

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge
First United Church, Bathurst

www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

July 5, 2020

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Isabel Clouston **Greeters**
Custodian

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<u>Lectionary for Today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-4-, 58-67	Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 45:10-17	Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 7:15-25a	Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME (including our friends worshipping by CD)

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

Jonathan Boyd
Arianna Good
Colton Lee
Jacob Harris Miller
Rebeka Sealy
Cameron Smith

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (responsively)

(The Christ Candle is lit.)

This candle dances with the presence of the Spirit,
**reminding us of the warmth of the community in which we're
called to gather,**
and the light that shines for us
with wisdom, insight, and clarity.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP - "There Is Room for All" – MV #62

***There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
there is room for all, sheltered in God's love.
And I rejoice and sing, "My refuge and my rock,
in whom I trust."
There is room for all, there is room for all!***

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

...Come now with the burdens of work, home, and community.
Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

...Come now with the burdens of illness, fear, hopelessness.
Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

...Come now with the burdens of anger, prejudice, alienation.
Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

...The Spirit invites all who are weary to find peace.

We gather in hope.

We gather to rest.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN –

"Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet" – VU 245

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle sounding flute.
Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or in the morning light.
Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord in the every moment,
nothing let your praise destroy.
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work or play,
praise the Lord every where in every way!

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (responsively)

...And yet, all too often,
we're frightened by those same strangers
and discount their wisdom,
instead of seeing them as messengers.

**Help us, we pray,
to see you in every person
and in every circumstance we encounter.**

CHORAL RESPONSE – "Listen, God Is Calling" – MV #97

*Listen, God is calling,
Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness,
Comfort and joy.*

GREETING ONE ANOTHER (responsively)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (with children of all ages)

SINGING A SONG – "Jesus Loves Me" - VU 365

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong,
in his love we shall be strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know,
As he loved so long ago,
Taking children on his knee,
Saying, "Let them come to me.",
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today,
walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give
Light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 & Romans 7:15-25a (antiphonally)
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC - "This Path We Walk" *Emma Vickers*

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Bev Murphy*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

**Holy One,
may our offerings of money, talent, time, energy
and good ol' fashioned love
be used to translate our faith into programs
and our ministries into ones hospitable to all.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS – “I Am the Dream” – MV #106 vs.1

I am the dream and you the dreamer.

I am the song and you are the rhyme.

You are the tune sung in every silence.

You are the now in the endless stream of time.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

For all who thirst—whether for water or relationship,
for welcome or justice, or merely a place to rest and to be:

Turn our lives outward in ever-expanding senses of connection and love.

For all who struggle with choices—
choices about the beginnings or endings of commitments;
choices whose doors haven’t yet revealed the landscape beyond,
or the path it may bring;
choices about what to do with one’s life,
and what to do for the sake of others:

Turn our lives outward in ever-expanding senses of connection and love.

For all our journeys, seeking answer to prayer—for healing and/or
comfort, for strength in trying times and joy in shared times, for
wisdom and love in all times:

Turn our lives outward in ever-expanding senses of connection and love.

THE LORD’S PRAYER – VU #921 (Ecumenical Version) (in unison)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours**

now and for ever.

Amen.

GOING OUT (as God’s people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN – “Wherever You May Go” - MV #216

Chorus:

Wherever you may go, I will follow,
and your people shall be my people too.

Wherever you may go, I will follow,
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.

Say the word and I will stay,
I will never go away,
We will travel side by side
and God’s love will be our guide.

Chorus:

From beginning to the end
I will always be your friend,
When you need me, I’ll be there,
you can trust my faithful care.

Chorus:

BLESSING

CHORAL SENDING FORTH – “When You Go From This Place”

When you go from this place be true.

May blessing of life find you.

May the winds of the Spirit guide you,

’cross the ocean of all your days.

May the seeds of your love your life adorn the Way.

Adorn the Way.

Adorn the Way.

Adorn the Way.

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

CHURCH NEWS

The bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of Hope Scott by her family. Mum was a devoted member of First United for over 60 years before her death on June 21, 2010 at 89 years of age.

One of her favourite scriptures and beliefs was "Through Christ I can do all things, for he strengthens me "- Phillipians 4:13. She is sadly missed in our lives and remembered with great fondness and much love.

Summer Hours: Starting June 1 until the end of August the church office hours will be Monday - Thursday, 8-4. Closed 12-1.

*During these insane times,
here are a few thoughts to contemplate.*

*"My dear, in the midst of hate,
I found there was, within me,
an invincible love.*

*In the midst of tears,
I found there was, within me,
an invincible smile.*

*In the midst of chaos,
I found there was, within me,
an invincible calm.*

*I realized, through it all,
that...In the midst of winter,
I found there was, within me,
an invincible summer.*

And that makes me happy.

*For it says that no matter how hard
the world pushes against me, within me,
there's something stronger, something better,
pushing right back."*

Albert Camus

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”ⁱ

Jesus Thanks His Father

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank^[a] you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.^[b] ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Romans 7:15-25 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

³⁴ So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. ³⁵ The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. ³⁶ And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸ but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’

⁴² “I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! ⁴³ I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,” ⁴⁴ and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your camels also”—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master’s son.’

⁴⁵ “Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ ⁴⁶ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son.

⁴⁹ Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

⁵⁸ And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” ⁵⁹ So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

“May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes.”

⁶¹ Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

⁶² Now Isaac had come from^[a] Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. ⁶³ Isaac went out in the evening to walk^[b] in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. ⁶⁴ And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.