

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

February 7, 2021

Minister - Rev. Neal Palmer

Music Director - Martha Vickers

Office Adm - Margaret Daniels

Custodian - Steve White

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<u>Lectionary for Today</u> Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9
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*The bulletins are placed in loving memory of
Gordon & Ethel Vance - by the family*

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

...We light the Christ Candle as the light that both shows us the way and helps us imagine the way.

The Christ Candle is lit.

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

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" VU #220

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation!
O my soul, praise Him, all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear: brothers and sisters draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen how all you needed has been
met by God's gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
Who out of love will befriend us.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from God's people again;
Gladly with praise we adore Him.

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)*

SINGING A SONG "Friend to Friend"

Let us now as God's own people,
give the sign of peace,
proclaiming our love for one another,
binding friend to friend.

(Chorus)

Christ Jesus calls us to love one another,
to be one in him, friend to friend,
in love to each other, we shall give our hands.

In our care for one another,
by each kindly word,
by ev'ry loving deed,
we make known the love of Jesus Christ.

(Chorus)

We feed the hungry,
clothe the naked,
give drink to those who thirst,
for Jesus came in love as a servant and we follow him.

(Chorus)

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jini Palmer

Isaiah 40:21-31

Mark 1:29-39

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

Martha Vickers

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Holy One,
We offer ourselves and our resources to the care of
community both here and around the world.
We offer ourselves as servants—adapting our hearts to show
love to those we're unfamiliar with as well.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" VU # 400

***Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your 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 *(in unison)*

**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 "I Feel the Winds of God" VU # 625

I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift,
Though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift;
If hope but light the water's crest, and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at His behest, and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears,
Until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years;
If cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be,
O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown,
Lift high the blood-red flag above; it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.

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.

Reminder - Team Committee Reports will be required in order to prepare 2020 Annual Report. Would the individuals responsible for preparing each report please email them to the church office at your earliest opportunity. If you have already done so, thank you.

Peanut Butter Update As of February 4, 2021, 45 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.

Isaiah 40:21-31

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Mark 1:29-39

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

Jesus Heals Many at Simon's House

²⁹ As soon as they^[a] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

A Preaching Tour in Galilee

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.