The United Church of Canada Bathurst Pastoral Charge

First United Church, Bathurst

www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

May 9, 2021

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer Music Director Martha Vickers Margaret Daniels Office Adm. **Greeters** Peter Gammon Custodian Steve White Edie Gammon

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
Acts 10:44-48	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 98	Psalm 1
1 John 5:1-6	1 John 5:9-13
John 15:9-17	John 17:6-19

The family of Bertram Demmings dedicates today's bulletin in recognition of Bert's 102nd birthday. May he be abundantly blessed with good health and happiness today, tomorrow and the days to come.

> "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He causes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake."

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



GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE (*responsively*)

...We light the Christ candle, acknowledging Jesus, in whatever image he appears as.

The Christ candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP "Come Build a Church"

Come build a church with soul and spirit, come build a church of flesh and bone. We need no tower rising skyward: no house of wood of glass or stone. Come build a church with human frailty. come build a church of flesh and blood Jesus shall be its sure foundation. it shall be built by the hands of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

We gather to worship.

We abide in God's love.

We enter with glad hearts, eager to love and serve.

We abide in Christ's love.

We praise our maker, whose love spreads to all of creation.

Creation abides in our love.

We honour the light, the dark, and the hues between. God makes everything beautiful!

Life in its fullness holds great joy and great pain. We are witnesses to the depth of love that fills our days. We abide in the joy of love.

GATHERING PRAYER

SINGING A SONG

"Draw the Circle Wide"

MV#145

GATHERING HYMN

"Come, Let Us Sing"

VU #222

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song, we have stood silently too long; surely the Lord deserves our praise, so joyfully thank God for our days.

O thirsty soul, come drink at the well, God's living waters will never fail. Surely the Lord will help you to stand, strengthened and comforted by God's hand.

You dwell among us and cause us to pray, and walk with each other following your way; our precious brothers and sisters will grow in the fulfilling love they know.

Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing to the desire of all living things. Come, all you creatures, high and low, let your praises endlessly flow.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE "Kyrie Eleison" MV #68

O God have mercy, O God have mercy, O God have mercy, have mercy on us.

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER (responsively)

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

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY (with those of all ages)

Refrain:

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song, No one stands alone, Standing side by side, Draw the circle wide

God the still-point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns; nothing lost,but held forever, in God's gracious arms.

Refrain:

Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small; let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

Refrain:

Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.

Refrain:

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Wayne Lord

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC "You Raise Me Up"

Emma Vickers

(Previously recorded May 10, 2020)

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

Holy One,
we believe with our whole lives.
We dedicate all we are in service.
Take us, use us, mould us, make us.
Take all we are and all we offer, we pray, and use our gifts to the service of love.
Amen

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

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

"Would You Bless Our Homes and Families" VU #556 (Previously recorded May 10, 2020)

Would you bless our homes and families, Source of life who calls us here; in our world of stress and tension teach us love that conquers fear. Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays; teach us when we face our troubles, ove's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding, let us use the time that's ours to delight in simple pleasures, sharing joys in gentle hours. When our way in anxious walking and a heavy path we plod, teach us trust in one another and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured, with the love that shapes us there, teach us, God, to claim as family every one whose life we share.

And through all that life may offer, may we in your love remain; may the love we share in families be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries of our daily thought and care till the family you have chosen spills its love out everywhere. Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays; teach us when we face our troubles love's expressed in many ways.

BLESSING

CHORAL CLOSING

"When You Walk from Here"

VU #298

When you walk from here, when you walk from here, walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE:

Church News

The regular office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, closed for lunch from 12:00 to 12:30.

Peanut Butter Update – As of May 6, 2021, 218 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, on a delayed basis, as the in-person service will be recorded and then uploaded to the church website and Facebook page as soon as possible.

Community News

The Anglican Parish of New Bandon is holding a take-out only lobster supper on Saturday, June 5. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$12.50 for children under 12. All tickets are being sold in advance and can be purchased by contacting Norma Ellis 546-9638, Kay Addison 350-0960, Mitzi Whelton 545-0298, Darlene Dempsey 480-1078 or Nancy Hodnett 545-5263.

Congratulations to Bertram Demmings on this special May 9th, his 102nd Birthday!

Your life story has been an inspiration to many! May happy memories that you made for yourself, and for family and friends fill today and the days ahead.

Cherish each moment, and celebrate with love.

Sincerest Thoughts and Best Wishes,

Pastoral Care Team on behalf of your First United Church Family

For those who may not have read Bert's son's heart-warming tribute from a few years ago, here is the link

https://www.macleans.ca/opinion/a-sons-letter-to-his-single-parent-dad-he-was-not-going-to





May God's many blessings

Be yours forever more

And may you know you're valued

And loved by the Lord

Especially on this day

That we have set aside

To show our appreciation

To the Mothers in our lives

Mother's Day Flowers have been donated



In Loving Memory of

My mother **Mildred Archibald** (1991), grandmothers **Laura MacIntosh** (1938) and **Alice Archibald** (1959), and mother-in-law **Stella MacLaggan** (1966) from Isabel MacLaggan

Sara Eddy and Ruth Branch from Elizabeth and Gary

Fran Daley and Hilda Rodgers from Joyce & Glen

My mother, **Lillian Scott Branch** and my daughters, **Paula Lockhard** and **Diane Doucet** from Betty Garrett

Dorothy and **Helen** from Cheryl & Dave Brewster

Our mothers, **Edith Payne** and **Florence Scott**

from Peggy & Francis

My mother, Myrtle Kierstead and wife Vivien from Mike

Ellen Cooper, Marion Fallon and Eva Young from the family

Margaret (Mum) Scott and Gladys Branch from Lela & Percy

Emily Wiseman and Dot Clouston from Isabel & John

Laura Parrott from Brenda Parrott & Dave Morison

Our Mothers, **Vera Cameron** and **Betty Gammon**

from Peter & Edie

Our Mothers, Winifred Hierlihy and Emma Mullin

from Blake & Kathy

Lois Gammon and Agnes Murphy from Brian & Bev

Mother's, **Phyllis Wiseman** and **Lillian Murphy**

from Cheryl & Gordon

Wynne Sullivan and Fran Barbery from Bob & Beth

Rita (Walsh) Murray from Linda Knowles-MacPherson

Our mothers, Sue Palmer and Margaret Watt from Neal & Jini

My mother **Velma Daley** and mother-in-law **Bertha Pettigrew** from Ina Pettigrew

All the mothers gone before us and those of the present

from Yvon & Gayle

My mother, **Edrie Hornibrook** and her sisters **Annie Foley, Edna Blair** and **Ada Smith** from Helen A. Knowles

Our mothers, **Agnes Fowlie** and **Vera Godfrey** from Archie & Jean

Isalee Dempsey from the Dempsey Family

Dora Glendenning and Sheila Boucher

from Wally, Beth & family

My mother, grandmothers and step-mother

from Margaret Payne-Chenard

My mom, Maude Hierlihy and mother-in-law, Anna McCallum from Dorothy Ann

In Honour of

Rita Brown from the family

Eileen Jagoe from Margaret & Mike

The Back Row Gals

SCRIPTURE READINGS

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

ACTS 10:44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.

45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,

46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said,

47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

JOHN 15:9-17

- 9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- 12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.