

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

March 28, 2021

Minister	Rev. Neal Palmer	Music Director	Martha Vickers
Office Adm.	Margaret Daniels	Greeters	Gayle Ferron
Custodian	Steve White		Shirley Sealy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Mark 11:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 John 20:1-18
<i>The bulletin today is placed by Bernice Jardine, in loving memory of her husband, George Jardine</i>	

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

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP "O God We Call" VU # 411

***O God we call, O God we call,
from deep inside we yearn,
from deep inside we yearn,
from deep inside we yearn for you.***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Voice 1: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

Voice 2: Say what?

Voice 1: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

Voice 2: Which side are you on, friends? Which side?

Voice 1: Justice for our children is justice for all

All: and we strive for justice until freedom is one.

Voice 2: Which side are you on friends? Which side?

Voice 1: Justice for our children is justice for all

All: and we strive for justice until freedom is one.

Voice 2: Save us, O God, have mercy and save us.

Voice 1: Open to us the gates of righteousness.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Voice 2: Hosanna in the highest.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN

"All Glory, Laud and Honour"

VU #122

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel, and David's royal son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and blessed one.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

All glory, laud and honour to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king.

LENTEN TENEBRAE (*responsively*)

Palm Sunday – Psalm 118

...And blessed is the One, full of mercy and love, who calls us into this
humble time of confession.

**In our distress, we cry out, Hosanna! Hosanna! God save us!”
We are quick to join the parade, God; quick to find hope and
joy in the waving of the branches; quick to forget where this
road leads.**

**Forgive us for longing to remain on the surface of our faith.
Forgive us for not digging deeper in this wilderness time.
Forgive us for being fearful of the dark days ahead, of
wanting to avoid them.**

**We know that in order to understand the full joy of Easter’s
life, we must feel the full sorrow of Good Friday’s death. And
yet we are tempted to turn away.**

**Forgive us for turning away, God: from you, from the church,
from the people you love.**

(Silent confession as sixth candle is extinguished.)

**As we enter this Holy Week, we rejoice that your light will
remain ever before us, guiding our steps. We celebrate that
your Spirit remains behind us, pushing us forward that we
may gain new levels of understanding.**

**Blessed are you, Holy One, blessed is your steadfast love, and
blessed are we who call upon your name in hope.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New” MV #115

***Behold, behold, I make all things new
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.***

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (*responsively*)

...The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

SINGING A SONG

“He Came Riding on a Donkey” VU #124

He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy kind of lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him, staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them, on to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises; waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David; riding on to take his throne.

Then the children gathered, singing
shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
in the streets their song was ringing,
“Hosannas” filled the morning air.
Timid adults strained to see him, caught the Spirit, joined the song;
spread their cloaks along before him, branches flashing in the sun.
So all the city sang his praises; waking streets and dancing crowd;
here he is, the Son of David; our Messiah, Son of God.

In our fasting, and our feasting,
called to follow in his way;
called to walk his road to Easter,
called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David, hosanna in the heavens above;
blessed is he who comes to save us,
blessed is he who brings his love.
Let us join to sing his praises; open hearts and souls to God;
he is with us, Son of David; God's Messiah, Christ the Lord.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isabel MacLaggan

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Mark 11:1-11

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC "How Great Thou Art" *Torey Smith*

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

**As we worship, Holy One,
we acknowledge how much we've received
because of Jesus' death and resurrection.
In doing so, we give, and in giving,
we receive even more.
Amen**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

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 for ever.
Amen.**

GOING OUT (as God's people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

"We Glimpse, O Love, Your Hidden Way"

(tune VU # 108 Winchester New)

Ride on ride on O holy, longing Lord.
Below your feet our coats we lay.
Above your head the branches wave.
We glimpse, O Love, your hidden way.

Ride on ride on O steadfast, sorrowing King,
processing through our scattered aims.
And mounted low, close to our hearts,
a lingering trace of hope impart.

Ride on, ride on O vivid, lonely One.
Ride through the clamour of the day.
And when the silence rises new
draw us more deeply into You.

Words - Catherine Smith © 2019

BLESSING

CHORAL SENDING FORTH

"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 break again.*

Church News

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 March 25, 2021, 135 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.

Reminder – As the in-person worship services have resumed, if you plan to attend the service, please call the church office at 546-3532 by Friday morning, and give Margaret the name(s) and phone number(s) for yourself and anyone in your bubble who will be sitting with you. A seating plan will be pre-arranged based on the required physical distancing rules. *As seating capacity will be much less than usual, please call the office if your plans change and you are unable to attend.* On-line services will continue, most likely delayed, as the in-person service will be recorded and then uploaded to the church website and Facebook page.

Upcoming services:

- Friday April 2, 2021 at 10 AM Good Friday Service
- Sunday April 4, 2021 at 10 AM Easter Service with communion

Information Sheet For In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary

Revised March 21, 2021

Please do not attend or plan to attend:

- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19:
 - fever or signs of a fever (such as chills)
 - new cough or worsening of a chronic cough
 - sore throat
 - headache
 - runny nose
 - new onset of fatigue
 - new onset of muscle pain
 - diarrhea
 - loss of taste or smell,
 - purple markings on the fingers and toes in children.
- Or if you answer yes to any of the following questions:
 - Have you been advised by Public Health, a health-care provider or a peace officer that you are currently required to self-isolate?
 - Are you waiting for a COVID-19 test or COVID-19 test results AND have been told you need to self-isolate?
 - Have travelled outside New Brunswick in the past 14 days (unless exempt from self-isolation), or
 - Have had close contact with anyone with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
- You will need to register at the church office before 1.00 p.m. each Friday for the following Sunday's service. Your name and phone number for you and those attending with you in your bubble will be recorded by Margaret.
- On Sunday morning, you will be met at the door by a greeter wearing a mask who will:
 - Ask if your answers to the screening questions are 'no'. The greeter will need to refuse you admittance if you indicate a positive answer to the screening questions.

- Confirm your name(s) and phone number(s) on the list provided by the church office.
 - If there is sufficient space with physical distancing, attendees who have not pre-registered will be welcome to enter, and their names and contact information will be added to the registration list.
 - Unfortunately, if there is insufficient space, non-registered people will need to be turned away, and will be given information about the church website and Facebook page.
- Each person in the church is expected to:
 - Wear a mask at all times
 - Use hand-sanitizer upon arrival and when leaving
 - Maintain a physical distance of at least 2 metres or 6 feet at all times with anyone outside your bubble/Steady15.
 - Not shake hands or touch or hug others.
- Offering plates will be available on a table in the entry for you to place your offering, on the way in or out.
 - Please go directly into the Sanctuary and be seated. You are to remain in place for the whole service. However, if you need to use the washroom, please do so.
 - Coats and hats are to be taken into the Sanctuary.
 - No congregational or choir singing is allowed.
 - There will be no hand-shaking or moving around during the Passing of the Peace. Please smile or wave to others.
 - There will be no Sunday School at this time, and children will need to remain in their seats during Sharing a Story time and during the whole service.

- There will be one or two video cameras at the back of the Sanctuary, as the service will be recorded for viewing later on the church website and Facebook page.
- When the service is over:
 - The Minister or worship leader will remain in the pulpit and the organist/pianist will remain at the organ or piano,
 - Please exit pew by pew starting at the back, and go directly to the parking lot or your vehicle,
 - Please take your bulletin home or put it in the blue bin in the narthex,
 - There will be no serving of refreshments, and
 - Please respect the physical distancing requirements while outside in the parking lot.

Many thanks to each of you for helping us meet the Provincial Health requirements. As uncomfortable or difficult as these procedures may be, by all of us doing so, we will help with keeping our families, congregation and community healthy, and allows us to share worship with our church family.

Your COVID-19 Response Team,

Sandra Boone Bev Murphy Ian Oliver Jini Palmer
 Brenda Parrott Lester Scott Martha Vickers
 Rev. Neal Palmer

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

MARK 11:1-11

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

1 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples

2 and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.

3 If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

4 They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,

5 some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"

6 They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.

7 Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.

8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.

9 Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

11 Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

PSALM 118:1-2

A Song of Victory

1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

2 Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

PSALM 118:19-29

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.

27 The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

29 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.