

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

**February 16, 2020**

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Neal Palmer	<b>Organist</b>	Martha Vickers
<b>Office Adm.</b>	Isabel Clouston	<b>Greeters</b>	Lois Beaven
<b>Custodian</b>	Steve White		Peter Gammon

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</i>	<i>Exodus 24:12-18</i>
<i>Psalm 119:1-8</i>	<i>Psalm 2</i>
<i>I Corinthians 3:1-9</i>	<i>2 Peter 1:16-21</i>
<i>Matthew 5:21-37</i>	<i>Matthew 17:1-9</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** - "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!***

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively)

For those who are tired,  
**may this sacred space be a place of rest.**

For those who are hurting,  
**may this holy place be a place of healing.**

For those who are seeking answers to difficult questions,  
**may this be a place where questions are welcomed and wise and caring discussion shared.**

We come for different reasons;  
**we come from different places.**

Here, we're all embraced by the same Spirit.

**In that Spirit, let's begin.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** – "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You" – VU #232

**PRAYER OF HUMILITY** (responsively)

...Excuse us, Holy One,  
**for the times we've allowed our doubts to claim our attention, when our hearts have been closed to your love.**

**WORDS OF AFFIRMATION** –

"Take, O Take Me as I Am" – MV #85  
***Take, O take me as I am;  
summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart  
and live in me, in me.***

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

**\*SINGING A SONG** – "I'm Gonna Shout, Shout" – MV #183

I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!  
I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for God's most holy child!  
For whatever I might do today,  
At home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for Jesus, for Jesus!  
I'm gonna raise , raise , raise up my hands for God's most holy child!  
For whatever I might do today,  
At home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna dance, dance, dance all around for Jesus, for Jesus!  
I'm gonna dance, dance, dance all around for God's most holy child.  
For whatever I might do today,  
At home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna stomp, stomp, stomp on the floor for Jesus, for Jesus!  
I'm gonna stomp, stomp, stomp on the floor for God's most holy child.  
For whatever I might do today,  
At home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 5:21-37

*Isabel MacLaggan*

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**ANTHEM** – “Three Things I Promise”

*RESPONDING*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**THE OFFERING IS GATHERED** (in support of the ministry and mission of the church)

**\*OFFERING HYMN** – “For the Gift of Creation” – VU #538

***For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.***

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

**We are here, Holy One.**

**We choose life.**

**We choose to be instruments of your love,  
beacons of hope and healing,  
and ushers of peace in a sometimes hurting world.  
When we're afraid, lonely or tired,  
we choose rest and renewal.**

**Create in us, we pray,  
cycles of life and seasons of healing.**

**When we're rested and renewed,  
we dedicate ourselves to the service of your love,  
sharing our light with all those in need.**

**Amen.**

*COMMUNING*

**\*COMMUNION HYMN** – “We Come to the Hungry Feast”

We come to the hungry feast,  
hungry for the word of peace.  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied  
the love of God is not denied.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast,  
hungry for a world released  
from hungry folk of every kind  
the poor in body, poor in mind.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast,  
hungry that the hunger cease,  
and knowing, though we eat our fill,  
the hunger will stay with us; still  
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

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

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## INSTRUCTIONS

### INVITATION

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (responsively)

God is with us!

**We are not alone.**

Christ is present here.

**The Spirit is among us.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**in memory and in hope.**

...For all your goodness, we give you thanks; and together we lift our voices to sing:

**"Holy, Holy, Holy"** – MV #203 (sung in unison)

***O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.***

***All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.***

***Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.***

***And blessed is the One who comes***

***and bears your name always!***

...By this bread and cup, Holy One, we remember Christ, and share in the mystery of your being, your bliss, and your purpose.

**"Great Amen"** – MV #205 (sung in unison)

***Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!***

***Amen, amen, O Holy One, Hosanna and Amen!***

Friends, we remember Jesus:

**On Good Friday he died. On Easter he rose again. Today—he lives forever.**

**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.**

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

Jesus Christ, the True Vine.

*Congregational Response – "Amen" or "Thanks be to God"*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (in unison)

**Holy One,**

**may your gifts of love transform and enliven us**

**that we may live lives of thanksgiving.**

**May your presence among us**

**provoke such longing**

**that we'll never be satisfied**

**until the whole earth knows**

**your justice, your peace, and your love.**

**Amen.**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*CLOSING HYMN** – "I Feel the Winds of God" – VU #625

**\*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



# Church News

## This Week at First United –Feb. 17 – Feb. 22

Monday	Office Closed	Family Day
Tuesday	6:30	Cub Scouts DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9-11am	Badminton
	9-11:30	TAB – Rms 1,2 &3
	6:30	Choir Practice
Thursday	2pm	Profession of Faith Chats - Eddy Rm.
Friday	1:30	Games Afternoon - DEMH

The bulletin today has been placed  
*in loving memory of*

**Gordon and Ethel Vance**  
by the Family

\*\*\*

**Rod Scott**  
by Elna, Beth, Barry and families

### Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2020 **900**

Total Collected **125**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 16-17 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.

**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.

**Receipts:** The 2019 income tax receipts are in the Narthex.



**Sunday School** starts today for the Spring season and will run until April 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be no Sunday School held on March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Community Outreach:** .Due to the increased demand on the grocery supply in our food pantry over the Christmas season we find our shelves are getting bare. Donations of non-perishable items as well as items for personal hygiene would be welcomed.

**Lost and Found:** There have been a number of items accumulating over the last while. Please check the box in the Narthex if you are missing anything. Keys, glasses, jewelry, umbrella ect. If you are missing something you might be able to find it there.



### *Sunrise Breakfast*

(pancakes, sausages, baked beans, scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee & tea)

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

8:30 a.m. to noon

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

\$10.00 adults - \$3.00 children

Sponsored by  
Bayside Automotive Group

**2020 Schedule for  
First United Church Events  
Hosted by Ways and Means Sub-Team**

Sunday, February 23	Sunrise Breakfast
Thursday, March 26	Ham and Scallop
Sunday, April 26	Sunrise Breakfast
Thursday, October 1	Beef BBQ
Thursday, November 26	Turkey Supper

**All dates and events are subject to change**

**World Day of Prayer**... Friday, March 6, 2020. The Holy Family CWL, the WDP local committee and the Women of WDP Zimbabwe committee are delighted to invite you to an Ecumenical Worship Service of peace, love and reconciliation at 3:00pm on Friday, March 6, at Holy Family Church. A brief summary of Life in Zimbabwe will be presented by participating women. Following the service refreshments will be served.

*I don't care how poor a man is;  
if he has family,  
he's rich.*

~Dan Wilcox and Thad Mumford-MASH~

## Announcements from Council

1. Our AGM will be held **TODAY** February 16, 2020 following the church service. We hope you will be able to attend.
2. We have regretfully received notification that our office administrator will be retiring effective the end of June this year. If you might be interested in this position or would like further information, please contact Wayne Lord. 548-8411
3. Rev. Roger Janes, Regional Council Minister for Stewardship will be doing a workshop at First United on Saturday, April 25, 2020 for the former Miramichi Presbytery area. Volunteers are needed to assist with the planning and suggestions are welcome as to what the focus of the workshop will be. Some possibilities might be:
  - setting up a congregational stewardship program
  - legacy giving,
  - how to encourage more PAR givers
  - creating a culture of stewardship in our churches
  - talking money from the pulpit

If you would like to attend this workshop, if you have specific areas you would like to see addressed or if you are able to help with the planning of the workshop please contact:  
Charlene Maguire MacKnight at 506-773-9932 or  
[chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:chathamstauc@nb.aibn.com)

4. **Intermediates at Conference** is looking for facilitators for Conference 2020! This is youth event for grades 7-9, that is only made possible by our incredible volunteers. If you have a passion for youth, and are looking for a way to give back to the youth in our church, we would love for you to join our team! Facilitators need to be at least 18 years old by the start of conference, and be available from May 21-24, 2020. If you might be interested in being a facilitator, please contact the church office for an application form.

## 5. Youth Forum is looking for facilitators for 2020!

Youth Forum is a youth event for grades 9 to age 19, that is only made possible by our incredible volunteers. If you have a passion for youth, and are looking for a way to give back to the youth in our church, we would love for you to join our team! Facilitators need to be at least 21 years old and be available April 15th for a training day and from May 21-24, 2020 for the main event! If you might be interested in being a facilitator, please contact the church office for an application form.

## *Community Events*

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 4:30 – 6:00 pm  
Saint George's Anglican Church Hall 432 King Avenue  
Tickets available at the door - \$ 7.00 (Adults),  
\$ 4.00 (children 12 and under) & \$ 15.00 (Family)  
Take-outs available

**Sun Feb 16 – Sat Feb 22 Heritage Week** at the Bathurst Heritage Museum—a week-long series of events celebrating “Bringing the Past into the Future”—plays, concerts, presentations, and a Vintage Hat Tea Party! Come explore and be entertained—no charge—free-will offering only. It's a perfect time to join or renew your annual membership for just \$10. For program details, check [bathurstheritage.ca](http://bathurstheritage.ca) or the Heritage Museum's Facebook site. The Treble Makers will be playing a variety of music at the Heritage Museum on Thursday evening, Feb 20th, from 7-9 PM.

An afternoon of **country gospel and Irish music** will be held at Central United Feb23 at 2pm...Free will offering Come and join us and sing along...

## Matthew 5:21-37 New International Version (NIV)

### Murder

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder,'<sup>[a]</sup> and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.'<sup>22</sup> But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister<sup>[b][c]</sup> will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,'<sup>[d]</sup> is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you,<sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

<sup>25</sup> "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.<sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

### Adultery

<sup>27</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'<sup>[e]</sup><sup>28</sup> But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.<sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.<sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

### Divorce

<sup>31</sup> "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.'<sup>[f]</sup><sup>32</sup> But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

### Oaths

<sup>33</sup> "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.'<sup>34</sup> But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne;<sup>35</sup> or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.<sup>36</sup> And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black.<sup>37</sup> All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.<sup>[g]</sup>