

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

September 20th, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer
Office Adm. Christina Doucet
Custodian

Music Director Martha Vickers
Greeters

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

<u>Lectionary for Today</u> Joel 1:8-10, 17-20 Psalm 18:6-19 Romans 8:18-27 Matthew 20:1-16	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17 Psalm 104:27-33 Revelation 22:1-5 Matthew 21:23-32
---	---

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP-“Praise to the Lord” - VU #835 (Vs. 1)

*Praise to the Lord, all of you, God’s servants.
Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.
From the rising up of the sun—may the Lord be praised,
praise to the name of the Lord!*

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN – “God who gives to life its goodness, VU 260”

God who gives to life its goodness,
God creator of all joy,
God who gives to us our freedom,
God who blesses tool and toy:
Teach us now to laugh and praise you,
Deep within your praises sing,
Till the whole creation dances
For the goodness of its King.

God who fills the earth with beauty,
God who binds each Friday to friend,
God who names us co-creators
God who wills that chaos end:
Grant us now creative spirits,
Minds responsive to your mind,
Hearts and wills your rule extending
All our acts by Love refined.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE – “And When You Call for Me” – MV #96

And when you call for me,

I have already answered.

And when you call for me,

I am already there.

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 20:9-12

SINGING A SONG – “God of the sparrow”- VU 229

God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Bev Murphy

Joel 1:8-10, 17-20

Romans 8:18-27

Mark 1:9-13

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

We are called, Holy One, to step out beyond our homes and to see the world, to be adventurers who meditate on the vastness of the universe.

Bless us and the gifts we bring, Holy One, to your vibrant, diverse world of life. We're all, after all, on a lifelong journey to the very heart of your presence.

Amen

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

***Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into 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 – “It moves in creation”

It moves in creation and flows through our lives,
The Spirit that joins us, the vision that thrives.
A yearning for justice, a questing for peace
Reveal God's reflection, when hope is increased.

Refrain

**For God has many faces, far more than we can see,
And where we meet the sacred, we touch eternity.**

The earth is our garden to tend and sustain;
A gift to be treasured, a sacred domain.
For we are God's children, the daughters and sons,
Whose work is to nurture, what God has begun.

Refrain

The hungry, the desperate, the grieving, the lost,
Show God's face in suffering and bearing its cost.
Yet we are connected, a part of the whole
And what harms the lowest, on all takes a toll.

Refrain

A gesture of kindness or loving embrace,
A world of encouragement offered with grace
Our patient endurance or comforting deed,
Are quietly holy and soulfully feed.

Refrain

Words and Music A. Baer, 2010. Arr: S. Porter
Gathering Pentecost 2 2014. Used with permission.

BLESSING

CHORAL SENDING FORTH – “May God's Sheltering Wings” – MV
#214

May God's sheltering wings, his gathering wings protect you.

May God's nurturing arms, his cradling arms sustain you,

and hold you in his love,

and hold you in his love.

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

Church News

In Loving Memory Of Bill McCallum

By Dorothy Ann, Bonnie, Jonathan & Derek

Peanut Butter Update To date, 317 jars have been collected and \$885.00 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.

Community announcements:

"Help Lesotho" Calendars

The Anglophone School District – North has been sponsoring "Help Lesotho" since 2006 as part of its global awareness initiative. As a fund raiser where all of the money raised goes to help finance its work with orphans, vulnerable children, and grandmothers in Lesotho, Africa; "Help Lesotho" has 2021 calendars for sale at a cost of \$15.00. You are invited to support this initiative with your donation. Gary Branch (546-9208)

(egbranch@rogers.com) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 13, 2020. Payment can be made in advance by cash or cheque or when the calendars are delivered in November. Cheques are to be made payable to "Help Lesotho".

"The Anglican Parish of New Bandon is again making apple pies and apple crisps for sale on October 3, 2020. Pies are 9" in diameter, and crisps are 8" x 8", at a cost of \$8 each. Orders must be received in advance by Wednesday, September 30, 2020. To order, please call Mitzi Whelton at 545-0298 or by email at Mitzi.whelton@gmail.com OR Nancy Hodnett at 545-5263 or by email at jnjb@nbnet.nb.ca. Pick up will be on October 3 from noon until 2 pm at Christ Church Hall."

Announcements:

It is that time of year for those of you who are subscribed with Broadview Magazine to renew your subscription, the order will sent out by September 25th, 2020.

Joel 1:8-10

⁸Lament like a virgin dressed in sackcloth
for the husband of her youth.

⁹The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off
from the house of the LORD.

The priests mourn,
the ministers of the LORD.

¹⁰The fields are devastated,
the ground mourns;
for the grain is destroyed,
the wine dries up,
the oil fails.

Joel 1:17-20

¹⁷The seed shrivels under the clods,
the storehouses are desolate;
the granaries are ruined
because the grain has failed.

¹⁸How the animals groan!
The herds of cattle wander about
because there is no pasture for them;
even the flocks of sheep are dazed.

¹⁹To you, O LORD, I cry.
For fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness,
and flames have burned
all the trees of the field.

²⁰Even the wild animals cry to you
because the watercourses are dried up,
and fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness.

Romans 8:18-27

Future Glory

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Mark 1:9-13

The Baptism of Jesus

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Temptation of Jesus

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him