

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

March 10, 2019

Minister	Rev. Neal Palmer	Organist	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Isabel Clouston	Greeters	Gayle Ferron
Custodian	Steve White		Adrienne Hazen

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
<i>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</i> <i>Psalm 91</i> <i>Roman 10:8b-13</i> <i>Luke 4:1-13</i>	<i>Genesis 15:1-12,17-18</i> <i>Psalm 27</i> <i>Philippians 3:17</i> <i>Luke 13:31-35</i>

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

We welcome Linda Knowles-MacPherson today and thank her for leading our music.

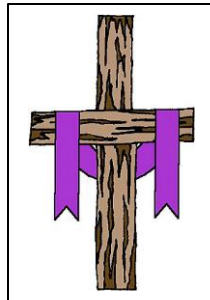
THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

MUSICAL PRELUDE

***CHORAL OPENING:**

"Spirit, Open My Heart" – MV #79

***Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.***



WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Today, we begin our journey of Lent – a journey of following the Christ into the desert, and then into Jerusalem.

All: **We join in remembering the struggle and the strife of Jesus, who stood up for love, even when it meant persecution and death. We join in remembering the challenges of the Israelites as they journeyed away from slavery, through the desert, toward a new beginning.**

One: We join in remembering and honouring all who would teach us what it means to bear witness to God's love, through action and deed, and to reject the ways of empire.

All: **We join in a journey together toward justice, wholeness, and peace.**

GATHERING PRAYER (responsively)

One: ...May this journey through the Season of Lent be a journey of meaning and purpose.

All: **Guide us, we pray, to a place of vitality and hope. Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN:**

"Jesus, Tempted in the Desert" – VU #115

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)

One: ...Holy One, instruct us again.

All: **May our words and actions show we're a people of true thanksgiving. May we be ever mindful of the generosity and deliverance that's been afforded us. Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE: "And When You Call for Me" – MV #96

***And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.***

A LENTEN SPIRITUAL PRACTICE (Lent Challenge 1)

CHORAL RESPONSE:

"Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary" – MV #18
*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.*

SHARING A STORY (with children of all ages)

***SINGING A SONG** – "It Only Takes a Spark" – VU #289

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Cheryl Brewster

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11
***Responsive Psalm:** Psalm 91 (VU #807)
Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:1-13

REFLECTION: "A Place of Justice and Grace"

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

ANTHEM: "Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS (including ourselves)

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Give what you can,
Take what you need.
For the body of Christ, is enough to feed.
The hungry for Spirit and the thirsty for love.
Give thanks when you can to our God up above.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (in unison)

**Holy One, this very day,
we dedicate our thirst
to your renewing heart.
We dedicate our hunger
to understanding the need around us.
We dedicate our fear and vulnerabilities
to the promise of your love and protection.
And, we dedicate today's worship
to the journey ahead.
Amen.**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS –

"O God, Hear My Prayer" – VU #948

*O God, hear my prayer,
O God, hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.
O God, hear my prayer,
O God, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

God, hear our prayer.

R. And in your love, answer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER – VU #921 (in unison)

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** – "God Says" – MV #172

God says, "Be still so you may hear
the words I whisper in your ear.
If you will listen, you will know
I'm with you always where you go."

God says, "Look up and see the prize
I've placed here right before your eyes.
Find beauty in the things of earth,
a cause for wonder and rebirth."

Church News

God says, "Come here! I need your voice.
Please teach my people to rejoice.
In who you are, in what you do,
your life will show my love for you."

God says, "Reach out! The world's in need
and wants a word, a song, a deed.
I send you forth to speak, to sing,
to act for Christ in everything."

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL CLOSING:**

"Stay with Us through the Night" – VU #182 (Verse 1)

Stay with us through the night.

Stay with us through the pain.

***Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning breaks again.***

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*During these 40 days,
let me put away all my pride.
Let me change my heart
and give up all that is not good within me.
Let me love God with all that I am
and all that I have."
-- Genesis Grain*

This Week at First United – March 11 – March 16

Monday	9-11am	Badminton
	1:30pm	UCW – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Beavers – Rms. 1,2 &3
Tuesday	4pm	Pastoral Council – Eddy Rm
	6:15	Cubs & Scouts – DEMH Gym
Wednesday	9-11am	Badminton
	9-12am	TAB
	3pm	Office Closed
	6:30	Choir Practice

Peanut Butter for Volunteer Centre

Commitment December 31, 2019 **900**
Total Collected **178**

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.



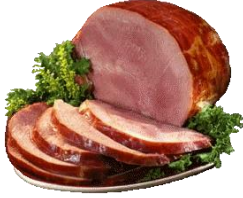
The Upper Room for March and April are in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one. A container for donations is located with the publication.

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.

Notice of 2019 Congregational Annual Meeting

Please note: The 2019 Congregational Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2019, following the church service. Annual reports are available this morning in the Narthex.

A St Patrick's Gathering sponsored by the Pastoral Care Team of First United Church will be held on Thursday, March 21th, from 1:30-3:30pm. Music will be provided by Linda Knowles-MacPherson and "The Treble Makers". A light lunch will be provided. Donations of non-perishable goods for the Volunteer Center will be collected. Everyone welcome.



Ham & Scallop Supper

Thursday, March 28, 2019

Adults \$ 15 - Children (12 & under) \$ 6

5:00-6:30pm

Take outs available 4:00 -5:30pm

Advance Tickets Sales only

Tickets available from Ways and Means Team members
and at the church office 546-3532

Sponsored by



R.G. McGROUP LTD.

Community Events

St Patrick's Supper: Tickets for the Irish Canadian Cultural Associations St. Patrick's day supper at the Gowan Brea on Sunday, March 17th will be on sale to the general public March 4 to March 11th. The door opens at 5pm and supper is at 6pm. The supper is ham and scallop potatoes to be followed with entertainment by the "Friends of Erin". Tickets are \$30.00 each and can be obtained by calling or emailing Pat Murphy at 547-5525, email murpaw@gmail.com.

Evangel Bathurst: Presents Leland Klessan's 'More True Comedy Tour' Friday April 12, 2019 – 7pm. Tickets \$15 each . 40\$ Family rate. Available at the church office (506) 546-2172 or online at www.lelandklassen.com.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (NRSV)

First Fruits and Tithes

26 When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,

² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us."

⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God,

⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,

⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;

⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.

¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Luke 4:1-13 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Temptation of Jesus

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,

² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil^[a] led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

⁶ And the devil^[b] said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

⁹ Then the devil^[c] took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,

¹⁰ for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

¹¹ and

'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.