

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

February 23, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Lois Beaven
Custodian Steve White Lester Scott

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
<i>Exodus 24:12-18</i> <i>Psalm 2</i> <i>2 Peter 1:16-21</i> <i>Matthew 17:1-9</i>	<i>Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7</i> <i>Psalm 32</i> <i>Romans 5:12-19</i> <i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>

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

We welcome the Men's Choir who, along with Martha, will be leading today's music.

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)
Jesus went to the mountain and was changed. Transformed.
But change is hard for us.
We are called, though, to change our lives.
But change is hard for us.
We are called, though, to change our hearts.
But change is hard for us.
We are called, though, to change our thinking.
But change is hard for us.
Open our lives, Holy One, our hearts, and our thinking.
Open us, to your loving changes.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – "How Good, Lord, to Be Here" – VU #103

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)
...In those times, we pray, please excuse our lack of trust and our tendency to remain fixed in our ways.
Embolden us, to follow your lead.

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.*

***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 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 READINGS

Exodus 24:12-18
Matthew 17:1-9

Sherry Mitton

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ANTHEM – "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

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** – "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)

**Spirit God,
when we fail to notice your great panoramas
and ignore your works of art all around us,
help us encounter the Holy that's right in front of us.
May these gifts, both large and small,
be transformed into hope and courage—
for all those who could use some.
Amen.**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS –

"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands" - MV #173 (Verse 5)

***Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands;
the Peace that sought and found you.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “O Christ, in Thee My Soul” – VU #630

***BLESSING** (responsively)
...The light of God is shining—
let us dare to follow.
...The voice of God is calling—
let us dare to follow.

***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

*Where man sees but withered leaves,
God sees sweet flowers growing.
~Albert Laighton~*

This Week at First United –Feb. 24 – Feb. 29

Monday	9-11am	Badminton 9-11am
Tuesday	6:30	Cub Scouts DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9am	Ways and Means – Eddy Rm
	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

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2020 **900**
Total Collected **138**

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.

Thank You: The “Friends of First United” team would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway with the Valentine Luncheon. Approximately \$2800.00 was raised. A special thank you to our sponsors, Catherine & Company and Elm Tree Resources LTD.

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)

TODAY, February 23, 2020

8:30 a.m. to noon

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

\$10.00 adults - \$3.00 children

Sponsored by
Bayside Automotive Group

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.

A new CD titled "Sounds from the Bay" featuring a variety of music has recently been recorded by Linda Knowles MacPherson and Donald Eddy. A copy may be obtained at the church office with a donation to the Ministry of Music at First United Church.

Announcements from Council

1. 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
2. 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

3. **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.
4. **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.

*“If you see your brother in need,
it doesn't matter
if you already gave somewhere else.
You should be open
to the idea of God using you
to meet your brother's unexpected need.”*
— Andy Stanley

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

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...

Family & Community Breakfast

Saturday, March 14, 2020 8:00 – 10:00 am

Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

*Sometimes you just need to be open
to the universe's alternate plans for you.*

~Terri Guillemets~

Exodus 24:12-18 New International Version (NIV)

¹² The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

¹³ Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God.

¹⁴ He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

¹⁵ When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it,

¹⁶ and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud.

¹⁷ To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain.

¹⁸ Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17:1-9 New International Version (NIV)

The Transfiguration

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified.

⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid."

⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."