

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

Jan. 7, 2018

Minister Rev. Blair Lewis **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Dave & Cheryl Brewster
Custodian Alan Wilcox

All musical selections reprinted under licence #A-606499, OneLicense for Churches

<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Genesis 1:1-5</i>	<i>I Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)</i>
<i>Psalm 29</i>	<i>Psalm 139</i>
<i>Acts 19:1-7</i>	<i>I Corinthians 6:12-20</i>
<i>Mark 1:4-11</i>	<i>John 1:43-51</i>

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

*We welcome Rev. Jean Herman today
and thank him for leading our worship service*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

***Choral Opening:** 'Go, Tell It on the Mountain' #43 VU
*Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.*

Welcoming:

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"
Psalm 122: 1

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lightening of the Christ Candle: (in unison)
Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

**Not only does the Word of God inform us of His will,
but, as a light on a path in darkness, it shows us how
to follow the right and avoid the wrong way.**

Call to Worship:

One: From the waters of Creation, the earth sprang forth.

**All: From the waters of a womb,
God's blessed Son was given to us.**

One: From the waters of a river,
people were baptized and marked as God's Children

**All: Praise be to God,
whose loving gifts and presence
have called us together.**

One: Let us shout our love to God for God's abundant love

All: AMEN.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Creating, Calling, and Faithful God,
we come to this time and place to be with you,
to worship you, and to learn from you.**

**May our time together
be like your creation of light in the darkness
that you called good.**

**May it be that you would call us good
while we respond to your call and as we listen to you.
Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** 'Called by Earth and Sky' #135 MV
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.*

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

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

Refrain

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

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

Refrain

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)
Come, our Light, and enlighten our darkness.
Come, our Truth, and give us wisdom.
Come, our Love, and shape our lives.
Come to us so that we may learn
to follow you in all your ways.

Scripture Readings: Cheryl Brewster

New Testament Lesson: Acts 19:1-7
Paul baptizes with the Spirit.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 29 **#756 VU**

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1 :4-11
Jesus is baptized by John'

***Hymn:** 'Let There Be Light' **#679 VU**

Message: "Baptism of Christ"

Anthem: 'A Light is Gleaming'

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

(Tune Praise God from whom all blessings flow.)
Praise God with songs that never cease,
Praise God who fills the earth with peace.
Praise God for love and joy within,
The Holy Child is born again.

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

Faithful God,
Bless us in our baptismal calling to be in ministry
of showing hospitality to others.
We offer the gifts that we have been given
to be used not for conquest and dominance,
but for use in liberating the poor and hurting people
who pray for our liberation as well as their own.
Receive and multiply our gifts for life-giving ministry.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

O God, we hear your voice
and we see the way of Jesus set before us.
But it's hard, dear God, to try again and again
to live up to our baptismal vows
and maintain our resolve
to be your people in the world.
In repentance we ask you to forgive us.
Set us once again on a holy path that leads to you.
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.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: Friends, God hears our prayers
and sets before us the way of Jesus.
God calls us and gives us enough grace
and mercy to follow the way.

All: Thanks be to God.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

Creator God, when everything first began,
water became a symbol of refreshing,
of washing away, of renewing.
Through the waters of creation
you brought forth abundant life.
We have gathered this day to remember Jesus' baptism,
how when he came up out of the water
your Spirit proclaimed that He was your beloved Son
in whom you were very well pleased.
Our spirits resound with that proclamation.
In His baptism, Jesus' ministry was initiated.
He dedicated his life to you completely
and without reservation.
Help us to dedicate our lives to you, to offer our best for you,
to be of service to you by serving in your world.
As we have lifted before you
the names of people near and dear to us
who need your healing touch and your tender mercies,
we have also lifted ourselves up as people in need of your grace.
Our world is in the midst of strife; wars,
oppression, famine, hunger, alienation,
situations in which we have abused the world and each other.
Heal us and this world, Lord.
Renew us with your life-giving waters
and re-affirm our baptisms as your children.
Let us go forth to be people of peace and mercy.
For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN..

And now let us bring before God our family prayer...

Our Father...

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn: 'I Am the Dream' #106 MV**

I am the dream and you the dreamer.
I am the song and you are the rhyme.
You are the tune sung in every silence.
You are the now in the endless stream of time.

I am the bell and you the silence.
You are the yearning I cannot curtail.
I am the blest and you the blessing.
You are the wilds in which I lose my trail.

You are the word and I the echo.
You are the leader and I am the led.
You are the joy and I the laughter.
You are the Rock on which I lay my head.

Benediction:

Thank you, God, for blessing us with memories
of Jesus' baptism and ours.
Thank you for removing our reluctance, doubt, and fears,
for replacing them with courage and commission.
We go forth with your calling, direction, and blessing.

Amen.

***Choral Closing: 'I am Walking a Path of Peace' (#221 MV)**

***I am walking a path of peace
I am walking a path of peace
I am walking a path of peace
lead me home, lead me home.***

Organ Postlude:

Church News

This Week at First United –Jan. 8- Jan. 13

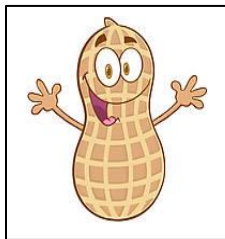
Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	6:15pm	Beavers – Rms 1,2 & 3
Tuesday	2pm	Bible Study – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Scouts - DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9am	TAB – Rms 1,2 &3
	9 -11am	Badminton
Thursday	1:30	Pastoral Care - RMR

The bulletin today has been placed
in loving memory of Earl Cooper
 placed by his family.

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**
 Total to Date **21**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
 16-17 jars of peanut butter per week.
 The Volunteer Center supplies, on average,
 500 households monthly.



The Upper Room for Jan. and Feb. are in the Narthex. Please
 feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with
 the publication.

Notice from the Property Management Team For security
 reasons, all doors to the sanctuary will be kept locked except the
 one closest to the office. To enter the church during business
 hours, please use the St. Patrick Street entrance.

Thank You to Audrey & George McGillivray and Shirley Allain for
 being the counters and to Nancy & Allen Jagoe for being our
 greeters for the month of December. Thanks also to the Lavigne
 & Eddy Families for being our greeters on Christmas Eve.



Roast Pork Dinner

Thursday, January 25, 2018

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Takeouts available 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

\$15. Adults \$6. Children (under 12)

All tickets sold in advance

Tickets available from Ways and Means team members
 and at the church office

*Plant carrots in January
 and you'll never have to eat carrots.
 ~Gardening Saying ~*

Tick Tock

*I'm writing this in a state of shock,
Watching the clock—tick tock, tick tock,
Advancing, approaching, relentlessly,
A brand new year; Oh, can it be?*

*The calendar says the same thing, too;
Time races, vanishes for me; Boo hoo!
No, wait! If time flies, I'm having fun!
A year of fun! It's gone! It's done!*

*I now embrace the blur of time,
Because it simply means that I'm
Too busy with pleasure, joy, delight
To mourn the passing days' swift flight.*

*So I'm wishing you fast, happy days,
Pleasuring you in myriad ways,
Filled with happiness and cheer,
Oh Happy, Happy Bright New Year!*

By Joanna Fuchs

Acts 19:1-7 New International Version (NIV)

Paul in Ephesus

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples

² and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when^[a] you believed?"

They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

³ So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?"

"John's baptism," they replied.

⁴ Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus."

⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues^[b] and prophesied.

⁷ There were about twelve men in all.

Mark 1:4-11 New International Version (NIV)

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

⁸ I baptize you with^[a] water, but he will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit."

The Baptism and Testing of Jesus

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."