

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

April 7, 2024
2nd after Easter

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Greeters Margaret Payne-Chénard & Mike Kierstead
Audio & Visual Technicians Brenda Parrott & Donald Eddy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1—2:2 John 20:19-31	Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48
<i>The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of Terry McLean Disney by Mom and Dad</i>	

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where you are invited to present yourselves, body, mind, and spirit, as is comfortable for you today...*

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME & TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *(in unison)*

...As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original peoples, the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and in friendship with its people.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ candle is lit...

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP – VU #175 *(Refrain only)*
 "This Is the Day That God Has Made"

This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – VU #179
 "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks"

Refrain:
Hallelujah, hallelujah.
Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Give praise to God's name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
 firstborn of all creation.

Refrain:

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 Jesus has died and is risen.

Refrain:

We have been crucified with Christ,
 now we shall live for ever.

Refrain:

Come let us praise the living God,
 joyfully sing to our Saviour.

Refrain:

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (*responsively*)

Holy One,
there are times when we're overcome by fear;
times when our faith fails, times when we close ourselves off, times
when we ignore the needs of others.

Show us, we pray, the way.

When shadows surround us,
show us the radiant power of your light.
When we hold on to worldly possessions with tight fists,
help us use our resources for your realm.
When our differences threaten to divide us,
draw us together in the unity of love.

Show us, we pray, the way.

Holy One,
we grieve the ways in which we've caused pain;
the ways in which we've fallen short,
the ways in which we've turn away from the suffering in the world.

Show us, we pray, the way. (*Moment of Silence*)

CHORAL RESPONSE – "Kyrie Eleison (Guarani)" MV #68

***Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.***

***O God have mercy,
O God have mercy,
O God, have mercy,
have mercy on us.***

***Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.***

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (*responsively*)

...Peace be with you.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (*with those of all ages*)

Malala's Magic Pencil

***SINGING A SONG** – "I Can Feel You Near Me God" MV #48

I can feel you near me God
I can feel you near
Yes I know you're with me God
I feel you here
I can feel you near me God
I can feel you near
Yes I know you're with me God
Heaven is here.

*Refrain
And I'll jump for joy
I'm singing Alleluia
Jump for joy for you
I will jump for joy
I'm singing Alleluia
Jump for joy for you.*

I can feel you loving me
yes I know you care
God I know you're loving me
always every where
I can feel you loving me
yes I know you care
God I know you're loving me
I know you're there.

Refrain

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Wayne Lord

John 20:19-31

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

RESPONDING

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Anne Wilson

INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS GATHERED

***OFFERING RESPONSE –**

VU #541

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*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.*

***OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)**

**Generous One,
to those who have hunger,
give bread.
To those who *have* bread,
give the hunger for justice.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #916 (A Paraphrase) (in unison)

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,**

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name

echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed

by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done

by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

now and for ever.

Amen

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN – “I Am the Light of the World”**

VU #87

Refrain

"I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!"

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery

of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun:

Refrain:

To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above!

Church News

Refrain

"I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!"

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere!

Refrain:

To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth!

Refrain:

*BLESSING

***CHORAL SENDING FORTH** (*Tune Promise VU 703*)

***As we go into the future,
As we tell of the Good News,
We will show our love for others,
Just as Christ has told us to.
We will tell the wondrous story,
Of a love that's made for you,
And it's all because of Easter—
Sing a joyous Hal-le-lu!***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

This Week at First United		
Monday	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Office closing at 2 PM		
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Property Management - RMR
Wednesday	No badminton for this week	
Thursday	4:15 PM	Choir
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market

Church office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
Please note the church office will be closing early on Monday April 7th.

Peanut Butter – Once again this year we have set a goal of **900 jars** of peanut butter to donate to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Up to April 4th, 2024 we have collected 210 jars. We will be purchasing an additional 90 jars in the next week.

Thank you to our volunteers in March:

Counters –Edie Gammon, Gary Branch and Wayne Clowater;
Greeters –Julie and Harvey Spence; **Lenton Tenebrae Candle Lighters & Readers** – Anne Brooks & Brooke Knowles, Margaret Payne-Chénard & Mike Kierstead, Jennifer Oliver Lavigne & Marie Oliver and Wayne Lord & Katie Lord; **Your Generosity Matters** – Martha Vickers, Sally Ronalds, Bev Murphy and Judy Losier;
Scripture Readers –Helen Knowles, Isabel MacLaggan, Jennifer Oliver and Jini Palmer; **Hospitality & Friendship** – Nancy Jagoe & Pam Smith, Shirley Sealy & Wilma Dempsey and Gayle Ferron;
Sound System –Shirley Allain, Ralph Jamieson, Lester Scott and Brenda Parrott, and **Videographer** – Don Eddy as well as to Josh Gammon for uploading our services to the website and Facebook.

Thank You: The Ways and Means team would like to express a sincere thank you to all who helped in anyway with our Roast Pork Supper. A total of 105 sit down meals were served and there were 149 take outs. Because of the generous sponsorship of McDonald's Restaurant Bathurst, the Ways and Means team realized a profit of approximately \$4,600. The next Ways and Means team event will be held Thursday, May 30th - **a Ham & Scallop Potato Supper.**

Church News

Cake Pans – The Ways & Means Team would like to remind anyone who has baked cakes for the suppers that there are still several pans upstairs in the kitchen. Please drop by and pick them up during the church office hours.



Let's Play Games

Thursday, April 11th 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Come join us for an afternoon of fun and games in the Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

We will provide several games such as Cards, Scrabble, Yahtzee, Skip Bo, Phase 10, Cribbage or any game you would like to bring.

Open to all the community and area - No partners needed.

Tea & Coffee provided, please bring your own mug.

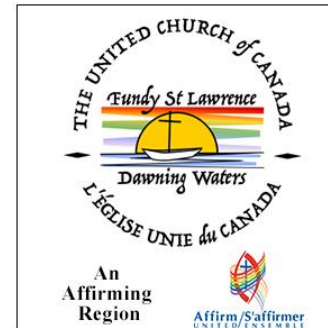
Free will offering at the refreshment area

Community News

A FAMILY AND COMMUNITY BREAKFAST will be held at St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, April 13th from 8:00 – 10:00 am**. As this community event serves to fund our local mission projects, we rely on donations and ask that you consider a minimum donation of \$ 8.00 to help defray costs. We appreciate your kindness and support. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food.

Community News

Central United Church in Clifton is holding their annual take-out Lobster Supper on **Saturday, May 11th**. For tickets, please contact Lois Archibald (506-548-8927). The cost is \$30 per person. You have your choice of the lobster being in the shell or shelled for you. Also, there is the choice of lemon meringue or cherry cheesecake for dessert.



Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional News

Registration for Youth@Region is now live!

Y@R is a place of community and a place of faith where United Church youth, between grade 6 and 12, meet from across New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, Quebec. It takes place during the Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (FSLDW), May 31 - June 2, 2024. As some delegates are coming to the meeting Thursday evening, youth are welcome to come as well. Please indicate on your registration your arrival date.

Please make [this link](#) available to the youth, grades 6-12 in your community of faith.

If you have any questions, please email Catherine Stuart, Regional Minister for Children, Youth and Young Adults at cstuart@united-church.ca, or Lisa Folkins, Director, at lisa.folkins@gmail.com.

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 20:19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

The Purpose of This Book

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

May the Spirit bless to our understanding this significant part of our Christian story...