

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

July 12, 2020

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

All musical selections reprinted under license #4-606499, Onelicense for Churches

<u>Lectionary for Today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Genesis 25:19-34	Genesis 28:10-9a
Psalms 119: 105-112	Psalms 139: 1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:1-11	Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (responsively)

(The Christ Candle is lit.)

This candle dances with the presence of the Spirit,
**reminding us of the warmth of the community
in which we're called to gather,**
and the light that shines for us
with wisdom, insight, and clarity.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP - "There Is Room for All" – MV #62

***There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.
And I rejoice and sing,
"My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."
There is room for all, there is room for all!***

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

We bring our hopes and fears, our struggles and our lives just as they are, into the presence of one who leaves the doors and futures open to gracious possibilities.

The Word lights the path before us.

May this time of worship empower us to make faithful choices.

The Word lights the path before us.

May this time of worship renew and restore our relationships with the Holy and with one another.

The Word lights the path before us.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN – "Open My eyes, That I May See" – VU #371

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Refrain
*Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!*

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Refrain

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Refrain

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)

Holy One,
for hatred between peoples, for violence among nations,
for breakdowns in civility, we pray (Moment of silence)

Why, Holy One, does it have to be this way? What choices of ours could bring change? (Moment of silence)

For estrangement within families, for tension among neighbours,
we pray (Moment of silence)

Why, Holy One, does it have to be this way? What choices of ours could bring change? (Moment of silence)

For divisions in the Christian church, for conflict within our
community, we pray (Moment of silence)

Why, Holy One, does it have to be this way? What choices of ours could bring change? (Moment of silence)

For our inner struggles with inflated egos, or deflated self-worth,
we pray (Moment of silence)

Why, Holy One, does it have to be this way? What choices of ours could bring change? (Moment of silence)

CHORAL RESPONSE – “Listen, God Is Calling” – MV #97

*Listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness,
comfort and 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)

Matthew 13:3-5

SINGING A SONG – “Jesus Loves Me” – VU #365

Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to Him belong,
in his love we shall be strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, this I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, “Let them come to me.”
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today,
walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give
light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 25:19-34

Bev Murphy

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC - “His Eye Is On The Sparrow” *Emma Vickers*

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

**Holy One,
may these gifts we freely offer
be without expectation for anything in return.
And may the work of these gifts,
this day and every day, be blessed.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS – “I Am the Dream” – MV #106 (Vs 1)

I am the dream and you the dreamer.

I am the song and you are the rhyme.

You are the tune sung in ev'ry silence.

You are the now in the endless stream of time.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

We pray, Holy One, for families, those with whom we are drawn together by birth, by marriage, or by adoption.

May they receive love and care from you and from us as well.

We pray for our friends and neighbours, those with whom we are drawn together by common places of work or learning, by common aspirations and values.

**Strengthen the ties between us,
and may we find in these relationships the freedom,
companionship and community
that nurture both us and the world around us.**

We pray for our fellow citizens, those with whom we are drawn together by birthplace and nation, by regional ties and societal traditions.

**Fashion these bonds so as to insure
the relationships and ideals we claim are paid more
than just lip-service,
so that who we are and have been
never closes us to who we may yet become.**

We pray for those who are part of this community and the whole Christian Church, those with whom we are drawn together by a common faith and uncommon grace.

**May we thrive in ministry,
may we expand in mission,
may we deepen in spirituality,
and may we grow closer to one another and you.**

We pray for those who are fashioned in your image, with whom we are drawn together in one family.

**Free us to recognize the stranger as no stranger,
but sister and brother;
and to see the joy and need of any
as the cause for rejoicing and compassion.**

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.

GOING OUT (as God's people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN – “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” – VU #644

I was there to hear your borning cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized,

to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,

with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off

to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word,

I was there to cheer you on;

you were raised to praise the living Lord,

to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time

and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme

from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,

not too old, no longer young.

I'll be there to guide you through the night,

complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

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.***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

Church News

The bulletin is dedicated
in loving memory of Cleveland Jagoe
by Alice and Family.

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

Matthew 13:3-5 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.

Genesis 25:19-34 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Birth and Youth of Esau and Jacob

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?"^[a] So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ And the LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger."

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob.^[b] Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Esau Sells His Birthright

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.^[c])

³¹ Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." ³² Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³ Jacob said, "Swear to me first."^[d] So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.