

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge

First United Church, Bathurst
www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

August 1, 2021

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Greeters** Lester Scott
Custodian Steve White Gayle Ferron

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Lectionary for today 2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a Psalm 51:1-12 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35	Lectionary for next Sunday 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51
<i>We welcome Helen Knowles who is leading us today in worship Thank you!</i>	
<i>Today's Guest Music Leader – Linda Knowles-MacPherson Thank you for leading our music today</i>	

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

& CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsively)

One: The Christ Candle reminds us that Jesus is God's gift of love to us.

All: And that in Him, the light of love triumphs over any darkness in our lives.

The Christ Candle is lit.

One: God is as mighty as the roaring waters of Pabineau Falls in springtime.

All: Yet, God comes to us in quietness, like the stillness of the Bay of Chaleur in early morning.

One: God is more important than any powerful ruler or famous athlete.

All: Yet, God came to us as a tiny baby in his mother's arms, a humble carpenter & as a loyal servant.

One: We gather to praise God

All: for the presence of God in all things.

One: We gather with grateful hearts

**All: for the fresh breezes of summer,
the rain that nourishes new life
and for the warmth of the sun.**

One: Let us worship our loving & generous God.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP:

VU #375

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

(Refrain)

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow thro' the wilderness
calling and free,**

**Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.**



GATHERING PRAYER:

***GATHERING HYMN:**

VU #415

"God, We Praise You for the Morning"

God, we praise you for the morning;
Hope springs forth with each new day,
New beginning, prayer and promise,
Joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation,
Mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
In your bountiful hand.

God, we praise you for compassion,
All the loving that you show;
Human touching, tears, and laughter,
Help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
Restless searcher, gentle teacher,
Strength and courage you send.

God, we praise you for the Savior,
Come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

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:** *(responsively)*

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

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY:

God's Vacation

(with those of all ages)

SINGING A SONG:

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

VU #291

(Refrain)

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful:
in love, God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their tiny wings.

The purple headed mountains,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky;

Refrain

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.

The rocky mountain splendour,
the lone wolf's haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall;

God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God our maker,
who has made all things well.

Refrain

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:*Isabel MacLaggan*

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 8

Gospel Reading: Luke 10: 25-37

REFLECTION: "O Canada"***OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**O Canada! Our home and native land!
 True patriot love in all of us command.
 With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
 the True North strong and free!
 From far and wide, O Canada,
 we stand on guard for thee.
 God keep our land glorious and free!
 O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
 O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.**

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**GIFT OF MUSIC***Linda Knowles-MacPherson**"Life's Railway to Heaven"**RESPONDING***MINUTE FOR MISSION:***Bev Murphy***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:*****OFFERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

**Creator God, whose hand has given us all that we possess,
 we have benefited from your generosity.
 May others, in turn, benefit from our gifts. Use us and
 enable us to use these gifts, to reach out in loving
 compassion, justice & hope. Amen**

MEDITATIVE MUSIC:**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:**

VU #523

"Oh God of All the Many Lands"

O God of all the many lands,
 we lift our hearts in prayer,
 for this our land of Canada,
 a country wide and fair;
 for mountain heights and northern lights,
 for prairie, lake and sea,
 for every blessing from your hand
 bestowed so lavishly.

We thank you for your sacrifice
 of venturers of old,
 who dared to cross uncharted seas,
 whose dreams made others bold,
 for valiant souls and pioneers,
 for all who served their age,
 and left for us who follow on
 a sacred heritage.

Church News

We thank you from many lands
with varied gifts they came,
to pledge their love and loyalty
where scarlet maples flame.
May justice here belong to all,
and may our nation play
its rightful role in ushering in
the peace for which we pray.

May we be worthy of our land
and seek its highest good,
shaping a noble destiny
of truest nationhood.
May this fair land, our Canada,
your own dominion be;
your people bless abundantly
from seas to Arctic sea.

BLESSING:

CHORAL CLOSING "Take Up His Song" MV #213

***Take up his song of peace and go into the world.
Take up his song of peace in ev'ry moment.
In ev'ry moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;
lay them down in peace, lay them down,
and take up his song.***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE:

Summer Hours - the church office will be closed on Fridays. The hours are now Monday to Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM Closed 12 to 12:30

Peanut Butter Update – As of July 29, 2021, 352 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.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS will remain in place until early in the fall except now you may choose to remove your mask when you are at your seat. **Congregational singing is allowed with your mask in place.**

If you plan to attend the service, please call the church office at 546-3532 by **Thursday** morning, if possible, and give Margaret the name(s) and phone number(s) for yourself and anyone who will be with you. The physical distancing seating plan will remain in use. 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 early in the week.

Rev. Neal Palmer is on vacation and study leave through to September 4th. Rev. Sue White from Central United Church, Clifton, will be available for pastoral emergencies. Rev. Sue may be reached by calling 547-5745.

A Special Thank You to our Volunteers in July:

Counters – Edie Gammon and Gary Branch;
Greeters – Bev Murphy and Pat Thibideau;
Minute for Missions – Bev Murphy
Readers – Wayne Lord, Catherine Eddy, Anne Brooks & Gary Branch
Sound System – Shirley Allain, Ralph Jamieson and Brenda Parrott
Videographer – Don Eddy; and
Websolutions – Josh Gammon

TAKE OUT Beef BBQ will be held on September 16th from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Tickets will be available starting August 6th - \$15 for adults and \$6 for children. As there are a limited number of tickets they will be sold on a first come-first served basis. Please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or drop by the church office.

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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

L'ÉGLISE UNIE DU CANADA



LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND.

*God's call to love our neighbours
has NEVER BEEN STRONGER.*



Good news!

**The Government of Canada will match your donation
dollar for dollar until September 6.**

You can purchase one vaccine with a donation of \$25, or as many as you like, through [Gifts with Vision](#). We're working with our Mission & Service partners and UNICEF to make sure the vaccines get where they're most needed.

No one is safe until everyone is safe.

By now, you've probably heard that a hundred times. And here in North America, we're doing what we can to keep everyone safe from COVID-19.

[But today, we are asking you to go further.](#)

Our Mission & Service partner ACT Alliance reports that out of all the vaccines administered around the world, **less than 2% reached Africa and less than 7% reached South America**. Many countries in the global South and East won't even be able to start a vaccine program until 2022. If this continues, these countries won't reach vaccination goals until 2024...if ever.

People in these countries need access to the COVID-19 vaccine now, not in 2022 or 2023 or 2024. And we have a way for you to help make that happen.

This is your chance to make a gift that will express how much you care, not only for your family member or friend, but for the person who will receive the vaccine. **We hope you'll take a moment to [give that life-saving gift today](#).**

To donate online please go to:

<https://giftswithvision.ca/collections/featured/products/pay-it-forward>

By Phone: Call 1-844-715-7969 toll free and have your credit card handy and ask for Vaccine purchase.

By Mail: Make cheque payable to The United Church of Canada. In the memo line write: Vaccine purchase. Mail to Gifts with Vision, c/o The United Church of Canada, 3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4.

Psalm 8

Divine Majesty and Human Dignity

A Psalm of David.

- 1** O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
- 2** Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.
- 3** When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
- 4** what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
- 5** Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor.
- 6** You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
- 7** all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field
- 8** the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- 9** O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Luke 10: 25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

- 25** Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- 26** He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"
- 27** He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."
- 28** And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."
- 29** But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
- 30** Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.
- 31** Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.
- 32** So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.
- 33** But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.
- 34** He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
- 35** The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'
- 36** Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"
- 37** He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."