

***GATHERING HYMN:**

"Called by Earth and Sky"

MV #135

Refrain

***Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.
Called by earth and sky,
called by earth and sky.***

Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dreams, waters of healing,
rivers of rain, the wash of love again.

Refrain

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free. Breath of the Spirit,
Blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

Precious these mountains,
ancient sands; vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening,
rooted and strong, Creation's faithful song.

Refrain

Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY *(responsively)*

Pardoning One...
for times when we've viewed Planet Earth as a source of endless
resources,

forgive us, we pray.

For times when Earth's waters are polluted with toxins,

forgive us, we pray.

For times when we've cared more about progress than Planet Earth,

forgive us, we pray.

Help us, we pray, to do what's right.

Planet Earth, after all, is our sanctuary, our home.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Don't Be Afraid"

MV #90

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger,

my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger and I have promised,

promised to be always near.

***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

"Cosmic Hymn of Praise"

(Seasons of the Spirit Songbook – volume 9)

Verse 1

Sun and moon, praise God.

Shining stars, praise God.

Highest heavens, praise God. Let all creation sing.

Refrain

Alleluia! Lift your voices! Join creation's cosmic hymn of praise.

Verse 2

All the earth, praise God.

Deepest oceans, praise God.

Wind and fire, praise God.

Let all creation sing.

Refrain

Alleluia! Lift your voices! Join creation's cosmic hymn of praise.

Verse 3

Hills and mountains, praise God.
Rivers, forests, praise God.
Living creatures, praise God.
Let all creation sing.

Refrain

Alleluia! Lift your voices! Join creation's cosmic hymn of praise.

Verse 4

Let all people, praise God.
Little children, praise God.
All people, praise God.
Let all creation sing.

Refrain

Alleluia! Lift your voices! Join creation's cosmic hymn of praise.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Catherine Eddy

Genesis 1:1-25

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Martha Vickers

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

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

**Generous Creator,
so many gifts have been placed into our hands.
Receive what we offer, we pray,
as a sign of our thankfulness.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS *(Meditative Music)*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

...Thanks for the gift of creation:
for our land, its beauty and its resources,

for the rich heritage we enjoy.

We pray:
for those who make decisions about the resources of the earth,

that we may use them responsibly;

for those who work on the land and sea, in city and in industry,

**that all may enjoy the fruits of their labour and marvel at
creation;**

for artists, scientists, and visionaries,

that through their work we may see creation afresh. *(Silence)*

Thanks, Caring One, for the gift of life;

for all who enrich our experience.

We pray:
for all who through their own or others' actions are deprived of
fullness of life;

**for prisoners, refugees, those differently able, and all who are
sick;**

for those in politics, medical science, social and relief work, and for the church;

for all who seek to bring life to others. *(Silence)*

Thanks for calling us to celebrate creation.

Give us reverence for life in the world. *(Silence)*

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

"For Beauty of Prairies"

VU #223

For beauty of prairies, for grandeur of trees,
for flowers of woodlands, for creatures of seas,
for all you created and gave us to share,
we praise you, Creator, extolling your care.

As stewards of beauty received at your hand,
as creatures who hear your most urgent command,
we turn from our wasteful destruction of life,
confessing our failures, confessing our strife.

Teach us once again to be gardeners in peace;
all nature around us is ours but on lease;
your name we would hallow in all that we do,
fulfilling our calling, creating with you.

BLESSING

CHORAL CLOSING

"May the God of Peace"

MV #224

***May the God of peace and of all good,
may the God of peace and of all good
be always with you. Amen!***

May God's peace be with you. Amen!

(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.

On Wednesday, September 15th the office will close at 2 PM.

Advance Polls – The federal government election advance polls will be held in the Donald Eddy Hall on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, September 10th through to September 13th. To allow for COVID protocols and social distancing there may be a table set up in front of the Donald Eddy Hall and voters will enter through the front door, exit through the rear door of the Donald Eddy Hall, through the narthex and out the St. Patrick Street entrance of the church.

Peanut Butter Update – As of September 2, 2021, 423 jars of Peanut Butter have been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. From September 11, 2020 to August 31, 2021 the congregation of First United Church has made monetary donations totalling \$1,930.00 for the peanut butter drive – **Way to Go!!**

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.

TAKE OUT Beef BBQ will be held on September 16th from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM. \$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.

Sponsored by Hatheway Auto Group

Reminder – If you plan to attend the service in-person, 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. 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 in due course.

Registering for the service also allows for the appropriate number of bulletins to be printed.

Church News

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS IN AUGUST:

Counters – Margaret Payne-Chenard, Mike Kierstead, Edie Gammon and Gary Branch; **Greeters** – Lester Scott, Gayle Ferron, Margaret Payne-Chenard, Mike Kierstead, Peter and Edie Gammon; **Minute for Missions** – Bev Murphy and Pat MacIntosh; **Readers** – Isabel MacLaggan, Carter Lavigne, Catherine Eddy and Gary Branch; **Vocalists** – Carol Abfalter, Cindy Doucet, Marlene Noel, and Kim Glendenning; **Sound System** – Brenda Parrott, Shirley Allain and Ralph Jamieson; and **Videographer** – Don Eddy

Community News

St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, will be having a Spaghetti Supper Take-Out on Saturday, September 11th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and are available from Don Goodspeed (546-5387), the Church Office (546-3225) or at the door. Masks are mandatory and all Covid-19 protocols will be in place.

"Help Lesotho" Calendars - The Anglophone School District – North has been sponsoring "Help Lesotho" since 2006 as part of its global awareness initiative. As a fund raiser where all of the money raised goes to help finance its work with orphans, vulnerable children, and grandmothers in Lesotho, Africa; "Help Lesotho" has 2022 calendars for sale at a cost of \$15.00. You are invited to support this initiative with your donation. Gary Branch (546-9208) (egbranch@rogers.com) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 12, 2021. Payment can be made in advance by cash or cheque or when the calendars are delivered in November. Cheques are to be made payable to "Help Lesotho".

SCRIPTURE READING – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

GENESIS 1:1-25 - Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath

- 1** In the beginning when God create the heavens and the earth,
- 2** the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from Go swept over the face of the waters.
- 3** Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
- 4** And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.
- 5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
- 6** And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."
- 7** So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.
- 8** God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.
- 9** And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.
- 10** God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.
- 11** Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so.
- 12** The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.
- 13** And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

- 14** And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,
- 15** and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so.
- 16** God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.
- 17** God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,
- 18** to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.
- 19** And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.
- 20** And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky."
- 21** So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 22** God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
- 23** And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.
- 24** And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so.
- 25** God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.