

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

January 12, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Cheryl & Dave Brewster
Custodian Steve White

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
<i>Isaiah 42:1-9</i> <i>Psalm 29</i> <i>Acts 10:34-43</i> <i>Matthew 3:13-17</i>	<i>Isaiah 49:1-7</i> <i>Psalm 40:1-11</i> <i>Corinthians 1:1-9</i> <i>John 1:29-42</i>

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

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP –

“Come Touch Our Hearts” – MV #12 (Verse 2)

***Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;
create a space for spirit to grow in us,
let life and beauty fill us, come touch and bless our souls.***

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

We come as your children, from our native lands far and wide,
from different families and lives.

We come to the Living Waters and find a home.

We come across oceans of loneliness, sailing seas of anxiety.

We come to the Living Waters and find peace.

We come through fearful storms, through deep lakes of loss.

We come to the Living Waters and find love.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “Called by Earth and Sky” – MV #135

Refrain

*Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.*

Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean’s dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

Refrain

Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation’s faithful song.

Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.

Refrain

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)

...Help us, we pray, to be vulnerable—
to the waters of your grace.

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION –

“And When You Call for Me” – MV #96

***And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.***

***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** – “Take Up His Song” – MV #213
Take up his song of peace and go into world.
Take up his song of peace in ev’ry moment.
In ev’ry moment of the journey,
we’re laying down our lives;
lay them down, in peace,
lay them down,
and take up his song.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 42:1-9
Matthew 3:13-17

Anne Brooks

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ANTHEM – “I Have Called You by Your Name”

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS GATHERED

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

***OFFERING HYMN**

*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.*

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***OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**Holy One,
as people made new by waters of your Spirit,
we come to you as children.
Accept these gifts,
the humble yet holy work of our hands,
the humble yet holy value of our lives,
and the humble yet holy trust of our hearts.
Fill us, we pray, to the brim,
as you would an earthen vessel,
and then keep pouring,
so that our lives will overflow with love.
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)

...we come to the waters of faith.

We come to you.

...We come to the waters of mercy.

We come to you.

...We come to the waters of joy.

We come to you.

...We come to the waters of love.

We come to you.

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN – "Behold a Light"

(Tune St. Thomas #715 VU)

Behold a light shall shine,
just as it did before,
a light to share with us the dream
of peace forevermore.

Behold a light shall shine,
a sign of joy for all,
may it reveal a future clear
for all who hear God's call.

Behold a light shall shine,
through gifts that we now share,
God sends us forth, preparing us
to serve, to help, to care.

Behold a light shall shine
to guide us on this day
Illuminate, O God, our paths,
disclose to us Christ's way.

Behold a light shall shine,
despair shall be no more,
our mission is to show Christ's love,
so hope may be restored.

(pg. 85 2009-2010 Christmas / Epiphany Gathering)

*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

This Week at First United –Jan. 13 – Jan. 18

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

Bulletin today has been placed
in loving memory of

Glendon Hatheway

by Michael, Jane, Marilyn and families

Our Mother, Edith Payne

by Peggy, Dawson, Laurie & Trudy

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2020 **900**

Total Collected **43**

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



Roast Pork Dinner

First United Church
309 St. Patrick Street

Thursday, January 30, 2020

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Takeouts available 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

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

All tickets sold in advance

Tickets available from Ways and Means team members
and at the church office

Sponsored by Kent and White Insurance

The Upper Room for January and February 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.

Profession of Faith Chats

Do you have questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, the United Church of Canada, etc.? Things you'd like to discuss in a safe setting?

Are you interested in being baptized, confirmed, transferring your membership to First United, reaffirming your faith and/or simply introducing or reintroducing yourself to the United Church of Canada?

If so, we can make it happen. Please let the church office and/or Rev. Neal know as soon as possible and we'll look at getting something going in the new year. Sessions like this, generally, run for 6-8 weeks, but please know—that can and will be negotiated within the group itself.

Looking forward to it... :o)

Thank You: The Community Outreach team would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Benevolence Program this year. With your generous support \$1555.00 was raised to help those in our congregation who are in need and the Volunteer Center with their programs for the year. The Peanut Butter goal was reached for 2019. 900 units were given to the Volunteer Center throughout the year.

The wisest one-word sentence?

Breathe.

~Terri Guillemets~

Isaiah 42:1-9 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

The LORD's Chosen Servant

42 "Here is my servant. I take good care of him.
I have chosen him. I am very pleased with him.
I will put my Spirit on him.
He will bring justice to the nations.

² He will not shout or cry out.
He will not raise his voice in the streets.

³ He will not break a bent twig.
He will not put out a dimly burning flame.
He will be faithful and make everything right.

⁴ He will not grow weak or lose hope.
He will not give up until he brings justice to the earth.
The islands will put their hope in his teaching."

⁵ God created the heavens and stretches them out.
The LORD spreads out the earth with everything that grows on it.
He gives breath to its people.
He gives life to those who walk on it.
He says to his servant,

⁶ "I, the LORD, have chosen you to do what is right.
I will take hold of your hand.
I will keep you safe.
You will put into effect my covenant with the people of Israel.
And you will be a light for the Gentiles.

⁷ You will open eyes that can't see.
You will set prisoners free.
Those who sit in darkness will come out of their cells.

⁸ "I am the LORD. That is my name!
I will not let any other god share my glory.
I will not let statues of gods share my praise.

⁹ What I said would happen has taken place.
Now I announce new things to you.
Before they even begin to happen,
I announce them to you."

Matthew 3:13-17 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

Jesus Is Baptized

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River. He wanted to be baptized by John.

¹⁴ But John tried to stop him. So he told Jesus, "I need to be baptized by you. So why do you come to me?"

¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Let it be this way for now. It is right for us to do this. It carries out God's holy plan." Then John agreed.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened. Jesus saw the Spirit of God coming down on him like a dove.

¹⁷ A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him."