

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

July 11, 2010
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Clergy	Rev. Blair Lewis	Organists	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston		Joseph MacDonald
Custodian	Alan Wilcox	Greeters	Chelsey Eddy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Amos 7:7-17</i> <i>Psalm 82</i> <i>Colossians 1:1-14</i> <i>Luke 10:25-37</i>	<i>Amos 8:1-12</i> <i>Psalm 15</i> <i>Colossians 1:15-28</i> <i>Luke 10:38-42</i>

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where the congregation is invited to stand as able.*

Organ Prelude:

***Choral Opening:** 'Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness' #375 VU
Spirit, Spirit of gentleness
Blow thro' the wilderness
Calling and free
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
Stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

Welcoming:

One: O come let us sing to God;
All: let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.
 One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
All: let us joyously shout to God with songs of praise.
Psalm 95:1,2

Welcoming One Another:
Welcoming Friends Worshipping by Tape/CD:
Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, You are with us,
All: Like light spilling through dappled trees, You are with us.
 One: Like wind rippling through curtained windows, You are with us.
All: Like water ever smoothing the sandy beach, You are with us.
 One: We are embraced by your presence,
All: We open our hearts to you.
 One: As we light the Christ candle we are encouraged by your love.
All: We release our thoughts to you, and we are intrigued by your mysteries, as we search for your way for our lives.

Call to Worship: (in unison)

One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,
All: inviting us to worship.
 One: God's Spirit calls to our spirits,
All: inviting us by love.
 One: Gods Spirit calls to our spirits,
All: Calling us by name
Calling us to grow in faith,
Calling us to be made new.
 One: We come to worship in this summer season of the Spirit.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

Glorious God, we come together as your people.
We come as a praising people, singing your goodness;
We come as a praying people, bringing our needs, our joys;
We come as a listening people, open to your Word.
Fill us with your love and empower us for faithful living,
we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty' #220 VU

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)

As we hear the reading from scripture may the sweep of this day be steadied by the power of your presence. Infectious grace, persistent love, outrageous vision; may your Spirit guide us, until an iridescence grows within making our course with peaceful certainty. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Amos 7:7-14

***Responsive Psalm:** Psalm 82 #799 VU

New Testament Reading: Luke 10:25-37

Hymn: *'I've Got Peace Like a River'* #577 VU

Message: "A vision of a Plumb Line"

Anthem:

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

***Choral Response:**

'Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow' #541 VU
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low,
Give thanks to God in love made known,
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

***Prayer of Dedication:** (in unison)

Remember the words of Jesus who said: "Freely you have received, freely give."

Matthew 10:8b

With joy, we present offerings of commitment and support for the work of Christ's church.

Let us give, as we are able, according to the blessings God has given each of us. Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

One: Compassionate One, hear our prayer: stretch out your hand in healing love.

All: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew your Spirit within us.

Gracious God, we offer up to you the words we've said in anger or when feeling spiteful or hurt, lies we've told that we thought didn't matter or that we could "get away with."

We offer up the sins of our minds. Holy God, we offer up to you thoughts we've had that "cut down" others or show a lack of respect for ourselves.

We search for freedom to offer up the sins of our hearts.

Merciful God, we offer up to you the times our hearts were bitter and we refused to forgive, or when we were sad and refused to be comforted, or when we were hardened to others and didn't share love.

We offer up the sins of our hands.

Loving God, we offer up to you the times we used our hands to do things that brought harm to others, to the earth or to ourselves, the times we were not kind.

We take the sins of our mouths and our minds, our hearts and our hands and release them to the heart of God. Amen.

Choral Response: *'How Deep the Peace'* #95 MV

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
Of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence
Of those whose hearts are healed.*

Words of Assurance: (in unison)

God through faith we know that You will transform us, pure and clean as the dove of the Holy Spirit, for we are beloved. This is the Good News of the Gospel. Thanks be to God.

Reflective Music:

Silent Prayer:

Pastoral Prayer:

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again will I say rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:4-6

All: We call to mind our concerns and commitments, and join our prayers for peace and well being to the prayers of the whole church as they are offered this day for the whole world.

Let us pray:

We remember the people we know who are in trouble, and pray for healing and happiness for all.

We seek God's encouragement:

For honest trade and just commerce;

For medicine and education;

For the gifts and aptitudes in every person which serve justice in community living.

We pray for peace on earth;

For the generous sharing of the earth's resources and the responsible sharing of the earth's problems;

For understanding of others and willingness to regard the diversity of human culture as more stimulating than threatening;

For the turning of swords into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks.

We pray for the church, by all its names and in all its places;

For its continuing usefulness as a channel of grace and hope;

For its rescue from bureaucracy and stagnation;

For its witness to unity and justice;

For its commitment to hospitality and compassion.

We commend to the Lord our families and friends; and let us ask God to help us in the days of this coming week. Amen

Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'I Feel the Winds of God Today'* #625 VU

***Commissioning:** (in unison)

As we prepare to leave our service of worship we pray that with gentle hands you will receive our prayers. With patient eyes you will search our spirits. Through the power of your Spirit you will offer us peace.

***Blessing:**

May mercy be our path

And peace fill all our days.

May love heal every heart

And God's grace light our way.

***Choral Closing**

When you walk from here,

When you walk from here,

Walk with justice, walk with mercy,

And with God's humble care.

Organ Postlude:



Church News

This Week at First United – July 12-July 17

Thursday	7:00	Stewardship Committee

The bulletin today has been donated *in loving memory of Mary and Sterling Anderson* by their daughter Ruth and family.

The flowers in the church are *in loving memory of Maurice Horsley* placed by Jessie, Linda, Bill and David

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2010	900
Total to Date	584

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 14-15 jars of peanut butter per week.

July Ushers: We are looking for ushers for the remainder of month of July. If you are able to usher for the month or even for one week, contact Anne Brooks at 548-2156 or give the office a call at 546-3532.

The Upper Room for July and August are in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one.



Upcoming Community Events

Vacation Bible School: St. Luke's Presbyterian Church from July 26-July 30 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The Theme for this years VBS is "High Seas Expedition". We invite all children ages 5 - 12 to set sail with us as we embark on a high seas adventure exploring God's Word. Children will experience God's love as we enjoy Bible adventure, games, snacks, movies, skits and music. There is no cost to this and all children are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Pastor Glen Sampson or Jon Sampson (Children's Ministry) at 546-4645 or 549-1189.

Strawberry Social & Bake Sale: Wednesday July 21, 2010 6pm – 8pm, Christ Church Hall, 6992 Route 11, Clifton
Come enjoy a delicious Strawberry Shortcake Dessert and coffee or tea for \$5.00

Bathurst Christian Women's Club invites you to join us at Danny's Inn and Conference Center, Wednesday, **July 28 at 11:15am** for our "Garden Party" Luncheon, **\$14.00**. Fun in the sun with Pianist, Hwang Lee, a Mount A student. Don your sun hats, enjoy the punch, after the music, it's indoors for lunch. Mary Coats of Shediac, guest speaker, will deliver her message, "Gifts." Call Wanetta at 548-5083 or Edith at 548-3924 for necessary reservations.



ELM TREE CAMP REUNION **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION JULY 19th**



The Elm Tree Camp Reunion registration deadline has been extended to July 19th. The Reunion will take place from July 23-25 and we encourage all people who are interested in attending this fun-filled event to visit the First United Church office, contact Jane Murphy at 548-3723 or visit the website at www.elmtreecampreunion.com to obtain a registration form. *Not able to attend the entire weekend? No problem!!!* We also have tickets available for the reception on Friday evening, BBQ on Saturday and the "camp breakfast" on Sunday. The reunion will be a great opportunity to see old friends and share memories- also a chance to share this experience with your children and grandchildren! We encourage you to submit your registration or purchase tickets as soon as possible as it will help with planning.

Amos 7:7-14 (New International Version)

⁷ This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸ And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?"

"A plumb line," I replied.

Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

⁹ "The high places of Isaac will be destroyed and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined; with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam."

Amos and Amaziah

¹⁰ Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. ¹¹ For this is what Amos is saying:

" 'Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.' "

¹² Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. ¹³ Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴ Amos answered Amaziah, "I was neither a prophet nor a prophet's son, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees.

Psalm 82 (New International Version)

Psalm 82

A psalm of Asaph.

- ¹ God presides in the great assembly;
he gives judgment among the "gods":
- ² "How long will you ^[a] defend the unjust
and show partiality to the wicked?
Selah
- ³ Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless;
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.
- ⁴ Rescue the weak and needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.
- ⁵ "They know nothing, they understand nothing.
They walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- ⁶ "I said, 'You are "gods";
you are all sons of the Most High.'
- ⁷ But you will die like mere men;
you will fall like every other ruler."
- ⁸ Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
for all the nations are your inheritance.

Luke 10:25-37 (New International Version)

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

²⁵On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷He answered: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'^[a]; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'^[b]"

²⁸"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³²So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two silver coins^[c] and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

³⁶"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

³⁷The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."