

*The United Church of Canada*  
*Bathurst Pastoral Charge*  
**First United Church, Bathurst**  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

**October 27, 2019**

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Neal Palmer	<b>Organist</b>	Martha Vickers
<b>Office Adm.</b>	Isabel Clouston	<b>Greeters</b>	Elna Scott
<b>Custodian</b>	Steve White		Shirley Sealy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Joel 2:23-32</i> <i>Psalm 65</i> <i>II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</i> <i>Luke 18:9-14</i>	<i>Habakkuk 1:1-4, 11-12</i> <i>Psalm 119</i> <i>II Thessalonians 1;1-4, 11-12</i> <i>Luke 20:27-38</i>

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

*We welcome Rev. Austin Jagoe and the Men's choir today and thank them for leading our service.*

**GATHERING**

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER**

**WELCOME** (including our friends worshipping by CD)

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CENTRING FOR WORSHIP** - "Gather Us In" – MV #7

*Gather us in, ground us in you.*  
*Gather us in, ground us in you.*  
*Gather us in, gather us in,*  
*ground us, ground us in you.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

One: From the routine of work and school, home and play,  
**All: we have come to worship God.**  
 One: with the weight of the world,  
 its politics and violence, heavy on our hearts,

**All: we come to worship God.**  
 One: in the midst of our fears and our hopes,  
**All: we trust in God's power and presence,**  
**and offer our prayer and our praise in Jesus' name.**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION/ADORATION/APPROACH**

(in unison)

**Creating God.**

**The mountains you raised  
 reflect your strength and majesty.  
 The gateways of the morning and the evening  
 frame the day with your light and joy  
 Hills and valleys,  
 trees colored with autumn glory  
 all sing of your ingenuity and care,  
 You have created the whole universe  
 and yet you visit the humble earth,  
 You alone are worthy of our praise.  
 You alone are our hope.  
 You alone are the bearer of salvation, Creator,  
 Redeemer and Sustainer of life, so we praise you,  
 joining our voices to the voices of all your creation.  
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** – "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind" VU #234

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION/HEALING** (responsively)

One: We occupy such a small place in God's vast creation,  
 yet we trust God cares about each one of us.  
 Seeking God's kindness and compassion,  
 we confess together:

**All: Merciful God.**  
**You created human beings  
 a little lower than the angels  
 and gave us the gifts of intelligence  
 and imagination.  
 Yet we confess we often use these gifts  
 against one another,  
 and for the purpose of exploiting your creation.  
 So many times we think  
 that we are great when we are small.**

**Or claim smallness  
when you have given us great potential.  
We confess that we convince ourselves  
that our sin is not nearly as great as others.  
And yet, every sin offends your goodness.  
So we seek your forgiveness  
and pray you will grant us better self-awareness.**

(silent confession)

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**One:** Friends in Christ, those who confess their sin find that,  
in such acknowledgement there is freedom and healing.  
For God is gracious.  
Christ law promised that those who humble themselves  
will be exalted.

Hear and believe the good news:

**All: In Christ we are forgiven.**

### **CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;  
Grace, grace, God's grace,  
Grace that is greater than all our sin.*

**\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (responsively)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**SHARING A STORY** (with children of all ages)

**\*SINGING A SONG** –

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

*ENGAGING*

### **PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING**

**One:** God of all truth, when we think that life all figured out,  
use your Word as a mirror  
so that we can see our own foolishness.

**All: when we think we are beyond forgiveness,  
offer your Word as a reflection of your love  
and the possibilities you offer us  
through Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Joel 2:23-32*

*Luke 18:9-14*

Joanne Wiseman

**\*HYMN** - "Amazing Grace" VU #266

### **REFLECTION**

### **MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**ANTHEM** – "Just As I Am"

*RESPONDING*

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

### **THE OFFERING IS GATHERED**

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

**\*OFFERING HYMN**

*Praise God whose joy within us flows.  
Praise to the One whose blessings flow.  
Lift up your voice in songs of praise.  
Let grateful thanks shape all your days.*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

### **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**

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

GOING OUT (as God's people)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\***CLOSING HYMN** – “We Plough the Fields” VU #520

\***BLESSING**

\***GOING FORTH** – “May the God of Peace” – MV #224

*May the God of peace and of all good,  
may the God of peace and of all good  
be always with you. Amen!  
May God's peace be with you. Amen!*

**POSTLUDE**

*What gives me the most hope  
every day is God's grace;  
knowing that his grace  
is going to give me the strength  
for whatever I face,  
knowing that nothing  
is a surprise to God.  
Rick Warren*

**Church News**

**This Week at First United –Oct. 28 – Nov.2**

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	6:15	Beaver Scouts – Rms 1,2 &3
Tuesday	6:30	Cub Scouts - DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9 – 11:30	TAB
	9-11am	Badminton
	6:30pm	Choir Practice

The flowers in our sanctuary and bulletin today  
have been placed  
***in loving memory of Betty Lavigne***  
by Judy & Macky

\*\*\*

The bulletin has been placed  
***in loving memory of Edgar McLean***  
by Byron and Marion

**Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre**

Commitment December 31, 2019 **900**  
Total Collected **733**  
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.



**Children's Choir!**

Do you like to sing? Come and join us for 20 minutes immediately  
after Sunday morning worship!  
When: starting Sunday, October 27 **TODAY**  
Where: Choir Room  
Who: youth ages 3 and up



## **Turkey Harvest Supper**

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



*(A Division of Stothart Automotive)*

Thursday, **November 28, 2019**

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

**The Upper Room** for November and December are in the Narthex. Please feel 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.

**The Hospitality and Friendship Committee** is looking for a chairperson and also people to help with coffee time after Sunday's services. If you are able to help in either of these positions please contact Rick Watling at 548-9361

### **Annual Remembrance Service**

Each year, on the Sunday immediately prior to Remembrance Day, we honour our war veterans as well as those who lost their lives in war. Our Remembrance Service will be held Sunday, November 10. Those wishing to place memorial crosses in the sanctuary are reminded to contact the Legion office directly by November 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Community Events

**St. George's Anglican Church** is hosting their **2019 DINNER THEATRE – "Politically Incorrect – The Redemption"** on **Nov. 20th, 22nd and 23rd**. Wednesday, Nov. 20th and Friday, November 22nd – A full Turkey Dinner is featured. Performance starts at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$ 30.00 each Saturday, November 23rd is a Sandwich Luncheon at 12:00 noon. Tickets are \$ 20.00 Tickets go on sale on **Tuesday, Oct. 22nd at 10:00 am** at St. George's Church Hall. For more information please call Mary Wolfe at 546-2602 or the Church Office (Elizabeth) at 546-3225.

**Dominican Mission Team:** November 2<sup>nd</sup> 5pmn. Old Fashioned Turkey Dinner, hosted at Evangel Pentecostal Church, 150 Basin Street. Tickets \$12. Assorted desserts will be auctioned. Limited takeout meals available \$14 with dessert included. For tickets call Glen or Joyce @ 546-3764. No tickets sold at the door. All proceeds support Dominican Mission Team.

### **Family & Community Breakfast**

Saturday, November 9, 2019 8:00 – 10:00 am  
Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

**St. Luke's Presbyterian Church** will be hosting its annual "All Things Christmas Bazaar and Soup and Biscuit Luncheon" on Saturday, November 2, 2019 from 9:00 am. Home-made soup, including traditional Canadian and Armenian soups and biscuits. Purchase your Christmas reading material and "new to you" Christmas decorations. There will be some baked goods as well. Free admission although free will offerings are greatly appreciated to support the mission work of the Atlantic Mission Society.

**The Point Church** – Bathurst Site would like to invite you to our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Dessert Auction to be held on Friday, November 8 at 7:00pm at 780 O'Neil avenue. The purpose of this auction is to raise funds to build a house for a family in the Dominican Republic. The mission team is going to the Dominican in March of 2020 and all proceeds of this fundraiser will go toward the purchase of needed supplies.

**Change for Change** Team Esperanza, a local mission team, supports Servant's Heart Ministries (SHM), a registered Canadian charity, that extends outreach to the poor of the Dominican Republic & Haiti. An upcoming project "Change for Change" involves participants saving change in baby bottle banks from October 20<sup>th</sup> to Nov 9<sup>th</sup> with all proceeds designated in support of their Pregnancy Education Center. Donors of \$10 or more may receive a receipt. *Your support will provide the necessary education & resources to save lives! For more information or to request a bank, please contact **Marie Oliver @ 548-3493 or Helen Knowles @ 546-9563.** Gracias!*

*You have received  
the glorious gift of grace -  
unearned, undeserved favor.  
No one and no set of circumstances  
can strip you of this lavish gift.  
You belong to Me forever!  
Nothing in all creation  
will be able to separate you from My Love.  
Sarah Young, Walking in God's Grace*

## **Joel 2:23-32 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)**

<sup>23</sup> People of Zion, be glad.

Be joyful because of what the LORD your God has done.  
He has given you the right amount of rain in the fall.  
That's because he is faithful.

He has sent you plenty of showers.  
He has sent fall and spring rains alike,  
just as he did before.

<sup>24</sup> Your threshing floors will be covered with grain.  
Olive oil and fresh wine will spill over  
from the places where they are stored.

<sup>25</sup> The LORD says,

"I sent a great army of locusts to attack you.  
They included common locusts, giant locusts,  
young locusts and other locusts.  
I will make up for the years  
they ate your crops.

<sup>26</sup> You will have plenty to eat.  
It will satisfy you completely.  
Then you will praise me.  
I am the LORD your God.  
I have done wonderful things for you.  
My people will never again be put to shame.

<sup>27</sup> You will know that I am with you in Israel.  
I am the LORD your God.  
There is no other God.  
So my people will never again be put to shame.

## **The Day of the LORD Is Coming**

<sup>28</sup> "After that, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.  
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.  
Your old men will have dreams.  
Your young men will have visions.

<sup>29</sup> In those days I will pour out my Spirit  
on those who serve me, men and women alike.

<sup>30</sup> I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth.  
There will be blood and fire and clouds of smoke.

<sup>31</sup> The sun will become dark.  
The moon will turn red like blood.  
It will happen before the great and terrible day of the LORD  
comes.

<sup>32</sup> Everyone who calls out to me will be saved.  
On Mount Zion and in Jerusalem  
some of my people will be left alive.  
I have chosen them.  
That is what I have promised.

## **Luke 18:9-14 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)**

### **The Story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector**

<sup>9</sup> Jesus told a story to some people who were sure they were right  
with God. They looked down on everyone else.

<sup>10</sup> He said to them, "Two men went up to the temple to pray. One  
was a Pharisee. The other was a tax collector.

<sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed. 'God, I thank you that  
I am not like other people,' he said. 'I am not like robbers or those  
who do other evil things. I am not like those who commit adultery. I  
am not even like this tax collector.

<sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week. And I give a tenth of all I get.'

<sup>13</sup> "But the tax collector stood farther away than the Pharisee. He  
would not even look up to heaven. He brought his hand to his heart  
and prayed. He said, 'God, have mercy on me. I am a sinner.'

<sup>14</sup> "I tell you, the tax collector went home accepted by God. But not  
the Pharisee. All those who lift themselves up will be made humble.  
And those who make themselves humble will be lifted up."