

The United Church of Canada

Bathurst Pastoral Charge

First United Church, Bathurst - South Tetagouche United Church

www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

January 24, 2010

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Clergy Rev. Blair Lewis **Organists** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston Joseph MacDonald
Custodian Alan Wilcox **Greeters** Mae & Byron Branch

All musical selections reprinted under licence #C8326, Licensing for Churches

<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10</i>	<i>Jeremiah 1:4-10</i>
<i>Psalm 19</i>	<i>Psalm 71</i>
<i>I Corinthians 12:12-31a</i>	<i>I Corinthians 13:1-13</i>
<i>Luke 4:14-21</i>	<i>Luke 4:21-30</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:** *'Arise, Your Light Is Come'* (#79 VU vs1)
Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.

Welcoming:

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.

Hebrews 12:28

Welcoming One Another:

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by Tape:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

All: We come to celebrate God's presence,

One: and God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.

All: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,

One: and the life we are called to live.

All: We come as a pilgrim people searching for ways to live out our faith.

One: We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.

All: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

Call to Worship: *(in unison)*

O Most Blessed One, as we enter into the life of your Spirit, teach our hearts to be psalms, singing forth your praise; teach our minds to be proverbs, shining forth your wisdom; and teach our lives to be parables, showing forth your glory in every gesture and deed.

Prayer of Approach: *(in unison)*

O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling-block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back evil's power. God make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom. Amen

Bishop Thomas Ken 1637-1711

***Opening Hymn:**

'We are One'

402 VU

Children of All Ages:

Pastoral Prayer: (in unison)

O God, lover of the world, you hold all that you have created within your compassionate embrace. As you hold our lives torn by pain, sorrow or hatred within your aching heart, we cry out for wholeness – for ourselves, for those we love, and for our world. May your healing presence gently transform the places of our lives where we hold pain. May your loving presence be a comforting reality for all those who find themselves in despair, lost or alone. May your transforming presence create generosity in place of greed, harmony in place of hatred, and everlasting justice where evil now reigns. O God, lover of the world, from the silence of our own hearts, we bring before you these people and places that need your healing, loving, transforming presence:

(silence)

O God, lover of the world, this is your world, and we claim your power and your presence to make it whole.
Amen

Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'In Christ There is no East or West' #606 VU*
(tune #344 VU St. Peter)

Commissioning: (in unison)

O God, as we go to our homes and our work this coming week, we ask you to send the Holy Spirit into our lives.
Open our ears – that we may hear what you are saying to us in the things that happen to us and in the people that we meet.
Open our eyes – that we may see the needs of the people around us.
Open our hands – that we may do your work well, and help when help is needed.
Open our lips – that we may tell the Good News of Jesus and bring comfort, happiness and laughter to others.
Open our minds – that we may discover new truth about you and the world.
Open our hearts – that we may love you and others as you have loved us.

Blessing:

Light of God to give us hope
Power of God to protect us
Light of God to give us joy
Peace of God to calm us
Light of God to give us faith
Grace of God to save us
This day and forevermore.

***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 – Jan 25– Jan. 30

Monday	9:00	Ways & Means- Eddy Room
	6:15	Beavers & Cubs
Tuesday	9:30-11:30	Do Drop in – Fellowship Room
	1:30-3:30	Bible Study - Eddy Room
	7pm	Pastoral Council – Eddy Room
Wednesday	9:00-12:00	TAB
	6:30	Choir
Thursday		Jiggs Dinner

The bulletin today has been donated *in loving memory of Robert (Bert) Carmichael* by Joyce and family.

The bulletin today has been donated *in loving memory of Laurie Davidson* by Dee Dee and family

The flowers in the sanctuary today have been placed *in loving memory of Robert (Bert) Carmichael* by Leonard Dale & family.

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2010 **900**

Total to Date **84**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 16-17 jars of peanut butter per week.

2009 Tax Receipts are now available in the Narthex.

Men's Group: Wayne Clowater (547-1884) is interested in starting a group for men that will meet at the same time as TAB. Those interested in playing crib or 45s please call Wayne. It will only start if there is enough interest shown.

Jiggs Dinner Corned Beef & Cabbage

Thursday, **January 28, 2010** Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

Adults \$10 - Children (12 & under) \$5 - 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Takeouts available 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Advance Ticket Sales Only

TAB: Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Hands on Rug Hooking session. Bring your supplies.

The UCW annual Valentine Luncheon and Bake Sale are being held on Friday, February 12, 2010 from 12-1:30 pm. Tickets are available from UCW members or the church office. Contributions of food items, from any member of the congregation, for the bake table would very much be appreciated. These items can be dropped off Thursday afternoon – February 11. All tickets must be purchased ahead of time as no tickets are being sold at the door! There will be no Take-outs.

Confirmation Plans are now in progress for confirmation during the Lenten Season. For those who are interested, please contact the church office at 546-3532.

The Community Out-Reach Sub-Team is looking for an interested person, or persons, to chair a church team for this year's Relay for Life. If this is an opportunity that you would welcome, please leave your name at the church office - 546-3532.

Upcoming Community Events

Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary Meal of the Month

Feb. 07,2010 –Roast Pork Supper with all the trimmings, tea, coffee and dessert. Serving at 5:00 p.m. Takeouts available. Tickets \$12. Elevator service available

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY - The Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unit (January 17 - 24) will be observed in our city with a Bilingual Ecumenical Worship Service to be held at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Cathedral on Sunday, January 31 at 2:30 p.m. All are welcome and cordially invited to attend. This year's theme is "You are Witnesses."

Casserole Supper/Entertainment: Central United Church, Clifton

Saturday, February 13, 6pm. Storm date, February 20, 6pm.

Adults \$10.00 Children (under 12) \$5.00

For tickets call Bonnie Wiseman 546-3908, Darlene Wilks 546-8213, Joanne Wiseman 546-3690 or Kay Morrison 546-6012

Bathurst Christian Women's Club invites you to join us at Danny's Inn and Conference Center, Wednesday, January 27 at 11:30 am for our "Home Spun Warmth" Luncheon, \$13.00 . Beth Sullivan, Spinning Wheel Yarn Shop, will introduce organic cotton, chemical free yarns and natural colors for Eco-Friendly Knitting. Guest Speaker, Sandra Scott, retired international worker, will present her message "What Made all the Difference in My Life". Call Wanetta at 548-5083 or Edith at 548-3924 for necessary reservations.

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (New International Version)

¹ all the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

² So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. ³ He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law

⁵ Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶ Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear ^[a] and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read.

⁹ Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the

LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

¹⁰ Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Luke 4:14-21 (New International Version)

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

¹⁴Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. ¹⁷The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the
prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."^[a]

²⁰Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, ²¹and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."