

*The United Church of Canada  
Bathurst Pastoral Charge  
First United Church, Bathurst*

[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

May 31, 2020

**Minister** Rev. Neal Palmer      **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Isabel Clouston      **Greeters**  
**Custodian** Steve White

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<u>Lectionary for Today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Acts 2:1-21	Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 104:24-34. 35b	Psalm 8
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 20:19-23	Matthew 28:16-20

*GATHERING*

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER**

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

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

*(Birthday candles for the celebration of Pentecost are lit.)*

**CENTERING 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)

Sing to our God a new song!

**Let every generation sing praise!**

Let our voices give praise beyond words and ages and cultures!

**May our words and deeds blend in harmony,  
giving voice to the Spirit who moves among us!**

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**GATHERING PRAYER**

**GATHERING HYMN** – "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" - VU #375

Refrain:

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness.

Blow thro' the wilderness, calling and free.

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness.

Wind, Wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep,  
And over the eons you called to each thing,  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

Refrain:

You swept thro' the dessert, you stung with the sand,  
And you goaded your people with a law and a land,  
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
Then You spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still,  
And down in the city you called once again  
When you blew thro' your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain:

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
With bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain:

**PRAYER OF HUMILITY** (*responsively*)

We confess, Holy One,

that we struggle sometimes to understand one another.

**Open us to the presence of your Spirit.**

We confess that we have a hard time, sometimes, hearing  
experiences that don't match ours.

**Open us to the presence of your Spirit.**

We confess, that sometimes, we're confined by our words.

**Open us to the presence of your Spirit.**

-2-

We confess, that sometimes, we try to confine your spirit within our words, our experiences.

**Open us to the presence of your Spirit.**

...Teach us to see you, to hear you, to feel you beyond our human experiences and understanding.

**Open us to the presence of your Spirit.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE** – “Jesus, You Fill Our Hearts” - MV #101

*Jesus, you fill our hearts with your love,  
Our minds with your peace,  
And our lives with your joy.*

**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’ve Got Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy”

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
Down in my heart, Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart,  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the peace that passeth understanding,  
Down in my heart, Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart  
I've got the peace that passeth understanding,  
Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart to stay.

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,  
Down in my heart, Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart,  
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,  
Down in my heart,  
Down in my heart to stay.

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Acts 2:1-18

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Jini Palmer*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**Holy One,  
on this day of Pentecost,  
we rededicate ourselves to service.  
May we always honour you  
with our words and our actions.  
May all that we are and all that we do  
show forth the abiding presence of your Spirit, and always.  
Amen**

**SHARING OUR CONCERNS** – “Jesus, Remember Me” - VU 148

*Jesus, remember me  
When you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me  
When you come in to your kingdom.*

**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.**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN** – “I Feel the Winds of God” - VU #625

I feel the winds of God today;  
Today my sail I lift,  
Though heavy oft with drenching spray  
And torn with many a rift;  
If hope but light the water's crest,  
And Christ my bark will use,  
I'll seek the seas at His behest,  
And brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries  
My vain regretful tears,  
Until with braver thoughts shall rise  
The purer, brighter years;  
If cast on shores of selfish ease  
Or pleasure I should be,  
O let me feel your freshening breeze,  
And I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love  
and how that love was shown,  
Lift high the blood-red flag above;  
It bears your name alone.  
Great pilot of my onward way,  
You will not let me drift.  
I feel the winds of God today,  
Today my sail I lift.

## **BLESSING**

**CHORAL SENDING FORTH** – “When You Go From This Place”

*When you go from this place be true.*

*May blessing of life find you.*

*May the winds of the Spirit guide you,*

*'cross the ocean of all your days.*

*May the seeds of your love your life adorn the Way.*

*Adorn the Way.*

*Adorn the Way.*

*Adorn the Way.*

*(Birthday candles for the celebration of Pentecost are extinguished.)*

*Each good deed  
strengthens our angel wings.*

*~Terri Guillemets~*

## Announcements

The Bathurst Volunteer Centre depends on the generosity of members of the congregation of First United Church to supply it with 900 jars of peanut butter yearly. Because of the restrictions put in place regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, our donations have dropped off considerably. It is our feeling that those who want to continue donating peanut butter during this time can best do it by making out a cheque to the Bathurst Volunteer Centre and sending it directly to the centre at 464 King Avenue, Bathurst, NB, E2A 1P5. It should be clearly marked First United Church Peanut Butter in the lower left corner so that the peanut butter purchased by the centre can be credited to the church. The need is real. The Volunteer Center would like to thank all those for their continued support of the Peanut Butter Program. A number of cheques have been received by them for the purchase of peanut butter on behalf our church family.

**Summer Hours:** Starting June 1 until the end of August the church office hours will be Monday - Thursday, 8-4. Closed 12-1.

*Let no one ever come to you  
without leaving better and happier.  
~Mother Teresa~*

## **1 Corinthians 12:3-13 New Revised Standard Version**

<sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

### **One Body with Many Members**

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

## **Acts 2:1-18 New Revised Standard Version**

### **The Coming of the Holy Spirit**

<sup>2</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was

bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

### **Peter Addresses the Crowd**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.