

The United Church of Canada  
Bathurst Pastoral Charge  
First United Church, Bathurst  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

January 17, 2021

**Minister** - Rev. Neal Palmer  
**OfficeAdm** - Margaret Daniels  
**Custodian** - Steve White

**Music Director** - Martha Vickers  
**Greeters** - Margaret Payne-Chenard  
Mike Kierstead

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<u>Lectionary for Today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
1 Samuel 3:1-20	Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	Psalms 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 6: 12-20	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
John 1: 43-51	Mark 1:14-20

*GATHERING*

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER**

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP** "A Light Is Gleaming" - VU # 82

*refrain*

*A light is gleaming,  
spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.  
Come share its gladness,  
God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

-1-

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**GATHERING HYMN** "All Beautiful the March of Days" VU # 530

All beautiful the march of days,  
as seasons come and go;  
the hand that shaped the rose has wrought  
the crystal of the snow,  
has sent the silvery frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed,  
and laid a silent loveliness on hill and wood and field.

O'er white expanses sparkling pure  
the radiant morns unfold;  
the solemn splendours of the night  
burn brighter through the cold;  
life mounts in every throbbing vein,  
love deepens round the hearth,  
and clearer sounds the angel hymn,  
good will to all on earth.

O God, from whose unfathomed law  
the year in beauty flows,  
yourself the vision passing by in crystal and in rose;  
day unto day declare thro' speech,  
and night to night proclaim  
in ever-changing words of light the wonder of your name.

**PRAYER OF HUMILITY**

**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.***

**GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

**SHARING A STORY** *(with those of all ages)*

-2-

**SINGING A SONG** "Here in this Ordinary Place"

May we awake, awaken  
To the presence of God  
The presence of God  
The presence of God  
May we awake, awaken  
To the presence of God  
Here in this ordinary place.

*(Chorus)*

Here, here in this ordinary place.  
Here, here in this ordinary place.

May we awake, awaken  
To the power of love  
The power of love  
The power of love.  
May we awake, awaken  
To the power of love  
Here in this ordinary place.

*(Chorus)*

Here, here in this ordinary place.  
Here, here in this ordinary place.

And may we build a community of  
Justice for all  
Justice for all  
Justice for all  
And may we build communities of justice for all  
Here in this ordinary place.

*(Chorus)*

Here, here in this ordinary place.  
Here, here in this ordinary place.

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Jini Palmer*

1 Samuel 3:1-20

John 1:43-51

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Martha Vickers*

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Bev Murphy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**We, Holy One, have worked to collect and recollect abundance. We have toiled and we've felt the weight of an unknown future. But we come now in earnest hope and faith to offer what we have, to do what we can, and as always, to work with and through you.**

**Amen**

**SHARING OUR CONCERNS**

VU # 400

*"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*

***Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send you Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!***

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**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 forever.  
Amen.**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CLOSING HYMN** "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" VU # 509

I, The Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*(Refrain)*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

*(Refrain)*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*(Refrain)*

## BLESSING

### CHORAL SENDING FORTH

"Go Now in Peace, Guided by the Light"

MV # 211

***Go now in peace,  
guided by the light of Christ,  
so you may be nourished  
by the Word of Life***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

## *Church News*

**Just a reminder** when in person worship services resume that you need to register at the church office before 1:00 pm each Friday for the following Sunday's service.

**Please note** the office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, closed for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30.

**Peanut Butter Update** As of January 15, 2021, 12 jars of Peanut Butter have been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Peanut butter can be dropped off at the church office anytime during office hours; cheques can be delivered or mailed to the Bathurst Volunteer Center at 464 King Ave., Bathurst NB E2A 1P5. Please indicate on your cheque that it is for the purchase of Peanut Butter for the First United contribution.

**Thank You to our congregation for your generosity** on White Gift Sunday and throughout the following weeks. Your monetary gifts totaled \$25 for White Gift and \$1,590 for the Benevolent Fund.

### **1 SAMUEL 3:1-20**

#### **NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION**

#### **Samuel's Calling and Prophetic Activity**

**3** Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

**2** At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; **3** the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. **4** Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"<sup>[a]</sup> and he said, "Here I am!" **5** and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. **6** The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." **7** Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. **8** The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. **9** Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

**10** Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." **11** Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. **12** On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. **13** For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God,<sup>[b]</sup> and he did not restrain them. **14** Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

**15** Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. **16** But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." **17** Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." **18** So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

**19** As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. **20** And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

## **JOHN 1:43-51**

### **NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION**

#### **Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael**

<sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup> And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you,<sup>[a]</sup> you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."