

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

January 13, 2019

Minister Rev. Jean Herman **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters** Cheryl & Dave Brewster
Custodian Steve White

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Isaiah 43:1-7</i> <i>Psalm 29</i> <i>Acts 8:14-17</i> <i>Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</i>	<i>Isaiah 62:1-5</i> <i>Psalm 36</i> <i>I Corinthians 12:1-11</i> <i>John 2:1-11</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:

I love the house where you live, O Lord,
the place where your glory dwells.
(Psalm 26:8)

Welcoming Friends Worshipping by CD:

Announcements:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: O God, as light comes from this candle,
All: May we also bring the fire of love,
to this time of prayer and worship.
May this holy candle send forth dancing rays,
Like sunrise on the most glorious morning,
And may these rays of light,
Encircle us and those we love.
Amen.

Call to Worship:

One: Our God is a God of power and strength!
All: God has created each of us with tender care.
One: Our God is a God of majesty and awe!
All: God walks with each of us every step of the way.
One: Our God is a God of glory and wonder!
All: God loves each of us with tenderness and passion.
One: Our God calls us each by name.
All: God calls each of us to unite in worship together!
(Isaiah 43, Psalm 29)

Prayer of Approach: (in unison)

Holy God of glory and majesty,
you have called us by name.
We pray in this moment for the courage
and the strength to answer your call.
As we open our ears to hear the story
of your Son's baptism, open our hearts also,
that we may experience again
the renewing power of rebirth in the Holy Spirit.
Inspire us in this time of worship,
that we may claim our own identity
as your beloved children.
We pray in the name of our brother, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

(Psalm 29, Luke 3)

***Opening Hymn:**

'When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized' #100 VU

Children of all ages:

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prayer for Understanding: (in unison)
**Holy Spirit of God,
Giver of Life and of Good News,
speak to us in the scriptures; renew us in faith
and remind us that we are claimed and loved by you.
Amen.**

Scripture Readings: Joanne Wiseman
Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7
Responsive Psalm : Psalm 29 # 756 VU
Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

***Hymn:** *'Behold a Light'*
(Tune St. Thomas #715 VU)

Behold a light shall shine,
Just as it did before,
a light to share with us the dream
of peace forevermore.

Behold a light shall shine,
a sign of joy for all,
may it reveal a future clear
for all who hear God's call.

Behold a light shall shine,
through gifts that we now share,
God sends us forth, preparing us
to serve, to help, to care.

Behold a light shall shine
to guide us on this day
Illuminate, O God, our paths,
disclose to us Christ's way

Behold a light shall shine,
despair shall be no more,
our mission is to show Christ's love,
so hope may be restored.

(pg. 85 2009-2010 Christmas / Epiphany Gathering –
Tune St. Thomas VU715):

Meditation:

Anthem: *'Will You Come and See the Light'*

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

Invitation to the offering:

Presentation of Gifts and Self to God:

Choral Response:

*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)

**Gracious God, we come today
with joy for your baptism;
we come with praise for your glory;
we come with gratitude for your love.
As we offer these gifts to you,
send your Spirit upon us,
that our hands and our hearts
may do your work in the world.
As we offer our lives to you,
bless us with your strength,
that we may join with you
to work for the blessing of peace
throughout the world. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

**Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
but we confess that we prefer our old lives;
we let nostalgia prevent us
from trusting you enough to accept newness,
we cling to destructive habits,
we nurture grudges,
and we are reluctant to welcome
or forgive one another.
In your loving kindness,
have mercy upon us and move among us
so that we might live together with grace.**

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:

Do not fear, for Christ has redeemed you.
Baptized in the deep waters of death
he has washed away your sins
in the depths of God's mercy.
Your sins are forgiven; be at peace.

Silent Prayer/Reflecive Music:

Pastoral Prayer: (in unison)

**Loving and Holy Spirit of God, we pray:
that we and all people will put aside divisions
and increasingly work together
to build the kingdom of heaven on earth;
that the resources of the world
may be shared and used in just and unselfish ways
and for the greatest benefit of all;
that beauty may be increased around us
and by our hands;
and that children may be surrounded
by love, care, peace and freedom.
Hear us now as we pray for the people in our lives
and around the world whose cares are great
and comforts are few.
And now in one voice we pray in the words that Jesus
taught. Our Father...**

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***Closing Hymn:** *'I Am the Light of the World'* #87 VU

Benediction

One: You are each precious in God's sight.

**All: We go from this place,
claiming our identity as children of God.**

One: God has called you by name.

All: We go into the world to answer God's call. Alleluia!

(Isaiah 43)

***Choral Closing:** *'I Am Walking a Path of Peace'* #221MV

***I am walking a path with heart
I am walking a path with heart
I am walking a path with heart
lead me home, lead me home.***

Organ Postlude:

*Snowflakes
are one of nature's most fragile things,
but just look what they can do
when they stick together.
~Vista M. Kelly~*

Church News

This Week at First United –Jan 14 – Jan. 19

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	6:15	Beavers Rms 1,2 & 3
Tuesday	6:15	Cubs & Scouts – Gym
	2pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	9-11am	Badminton
	9-12am	TAB
	3pm	Office Closed
Thursday	1:30pm	Pastoral Care - RMR

The bulletin today has been placed
in loving memory of

Byron and Fern Wiseman

by John & Joanne Wiseman

Glendon Hatheway

by Michael, Jane, Marilyn and families.

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2019 **900**

Total Collected **35**

To meet our obligation, we will need to collect 17-18 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.

Volunteers required

The UCW are looking for people who are willing to bake for and/or work at receptions held after funerals. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex or call the church office at 546-3532.



Roast Pork Dinner

Sponsored by

Kent & White Insurance

Thursday, January 31, 2019

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

Thank You: The Community Outreach team would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Benevolence Program this year. With your generous support \$995.00 was raised to help those in our congregation who are in need and the Volunteer Center with their programs for the year. The Peanut Butter goal was reached for 2018. 900 units were given to the Volunteer Center throughout the year.

*A lot of people like snow.
I find it to be an unnecessary
freezing of water.*

~Carl Reiner~

Community Events

The Ladies Auxiliary to Herman J. Good VC Branch 18,

Royal Canadian Legion

BBQ Chicken Supper

Includes coffee, tea, and dessert

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Served at 5:00pm

Cost: \$15.00

Tickets are on sale at the Legion.

The annual **Robbie Burns Night** will be held downstairs at Bathurst Curling Club on Saturday, January 19. The dinner and fun evening begins at 5p.m. with happy hour and entertainment. A ham dinner and program will follow at 6 p.m. and the 2019 memberships will be received. Tickets at \$15 are available by calling Isabel MacLaggan (546-5521) or Jean Babin (546-5758). Everyone is welcome.

*Snowmen
fall from heaven...
unassembled.
~Author unknown~*

Isaiah 43:1-7 New International Version (NIV)

Israel's Only Savior

43 But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Cush^[a] and Seba in your stead.

⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you,
I will give people in exchange for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.

⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah.

¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with^[a] water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”