

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

August 16th, 2020

Minister Helen Knowles **Music Director** Linda Knowles
 MacPherson
Office Adm. Christina Doucet **Greeters**
Custodian

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We express our appreciation to: Helen Knowles, Linda Knowles MacPherson, Kurt Hadley, Donald Eddy, Bev Murphy, Anne-Marie Hocquard, and Julia Henry for being involved in the production of our service today.

<u>Lectionary for Today</u> Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2a,29-32 Matthew 15:(10-20),21-28	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20
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GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP – Come and Find the Quiet Centre”

VU #374 (Verse 1)

**Come and find the quiet centre,
 In the crowded life we lead.
 Find the room for hope to enter,
 find the frame where we are freed.
 Clear the chaos and the clutter,
 clear our eyes that we can see
 all the things that really matter,
 Be at peace, and simply be.**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE & CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Christ candle reminds us
 that Jesus is God’s gift of love to us.

**All: And that in Him, the light of love
 triumphs over any darkness in our lives.**

One: We come to give thanks for the Spirit that draws us together.

**All: For the fresh breezes of summer, the rain that nourishes
 new growth, the warmth of the sun;**

One: For holidays & holy days, for friends & family, for a world at
 play;

**All: And for the faith that reminds us of the precious quality
 of life, we give You thanks.**

One: We celebrate the presence of God in all things.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN – “We Praise You, O God” – VU #218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator
 in grateful devotion our tribute we bring
 We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you,
 We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
 Through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
 When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,
 But faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer
 And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
 To you, our great redeemer, forever we praise!

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE "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.

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 – "Jesus, Friend of Little Children" – VU #340

Jesus, friend of little children, let me be one too;
Take my hand, and ever keep me close to you.

Teach me how to grow in goodness, daily as I grow.
You have been a child, and surely you must know.

Never leave me, nor forsake me; ever be my friend;
For I need you, from life's dawning to its end.

ENGAGING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 23

Romans 8: 31-32, 35, 37-39

REFLECTION "Pandemic Pondering"

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC "The Prayer"

Bev Murphy

Kurt Hadley

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

SHARING OUR CONCERNS "I am the Dream" MV#106

I am the dream and you the dreamer.
I am the song and you are the rhyme.
You are the tune sung in every silence.
You are the now in the endless stream of time.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

-4-

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go,
From the old things to the new,
Keep me traveling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
Keep me traveling along with you.

Round the corner of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn,
All the new things that I see you'll be
looking at along with me:
And it's from the old I travel to the new
keep me traveling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
Keep me traveling the way I should,
Where I see no way to go you'll be
Telling me the way, I know :
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me traveling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me traveling along with you;
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me traveling along with you

BLESSING

CHORAL SENDING 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!

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.) - 5-

Church News

The bulletin today is dedicated

***In loving memory of Bryan Keehn, Marion & Ralph Anderson
and Carol Woods***

By the family.

Announcements:

- It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Douglas Ronalds of Salmon Beach on August 9th, 2020. He was the father of Clinton Ronalds and brother of Gayle Ferron. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
- Rev. Austin Jagoe will be replacing for the services on August 23rd and August 30th. Helen Knowles will be replacing on September 6th.
- A friendly reminder that on Tuesday, August 25th the office will be closed for the day on that day only.
- In case of an emergency contact Rev. Blair Lewis at (350-1022) until August 16th. From August 17th, until September 8th, contact Rev. Sue White at (546-4817).

Peanut Butter Update: To date, 265 jars have been collected and \$760.00 towards the purchase of Peanut Butter has been given to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Peanut butter can be dropped off at the church office anytime during business hours; cheques can be delivered or mailed to the Bathurst Volunteer Center at 464 King Ave. Bathurst NB E2A 1P5. Please indicate on your cheque that it is for the purchase of Peanut Butter for the First United contribution.

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

Trinity Cemetery: For your convenience, there has been a hand pump installed on the well at Trinity Cemetery. You will find this located close to the utility shed.

Psalm 23
The Divine Shepherd
A Psalm of David

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

my whole life long.^l

God's Love in Christ Jesus

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.