

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

Feb. 4, 2018

Minister Rev. Blair Lewis **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Joanne & John Wiseman
Custodian Alan Wilcox

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| <u>Lectionary for today</u> | <u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> |
|---|---|
| <i>Isaiah 40:21-31</i> <i>Psalm 147</i> <i>I Corinthians 9:16-23</i> <i>Mark 1:29-39</i> | <i>II Kings 2:1-12</i> <i>Psalm 50</i> <i>II Corinthians 4:3-6</i> <i>Mark 9:2-9</i> |

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

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:

One: Have we not known? Have we not heard?
All: Has it not been told to us since the beginning?
 One: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
All: they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
 One: they shall run and not be weary;
All: they shall walk and not faint.
(Isaiah 40:21, 31)

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lightening of the Christ Candle:

One: Give me a candle of the Spirit, O God,
 as I go down into the depths of my being.

**All: Show us the hidden things,
 the creatures of our dreams,
 the storehouse of forgotten memories and hurts.**

One: Take us down to the winter of our lives
 and tell us our nature.
 Give us our place and role in life.

**All: In lighting the Christ candle
 our prayer is that with your help
 we will discover freedom to grow,
 so that I may become that self;
 the seed of which you planted in me at my making.
 Out of the depths I reach out to you, O God.**

Call to Worship:

One: God has given us this beautiful earth,
 all that grows, all that lives upon it.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

All: Thanks be to God.

One: God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

All: Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

**Loving God, open our hearts--
 that we may feel the breath and play of your Spirit.
 Unclench our hands--
 that we may reach out to one another,
 and touch and be healed.
 Open our lips--
 that we may drink in the delight and wonder of life.
 Open our eyes--
 that we may see Christ in friend and stranger.
 Breathe your Spirit into us,
 and touch our lives with the life of Christ.**

***Opening Hymn:**

'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty' #220 VU

Children of All Ages:

***The Lord's Prayer:**

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding:

God, the words you speak have power:
power to create,
power to disturb,
power to heal. Help us to hear your Word for us today.
Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Wayne Lord

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31
Responsive Psalm: Psalm 147 Part 1 #869 VU
New Testament Lesson: Mark 1:29-39

***Hymn:** *'Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands'* #570VU

Message: "God heals the broken-hearted"

Anthem: *'A Light Is Gleaming'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

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)
In the name and in the spirit of Jesus,
we bring our gifts to you, O God.
Help us to give with them
a ready mind,
a willing spirit,
and a joyful heart. **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: When we have afflicted others,
whether by our own power
or by our silent support of systems
which oppress, enslave, and crush,
All: break us, Lord.
One: When we have perplexed others
and purposely confused them for our own gain
or driven them to despair,
All: break us, Lord.
One: When we have persecuted others,
casting them out of our community
leaving them forsaken and alone,
All: break us, Lord.
One: When we have struck down others,
casting stones on their dreams and hopes
until they are destroyed,
All: break us, Lord.
One: Then broken, we carry in our bodies
the death of Jesus
so that the life of Jesus
may be made visible in our bodies.
All: Make us, Lord.
One: With the power which belongs only to you,
make us into your treasure.
All: Make us, Lord.
One: We are the clay, and you are the potter.
We are the work of your hands.
All: Make us, Lord.
One: Do not be exceedingly angry
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people. **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:

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether;
the past is finished and gone;
everything has become fresh and new.
Friends, believe the Good News of the gospel;
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

One: O Great Spirit,
whose voice we hear in the winds
and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear us.
We come before you as your children.
We are small and weak; we need your strength and wisdom.
Let us walk in beauty,
and make our eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.

**All: May our hands respect the things you have made;
may our ears be sharp to hear your voice.
Make us wise,
that we may know the things
you have taught your people;
the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.**

One: We seek strength,
not to be superior to our brothers and sisters,
but to live in harmony with ourselves and all your creation.
Help us to be ever ready to come to you,
so when life fades as a fading sunset;
our spirits may come to you without shame. **Amen.**

Traditional First Nation Prayer

Silent Prayer:

Prayer for Christian Unity: (in unison)
**O God, you are the Creator of all that is,
by your Holy Spirit you have made
the diversity of people
who share in the confession of your name.**

**Lead us, we pray by the same Spirit
to display to the whole Earth
one mind in belief
and one passion for righteousness,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'Lord, Speak to Me'* **#589VU**

Commissioning: (in unison)
**God, you have promised
that when two or three
are gathered together in your name,
you will grant their requests.
Fulfill now the desires and petitions of your people
as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting,
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

Based on Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Blessing:
May God bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
May God look upon you with kindness
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

***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 –Feb. 5- Feb. 10

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Monday | 9-11am | Badminton |
| | 6:15pm | Beavers – Rms 1,2 & 3 |
| Tuesday | 2pm | Bible Study – Eddy Rm |
| | 6:15pm | Scouts - DEMH Gym |
| Wednesday | 9am | TAB – Rms 1,2 &3 |
| | 9 -11am | Badminton |
| | 6:30pm | Choir Practice |
| Friday | 11:30-1pm | Valentine Luncheon |

The bulletin has been placed
in loving memory of

Frank and Marion Fallon
by the Family

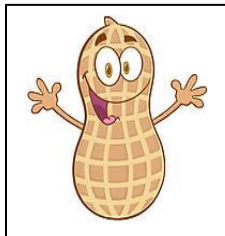
Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**

Total to Date **89**

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.

Thank you: The Ways and Means Team would like to thank all who
donated their "Time, Talents and Treasures" to make the Roast Pork
Supper a success. A net profit of \$3060.00 was realized. The next
Ways & Means event is the Sunrise Breakfast to be held on Feb.18,
2018.

Thank you to Ingrid Watling, Autumn & Grace Ronalds for being the
candle lighters, Cheryl & Dave Brewster, Bev Murphy & Brenda Parrott
for being our greeters and to Shirley Allain and Pat Brown for being the
counters for the month of January.

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

Suicide Prevention Month

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.

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 following positions remain vacant:

Property Management - Chairperson

Community Outreach - Team Member

Anyone wishing to volunteer is encouraged to call Rick Watling 548-9361

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

*Tears are God's gift to us.
Our holy water.
They heal us as they flow.
~Rita Schiano~*

We must try to help kids understand that the happiest people are not those with the fewest problems, but those with the best coping skills. We need to tell kids that stressful times are inevitable, that they can recognize problems in each other and that they must never keep the secret of someone's plans for self-harm, because help is available."

"Changes in attitude throughout history, gender and age differences, socio-economic factors, influence of race and ethnicity, and the impact of religion. ... All of them can actually have a considerable effect on suicide rates, and all of them should be taken into account when interpreting suicide trends and designing anti-suicide strategies. In fact, both risk and protective factors may vary remarkably in different cultures. The need for an integrative approach is evident today more than ever, and this fact calls for more concerted and coordinated, multidisciplinary approaches to suicide prevention."

"The recommendations suggest that, whenever possible, stories include the important role of mental disorders, such as depression and substance abuse, as precursors to the act. This information...provides context for the act but also opens the possibility for information about treatment. Nearly all of the mental disorders that precede suicide are treatable, and if vulnerable individuals [seek] care rather than focusing on suicide as a solution to their problems, many suicides might be prevented."

Statistics for 2014

Deaths in the Province of NB for 2014

Province

Natural 1161
Accident 223
Suicide 121
Homicide 11
Undetermined 12

Bathurst

Natural 94
Accident 20
Suicide 15
Homicide 0
Undetermined 3

Save Me

*Save me from myself, Lord;
Save me from my need
To always run my life, Lord,
To control my every deed.*

*Save me from my pride, Lord,
My focus on just me;
Help me learn to serve, Lord;
Show me how to be.*

*Save me from the world, Lord,
When tempting things entice;
Remind me of eternity
With You, in paradise.*

*I give my life to you, Lord
My every need you fill;
I'm resting in my faith, Lord;
You saved me, and you always will.*

By Joanna Fuchs

Isaiah 40:21-31 New International Version (NIV)

²¹ Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

²² He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

²³ He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.

²⁴ No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

²⁵ "To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one
and calls forth each of them by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.

²⁷ Why do you complain, Jacob?
Why do you say, Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸ Do you not know?
Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

³¹ but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Mark 1:29-39 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Heals Many

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew.

³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her.

³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed.

³³ The whole town gathered at the door,

³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place

³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him,

³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come."

³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.