

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

Jan. 28, 2018

Minister Rev. Blair Lewis **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Bev Murphy
Custodian Alan Wilcox Brenda Parrott

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

<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Deuteronomy 18:15-20</i> <i>Psalm 111</i> <i>I Corinthians 8:1-13</i> <i>Mark 1:21-28</i>	<i>Malachi 3:1-4</i> <i>Psalm 84</i> <i>Hebrews 2:14-18</i> <i>Luke 2:22-40</i>

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

We welcome the men's choir today and thank them for leading our music for this morning's worship service.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

***Choral Opening:** 'Arise, Your Light Is Come' #79 VU vs. 1
Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God,
Which shines on you today.

Welcoming:

In the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
who calls us to be the church
and to celebrate God's presence,
let us worship.

Greetings:

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lightening of the Christ Candle:

One: As we light the Christ candle this morning
we sing to the Lord a new song,
for God has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have given him the victory.

**All: The Lord has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication
in the sight of the nations.
Thanks be to God,
who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Call to Worship:

With what shall I come before the Lord,
and find myself before God on high?
He has shown us what is good;
and what does the Lord require of us but to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.

Micah 6:6,8

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Our God on the first day of the week
you began the work of creating us;
on our first day
you raised your son from the dead;
on this first day, good Lord,
refresh and remake us.
As the week is new,
let our lives begin again
because of Jesus who shows us your loving power.
Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:**

'Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom' #10 MV
Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
She who danced when earth was new,
Follow closely what she teaches,
For her words are right and true,
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
Showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
Crying in the marketplace,
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
Full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
Peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
Nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit guide and close companion,
Bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
Holy friends of God and earth.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

Our God, creator of light,
by your word you have given light to our souls.
Pour down on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding.
Grant that being taught by you in Holy Scripture,
we may receive with faith the words of eternal life.
May we see and understand your wisdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Helen Knowles

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 111 #833 VU

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:21-28

***Hymn:** *'Jesus Calls Us'* #562 VU

Message: "The beginning of Wisdom"

Anthem: *'O Christ, in Thee My Soul'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Minute for Mission:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response: *'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.***

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

**Receive, O Lord, we pray
these our offerings which we give
for the service of your church,
and for the extension of your love into our world.
Accept with them the worship of our hearts
and lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: How many people have done something wrong?
Part of growing up
is being able to take responsibility
for our lives and our actions.
One helpful way to do that is to name before God
our pain and our faults,
our sins, as we call them in church.
That's what we do in our prayer of confession.
Compassionate One, hear our prayer;
stretch out your hand in healing love.

**All: Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.**

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace
to grow more and more in your likeness and image.
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:

God has exalted Jesus Christ with his own right hand,
as leader and Savior, to grant repentance
and forgiveness of sins.
Therefore all those,
who are servants of Jesus Christ
and who believe and repent,
are assured of God's pardon and forgiveness.

Silent Prayer:

Reflective Music:

The Apostles' Creed: (in unison)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer:

One: In the silence following each petition,
let us offer our prayers of intercession and concern
for all those in need:

**All: Let us remember those who suffer from illness,
from the pain of memory,
for all who are in hospital or long-term care,
for those who face uncertainty
with their health and well-being.
For those who suffer from torture, or victimization,
especially those hurt by the church or its members**

(Moment of Silence)

One: Let us pray for those who are outcast,
or in prison, or oppressed

(Moment of Silence)

**All: Let us pray for those who are hungry,
or homeless, or poor,
and those who are unemployed, or exploited**

(Moment of Silence)

**Let us pray for the coming of justice in the world,
offering what we have and receiving what we need
of the earth's beauty**

(Moment of Silence)

One: Let us pray for peace that is a just reconciliation . . .

(Moment of Silence)

**All: Let us pray for the earth on which we walk
and to which we will one day return**

(Moment of Silence)

One: And let us offer our own petitions,
 trusting in God's wisdom and compassion
(Moment of Silence)

God hears the prayers of the faithful.
 In God we find safe harbour and understanding.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'We are Pilgrims'* #595 VU

Commissioning: (in unison)

**May the blessing of God,
 the giver of every good and perfect gift;
 and of Christ, who summons us to service;
 and of the Holy Spirit,
 who inspires generosity and love,
 be with us all.**

Blessing:

Go into the world in peace.
 Love the Lord your God
 with all your heart,
 with all your soul,
 with all your mind,
 with all your strength,
 and love your neighbour as yourself.

Mark 12:30-31

***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. 29- Feb. 3

Monday	9am	Ways & Means – Eddy Rm
	9-11am	Badminton
	4pm	Finance Team - RMR
	6:15pm	Beavers – Rms 1,2 & 3
Tuesday	2pm	Bible Study – Eddy Rm
	4pm	Pastoral Council – Eddy Rm
	6:15pm	Scouts - DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9am	TAB – Rms 1,2 &3
	9 -11am	Badminton
	6:30pm	Choir Practice
Thursday	7pm	Christian Dev. - RMR

The bulletin has been placed
 in loving memory of

Robert Carmichael Sr. and Robert Carmichael Jr
 by Joyce and Family

Laurie Davidson
 by DeeDee & Family

The flowers in the sanctuary today
have been placed in loving memory of
Robert Carmichael Sr. & Jr.
 from Dale & Leonard McGrath, Linda & Bill Young,
 Donna & Gerald Pettigrew, Donna Carmichael,
 Carol & David Branch and families

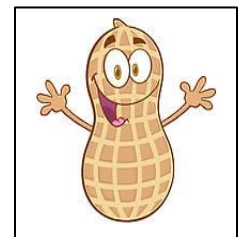
Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **78**

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.

Receipts: The 2017 income tax receipts are in the Narthex.

Confirmation Classes: If anyone is interested in attending confirmation classes, please contact the church office at 546-3532.

Miller Bursary Guidelines: The recipient of the Miller Bursary must be a student from BHS or ESN, a member of First United Church and have achieved the highest overall average of those eligible.



Valentine Luncheon

Friday, February 9, 2018 (*Storm Date: Feb. 10 2018*)

11:30 am - 1:00 pm \$12.00/person

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

Tickets available at the church office (546-3532)

Anyone wishing to volunteer on the day of the Luncheon please call the church office or Brenda Parrott at 545-7425.

Donations of baking would also be appreciated for the Sale Table.



Sunrise Breakfast

(pancakes, sausages, baked beans, scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, juice, coffee & tea)

Sunday, February 18, 2018

8:30 a.m. to noon

Donald Eddy Memorial Hall

\$10.00 adults - \$3.00 children

Notice from Nominations Team

The Nominations Team would like to take this opportunity to invite all who support the life and work of Christ's Church in the world to serve on a working team of our faith community. The Chair Person of each team is requested to confirm with their members if they will be remaining on their team. Please advise Rick Watling 548-9361 or the church office if you require assistance in filling any vacancies. We thank you in advance for your continued support, and for your feedback by Jan. 31, 2018. This would give the Team sufficient time to prepare their report for the Annual Meeting for approval.

The position of Property Management Chairperson is vacant. Anyone wishing to volunteer is encouraged to call Rick Watling.

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.

Community Events

Family & Community Breakfast

Saturday, February 10, 2018 8:00 – 10:00 am

Saint George's Church Hall 432 King Avenue

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Saint George's Anglican Church 432 King Avenue

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Tickets – \$ 7.00 for Adults, \$ 4.00 for Children and \$ 15.00 for Family

Tickets available at the door Take-outs available

*Knowledge comes,
but wisdom lingers.
~Alfred Lord Tennyson~*

Mothers, teach your children this.

Teach your children that

Wisdom is everywhere.

In pieces.

*Some of the Wisdom is in the trees,
some of the Wisdom is with the animals.*

*Some of the Wisdom is with the planets
and the stars and the moons and the sun.*

Some of the Wisdom flows with the waters.

Some of the Wisdom was with our ancestors.

Some of the Wisdom is in our minds.

All of the Wisdom is from the Spirit of God.

~Esther Davis-Thompson~

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.

¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

¹⁷ The LORD said to me: "What they say is good.

¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him.

¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name.

²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

Mark 1:21-28 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

²¹ They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach.

²² The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

²³ Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out,

²⁴ "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

²⁵ "Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!"

²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him."

²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.