

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

March 22, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Organist** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters**
Custodian Steve White

<u>Lectionary for Today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Exodus 17:1-7	1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 95	Psalm 23
Romans 5:1-11	Ephesians 5:8-14
John 4:5-42	John 9:1-41

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

LIGHTING THE LENTEN CANDLES

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP - "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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN –

"Water Flowing from the Mountains" – MV #87

Water flowing from the mountains.

Water flowing o'er the earth.

Water comes to us, so precious.

Living water gives us birth.

Refrain

Drink deep this source of life.

Drink deep and know.

*For living water sings, and living water brings
the love that makes our spirit grow.*

Water rushing down the rivers.

Water rushing to the sea.

Water comes to us, so precious.

Living water makes us free.

Refrain

Water springing from the dry place.

Water springing in the sun.

Water comes to us, so precious.

Living water for each one.

Refrain

A LENTEN SPIRITUAL PRACTICE (Helplessness)

CHORAL RESPONSE - "How Deep the Peace" – MV #95

*How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose hearts are healed.*

SHARING A STORY

SINGING A SONG – "This Little Light of Mine" – AGCS #66

This little light of mine

I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine

I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine

I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:5-42

HYMN – “By the Well, A Thirsty Woman” – MV #117

By the well, a thirsty woman
found the life that you could give,
we, too, thirst like empty vessels –
fill us full that we may live.
Jesus, source of living water,
Well-spring bubbling deep within,
By the waters of our baptism
wisdom purpose life begin.

Plant us firm, like trees by water,
send our roots down deep in you,
quench our parched and thirsty spirits
with your water, pure and true.
Jesus, source of living water,
Nourisher of all on earth,
By the waters of our baptism
Quicken growth and give new birth.

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May we be your streams of justice,
as the water, may we move
through your people – by your Spirit
showing mercy, sharing love.
Jesus, source of living water,
Ground-swell forcing truth to view,
By the waters of our baptism
set us free to live for you.

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

SHARING OUR CONCERNS – “Hold Us in Your Grace”

***Hold us in your grace, O God,
Hold us in your grace.***

***Hold us in your grace, O God,
Hold us in your grace.***

***Hold us, hold us in your grace.
Hold us, hold us in your grace.***

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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THE LORD'S PRAYER – VU #921

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

GOING OUT (as God's people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN – "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" – VU #651

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty, hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, lead me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee
I will ever give to thee.

BLESSING

GOING FORTH – "An Old Irish Blessing"

***May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be ever at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, and until we meet again,
may you be held in the hollow of God's hand.***

POSTLUDE