

The United Church of Canada  
Bathurst Pastoral Charge  
First United Church, Bathurst  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer  
Office Adm. Christina Doucet  
Custodian

Music Director Martha Vickers  
Greeters

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<u>Lectionary for Today</u> Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17 Psalm 104:27-33 Revelation 22:1-5 Matthew 21:23-32	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b-14 & Matthew 21:33-46
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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** – "Called by Earth and Sky" – MV #135

**Refrain**

***Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
this is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
Called by earth and sky.  
Called by earth and sky  
Called by earth and sky.***

Precious these waters, endless seas,  
deep ocean's dreams, waters of healing,  
rivers of rain, the was of love again.

**Refrain**

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;  
wind born and free. Breath of the spirit,  
blow through this place,  
our gathering and our grace.

Precious these mountains,  
ancient sands, vast fragile land.  
Seeds of our wakening,  
rooted and strong, Creation's faithful song.

**Refrain**

Precious the fire that lights our way,  
bright dawning day.  
fire of passion, sorrows undone,  
our faith and justice one.

**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)

**SINGING A SONG** – “We Praise You for the Sun” – VU #225

**We praise you for the sun**

We praise you for the sun ,  
the golden shining sun,  
that gives us healing, strength and joy;  
we praise you for the sun.

We praise you for the rain,  
the softly falling rain,  
that gives us healing strength and joy;  
we praise for for the rain.

We praise you for your love,  
your patient, endless love,  
that gives us healing strength, and joy;  
we praise you for your love.

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Bev Murphy*

Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17

Revelation 22:1-5

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Bev Murphy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**We give thanks, Holy One, for your never-ending promise to care for and to sustain creation.**

**Help us, we pray, to live into that promise of new life, each and every day.**

**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 (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** – “All Beautiful the March of Days” – VU #530

All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and go,  
the hand that shaped the rose, has wrought the crystal of the snow,  
has sent the silvery frost of heaven, The flowing waters sealed,  
and laid a silent loveliness, On hill and wood field.

O'er white expanses sparkling pure the radiant morns unfold,  
the solemn splendors of the night burn brighter through the cold,  
life mounts in every throbbing, vein, love deepens round the hearth.  
and clearer sounds the angel hymn, good will to all on earth.

O God, from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty flows,  
yourself the vision passing by in crystal and in rose,  
day unto day declare thro speech, and night to night proclaim  
in ever changing words of light the wonder of your name.

## **BLESSING**

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

***May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.***

***May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you,***

***and hold you in her love,***

***and hold you in her love.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

## **Church News**

**Peanut Butter Update** To date, 324 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](mailto: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”.

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## **Announcements:**

- Exciting News: We are planning to begin in-person worship services next Sunday, October 4.  
If you plan to attend the service, please call the church office at 546-3532 no later than Wednesday, and give Christina the name(s) and phone number(s) for yourself and anyone in your bubble who will be sitting with you.  
A seating plan will be pre-arranged based on the required physical distancing rules. As seating capacity will be much less than usual, please call the office if your plans change and you are unable to attend.  
On-line services will continue, most likely delayed, as the in-person service will be recorded and then uploaded to the church website and Facebook page.
- Fall is here and Thanksgiving is just around the corner, with that being said, we are looking for decoration donations to match the fall and Thanksgiving theme. You can drop this off at the Church from Monday to Friday 8-4PM closed 12-1 each day. Thank you!
- We have heard that some of you are not receiving our weekly talk-mail message. Should such be the case, please contact the office and we will do our best to resolve this. Thank you!

## **Genesis 8:20-22**

### **God's Promise to Noah**

<sup>20</sup>Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

<sup>21</sup>And when the LORD smelled the pleasing odor, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

<sup>22</sup>As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

## **Genesis 9:12-17**

<sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

## **Revelation 22:1-5**

### **The River of Life**

<sup>22</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.