the realms of the classical literature, and fuses the distorted sounds of heavy metal, classic rock and punk, with the instruments of the orchestra. The program will feature music by Metallica, Apocalyptica, Led Zeppelin, Radiohead, and other familiar hits that you know and love. Classical music lovers and metalheads alike will truly appreciate what this concert has to offer.

May 18, 2019 at 7pm (Heritage Museum) – East Coast Brass

ClassikFest Chaleur is excited to welcome Tutta Musica Orchestra's East Coast Brass to Bathurst, in their presentation of "Dancing through the Ages". The program will feature Renaissance dance, swing dance and DiLorenzo's 'Fire Dance', as well as a world premiere performance of Jason Noble's Danse Interplanétaire.

May 19, 2019 at 2pm (RHSJ Chapel) – Scandinavian Soundscapes

To close the festival, the musicians of ClassikFest Chaleur will take you on a northern adventure in Scandinavian Soundscapes. The program crosses over several genres, including classical, ambience, experimental, and pop. The program will feature music by Grieg, Stravinsky, and Olafur Arnalds, as well as a world premiere performance of 'Seven Beginnings' a work for chamber orchestra by Jason Noble.

Acts 9:1-20 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Conversion of Saul

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest

² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.

⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."

¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,

¹² and he has seen in a vision^[a] a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."

¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem;

¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;

¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul^[b] and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,

¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul Preaches in Damascus

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,

²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

John 21:1-19 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.

² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,^[a] Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.

³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No."

⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.

⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards^[b] off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."

¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn.

¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Jesus and Peter

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go."

¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."