

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

November 18, 2018

Minister	Rev. Jean Herman	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Shirley Sealy
Custodian	Steve White		Dorothy McCallum

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>I Samuel 1:4-20</i> <i>Psalm 16</i> <i>Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25</i> <i>Mark 13:1-8</i>	<i>II Samuel 23:1-7</i> <i>Psalm 132</i> <i>Revelation 1:4b-8</i> <i>John 18:33-37</i>

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Musical Prelude:

Choral Opening: 'Praise to the Lord' # 835 VU vs1
Praise to the Lord,
all of you, God's servants.
Blessed be the name
of our God now and ever.
From the rising up of the sun
may the Lord be praised,
praise to the name of the Lord!

Welcoming:

Enter the Temple gates with thanksgiving;
go into its courts with praise.
Give thanks to him and praise him.

Psalm 100:4

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: We gather today
to witness God's love shining among us.

All: We gather to find hope in Christ.

One: We are drawn together
into the circle of God's marvelous light

**All: As loving disciples of Christ,
the Light of the World.**

One: We seek the courage to reach out and let our light shine

All: For generations to come.

Call to Worship:

One: Come worship the Lord who is in our midst today.

All: There is no Holy One like our God.

One: Like Hannah of old,
we raise our voices to praise the Lord of strength.

All: There is no Rock like our God.

One: We prepare to listen and learn
with open hearts and open minds.

All: There is no Source of knowledge like our God.

One: We trust that righteousness will come
on the heels of God's judgment.

All: There is no Justice like our God.

One: May the Son of our God lead us into faith.

There is no Guide like our God.

Come worship the Lord who is

in our midst today.

1 Samuel 1 & 2

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

Holy One, there is no God like you.

In praise and thanksgiving,

**we come before you ready to learn of your power,
ready to follow your path for our lives.**

**Through days of jubilation as well as dejection,
help us realize your influence in the world.**

We ask simply for ears to hear, eyes to see,

and minds to comprehend the blessings you bestow.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty' #220VU

Children of all ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)
As we read your Word let us hear your voice,
and in hearing, let our lives be changed
and your world transformed.

Scripture Readings: Gary Branch
Old Testament lesson: 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10
New Testament Lesson: Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25
Responsive Psalm : Psalm 16 **#738 VU**
Gospel Lesson: Mark 13:1-8

***Hymn:** *'In Loving Partnership We Come'* **#603 VU**

Message:

Anthem: *'Take Time To Be Holy'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Invitation to the offering:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

*We bring our gifts to share,
and lift our grateful prayer
That with our faithful care,
our world will grow.
Through work of minds and hands
in gestures small or grand,
Let willing hearts expand the love You sow.*

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

Today, O Lord,
we offer you our sacrifice of time,
energy, and love,
knowing full well they are mere tokens
of the awesome faith you inspire within us.
Accept these gifts,
that they may continue the good work in Christ ,
in our church, in our community,
and in the world.
Blessed be the name of the Lord! Amen.

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Rock of Salvation,
you give children to the barren
and strength to the feeble;
you exalt the poor and lift up the needy.
We praise your holy name from morning to night,
yet we build walls that separate us:
from you, from one another, from the world,
even from ourselves.
We place stumbling blocks
in the way of goodness and truth.
We are led astray by promises of earthly treasure.
We confess our fallibility
and seek solace in the mother of our joy.
Teach us to pray and praise without pause,
confessing hope ceaselessly.
Guide us in our efforts
to encourage one another,
to work together for good in the world,
and to prepare for the day of the Lord.

1 Samuel 1, Hebrews 10, Mark 13

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:

Our hearts are sprinkled clean
and our bodies washed with the water of God's love.
Through the gift of Jesus Christ,
God assures us that we are pardoned, forgiven, absolved,
and released from our sin.

Silent Prayer / Reflective Music:

Pastoral Prayer:

Gracious God of light and love, we praise you,
because the light of your love still shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not, and will not, overcome it.

Church News

We thank you for the many people
in our congregation and our lives,
through whom your light has shone
We pray for those dwelling in darkness
and in special need of your love:

People living with the darkness of disease,
Those imprisoned by debt
or stuck in a job that crushes their spirit.
And all who live in fear, poverty, hopelessness.

We pray for this congregation.
Shine the light of your love on us and through us.
May we shine like stars in the dark night sky,
spreading the light of your love in our homes,
our communities, and around the world.
And now, O God,
we join our voices into one voice
and pray in the words handed down to us from Christ:

Our Father...

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'Though Ancient Walls* **#691 VU**

Benediction:

May the Holy One,
the Rock of our salvation, bless us now!
Join together in faith to work for truth and honesty.
As God loves you, carry that love out into the world
in peace, hope, and faith.

***Choral Closing:** *'May God's Sheltering Wings'* **#214MV**

***May God's sheltering wings,
His gathering wings protect you
May God's nurturing arms,
His cradling arms sustain you,
And hold you in his love
And hold you in his love.***

Organ Postlude:

This Week at First United –Nov 19 - Nov. 24

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	6:15	Beavers – Rms 1,2&3
Tuesday	6:15	Scouts – DEMH Gym
	2pm	Bible Study – Eddy Rm
Wednesday	9am – 12pm	TAB - Rooms 1,2 & 3
	9-11am	Badminton
	3pm	Office Closed
	6:30	Choir Practice

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2018 **900**
Total to Date **707**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect
27-28 jars of peanut butter per week.
The Volunteer Center supplies, on average,
500 households monthly.



Turkey Harvest Supper

*Sponsored by
Kenny's Trucking LTD.
and
Shine House
(A Division of Stothart Automotive)*

Thursday, **November 29, 2018**
Donald Eddy Memorial Hall
Adults \$ 15 – Children (12 and under) \$ 6
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
Takeouts available 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
All tickets sold in advance.
For information call 546-3532



Christmas Luncheon, Bake Sale and Craft Sale

Friday, Dec. 7, 2018 Donald Eddy Memorial Hall 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Lunch is assorted sandwiches, fruit salad and small cakes,
coffee/tea. Bake table with pies, fudge, preserves, cookies and
cakes, jams/jellies All benefitting First United Church.

*Anyone wishing to donate baking, homemade beans, preserves,
tea biscuits etc. for the bake table is asked to bring it to the DEMH
on Thursday , Dec. 6 between 9 & 1 or Friday morning prior to the
Luncheon.*

Team Esperanza will have crafts for sale.

Christmas Wreaths and Evergreen Baskets will be sold in support of
Servants Heart Ministries. Orders will be taken upon request.

Admission \$10, children (12 & under) \$5 Tickets available from the
First United Church office.

Annual Christmas Benevolence Program: For those interested
in supporting this benevolence program, donation envelopes will be
available next Sunday, on the Christmas tree to be located at the
entrance to the sanctuary. The White gift service will be on
Sunday, December 9, and the envelopes can be returned at that
time. Any personal cheque may be made payable to First United
Church. Donations to this fund will be used to support the
volunteer center as well as those people in our congregation who
find it difficult, financially, throughout the year.

Poinsettia Fund: Once again this year we are hoping to have
the beauty of our sanctuary enhanced with poinsettias for the
Christmas season. Those wishing to contribute to the annual
poinsettia fund may place an envelope in the offering plate on
Sunday morning. Please mark clearly on the face of the
envelope – Poinsettia Fund with your name, PAR or envelope
number. List the names that you wish to have printed in the
Christmas bulletin insert. Donations will also be received in the
church office – deadline is December 17, 2018.

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

Missing Dishes? There are a number of baking dishes and other
containers in the Donald Eddy Memorial Hall kitchen that have been
left after suppers. If you are missing your, it could be here.

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.

2019 Envelopes: The Contribution Envelopes for 2019 are located
in the Narthex. Please insure that envelopes for the correct year
are used as individual contribution #'s may have changed.



Save the Date:

Christmas Concert Hymn Sing
Wed., Dec. 12th
Storm Date – Dec. 13th

*Prayer
may not change things for you,
but it for sure changes you
for things.
~Samuel M. Shoemaker ~*

Community Events

Dinner Theatre 2018 – Politically Incorrect

Mark your calendar for another great adventure at St. Georges Church! We are back! November 21, 23 at 6pm with a full turkey dinner and November 24 at 12 noon featuring a sandwich luncheon. The evening performances are \$30.00 each and the Saturday show is \$20.00. Tickets go on sale in the church Hall on Tuesday, October 16. Tickets are still available for the Wednesday and Saturday performances.

RSVP Ministries invites you to our "Annual Silent Auction"

Luncheon at House of Lee – Grand Buffet, 315 Main Street, Bathurst on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 \$17.50 from 11:15am - 1:00pm, doors open at 11:00am. We will be holding our silent auction, as well as selling baked goods and preserves, the musical group "The Chaleurettes", will bring us lots of fun, and Kate Kristoffel, former elite athlete and owner of Atlantic Stars Academy will tell us a "King Size Love Story".

Reservations and cancellations are necessary before Saturday, November 24. Please contact Joanne at 542-1118 or ejgodin@rogers.com or contact Connie at 546-2127. Note: for those who have dietary restrictions, please contact Joanne for the alternate meal.

A "**Spirit of Christmas 2018**" Holiday Show will feature performances by local musicians Rosalind Kennedy – Townsend, Anick Turner, and Dorothy Roy- Nini ; Marc Melanson and the Bandits; Stacy Hickey-Buraglia; Jody Lavigne; Alysa Collins; Derek Knowles; Chad Townsend; Take Note; B.H.S. Choir and Choral Ensemble; Jeff Long; Jocelyne and Marc Hachey; Stephane and Michelle Hebert; Bernie Beaudoin; Eddie Edwards; and the Landry Highland Dancers. The concert will take place at the Gwendolyn Kent Auditorium, Bathurst High School, on Saturday, December 1, (7:00 P.M.) and Sunday, December 2, (2:00 P.M.), 2018. The concert is being held in support of the "Spirit of Christmas" Senior Initiative. Tickets are \$15.00 and are available from participating members, committee members (Gary Branch 546-9208), Tower Jewellers (181 Main Street), and at the door.

The annual **Feast of Saint Andrew** and Scottish entertainment evening will be held December 2 at Gowan Brae Golf and Country Club at 4:30 pm. The event will include a roast beef dinner with haggis and dessert, traditional bagpiping and highland dancing. Tickets cost \$30.00 and are available by phoning Jean Babin at 546-5758, Lois Campbell at 546-2348 or Isabel MacLaggan at 546-5521. Come Celebrate. Everyone is welcome.

*God answers first the prayers
we should have prayed.
~Robert Brault~*

1 Samuel 1:4-20 New International Version (NIV)

⁴ Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters.

⁵ But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the LORD had closed her womb.

⁶ Because the LORD had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her.

⁷ This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat.

⁸ Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?"

⁹ Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the LORD's house.

¹⁰ In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly.

¹¹ And she made a vow, saying, "LORD Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

¹² As she kept on praying to the LORD, Eli observed her mouth.

¹³ Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk

¹⁴ and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine."

¹⁵ "Not so, my lord," Hannah replied, "I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the LORD.

¹⁶ Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief."

¹⁷ Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."

¹⁸ She said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

¹⁹ Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her.

²⁰ So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel,^[a] saying, "Because I asked the LORD for him."

1 Samuel 2:1-10 New International Version (NIV)

Hannah's Prayer

2 Then Hannah prayed and said:

"My heart rejoices in the LORD;
in the LORD my horn^[a] is lifted high.
My mouth boasts over my enemies,
for I delight in your deliverance.

² "There is no one holy like the LORD;
there is no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.

³ "Do not keep talking so proudly
or let your mouth speak such arrogance,
for the LORD is a God who knows,
and by him deeds are weighed.

⁴“The bows of the warriors are broken,
but those who stumbled are armed with strength.

⁵ Those who were full hire themselves out for food,
but those who were hungry are hungry no more.
She who was barren has borne seven children,
but she who has had many sons pines away.

⁶“The LORD brings death and makes alive;
he brings down to the grave and raises up.

⁷ The LORD sends poverty and wealth;
he humbles and he exalts.

⁸ He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap;
he seats them with princes
and has them inherit a throne of honor.

“For the foundations of the earth are the LORD’s;
on them he has set the world.

⁹ He will guard the feet of his faithful servants,
but the wicked will be silenced in the place of darkness.

“It is not by strength that one prevails;

¹⁰ those who oppose the LORD will be broken.
The Most High will thunder from heaven;
the LORD will judge the ends of the earth.

“He will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

Hebrews 10:11-25 New International Version (NIV)

¹¹ Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,

¹³ and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool.

¹⁴ For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

¹⁶ “This is the covenant I will make with them
after that time, says the Lord.
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds.”^[a]

¹⁷ Then he adds:

“Their sins and lawless acts
I will remember no more.”^[b]

¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

A Call to Persevere in Faith

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse

us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,

²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Mark 13:1-8 New International Version (NIV)

The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times

13 As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!"

² "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately,

⁴ "Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?"

⁵ Jesus said to them: "Watch out that no one deceives you.

⁶ Many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and will deceive many.

⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.

⁸ Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth pains.