

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

November 7, 2021

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Greeters** Shirley Sealy
 Dorothy Ann McCallum

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| <u>Lectionary for today</u> | <u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u> |
|---|--|
| 1 Samuel 1:4-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8 | 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132: 1-12 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37 |
| Today's bulletins are in loving memory of: husband, David Gammon from Shirley and family & in loving memory of Rodney Scott by Elna and family | |
| We welcome Helen Knowles who is leading us in worship today Thank you! | |

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

& CALL TO WORSHIP: *(responsively)*

One: As we join in worship,
 we prepare to light the Christ Candle,
 as a symbolic reminder

All: that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

One: May its flame reassure us

All: that the presence of Christ is always in our midst.

The Christ Candle is lit.

One: **May the light of Christ be with you.**

All: And also with you.

One: Make a joyful noise everyone!

All: And let us praise God with gratitude.

One: So let us worship with joy, for God is among us!

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP: "This is the Day" MV #122

**This is the day that God has made;
 we will rejoice and be glad!**

**This is the day that God has made;
 we will rejoice and be glad!**

**Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu,
 singing hal-le-lu!**

We will rejoice and be glad!

**Singing hal-le-lu, singing hal-le-lu,
 singing hal-le-lu!**

We will rejoice and be glad!

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN**

VU #260

"God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness"

God who gives to life its goodness, God creator of all joy,
 God who gives to us our freedom, God who blesses tool and toy:
 teach us now to laugh and praise you, deep within your praises sing,
 till the whole creation dances for the goodness of its King.

God who fills the earth with beauty,
 God who binds each friend to friend,
 God who names us co-creators God who wills that chaos end:
 grant us now creative spirits, minds responsive to your mind,
 hearts and wills your rule extending all our acts by Love refined.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY: *(in unison)*

"Thank you" is easy to say but not so easy to do. We have the right words ready on our lips but our actions drown out our voices. We say thanks for a multitude of blessings but too often we fail to express our gratitude with actions of love and joy towards others. Forgive our empty words and teach us to live in thankfulness. Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE: "Jesus, You Fill Our Hearts" MV #101

*Jesus, you fill our hearts with your love,
our minds with your peace,
and our lives
with your joy.*

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

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

SHARING A STORY: Did Jesus Laugh? *(with those of all ages)*

***SINGING A SONG:** "I'm Gonna Shout, Shout" MV #183

I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for God's most holy child!
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna raise, raise, raise up my hands for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna raise , raise , raise up my hands for God's most holy child!
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for Jesus, for Jesus!
I'm gonna shout, shout out my love for God's most holy child!
For whatever I might do today, at home, at school, at work, at play,
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

SCRIPTURE READING: *Isabel MacLaggan*

Old Testament: Psalm 126 A Harvest of Joy

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 Everything Has Its Time

REFLECTION: "Medicine for the Soul"

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC *Emma Vickers & Kurt Hadley*
"As Long As I Have Music"

(Previously recorded)

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

God, bless what we offer our lives, our time, our talents and treasures. Bless our ministries here at First United, as well as those supported through the Mission and Service Fund, across our country and around the world. 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.**

Church News

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

***CLOSING HYMN:** "Give To Us Laughter" VU #624

Give to us laughter, O Source of our life.
Laughter can banish so much of our strife.
Laughter and love give us wholeness and health.
Laughter and love are the coin of true wealth.

Give to us laughter as sign of deep joy;
let us in laughing find Christian employ,
joining with stars and with bright northern lights,
laughing and praising and sharing delights.

Why do we worry that we will lose face?
Why act like king for the whole human race?
Often in family, and often with friend,
laughing at pride causes anguish to end.

Even in sorrow and hours of grief,
laughter with tears brings most healing relief.
God, give us laughter, and God, give us peace,
joys of your promise among us increase.

*BLESSING

*CHORAL CLOSING

"May the Peace of God Be Your Peace" MV #222

***May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know, and
May the world that God would see be found in you.***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

The church office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Peanut Butter Update – As of November 10, 2021, 500 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.

Christian Development Team will meet on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom. A reminder email with the Zoom information will be forthcoming in the next couple of days.

Pastoral Council Team will meet on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 6 PM via Zoom. An email with the Zoom information will be sent out prior to the meeting.

The Property Management Team is looking for a physically fit and reliable individual to clear snow (shoveling and/or using the snow blower) from the entrance to the church and to the Donald Eddy Hall to ensure safe passage for anyone entering the church. This person must be able to work in the cold, the wet, the wind and early morning. Please contact Lester Scott for additional information.

Membership - If you are an adherent of First United Church and wish to arrange for confirmation or transfer of membership please contact the church office at 546-3532.

TAKE OUT TURKEY SUPPER will be held on November 25th 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. For tickets please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or the church office at 546-3532.

Sponsored by

*Kenny's Trucking Ltd. & Shine House
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Church News

Annual Christmas Benevolence Fund: - It's that time of year! Giving to this fund is even more important than ever because COVID-19 is still affecting lives. Once again this year the process is a bit different, but we hope the results will be the same or better as previous years. Should you wish to give you will find an envelope on the tree which will be placed in the narthex on Sunday, November 21st. And then you may drop it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office during the week. Make your cheques payable to First United Church. Please mark clearly that this donation is for the Benevolence Fund. The proceeds from this fund support the Bathurst Volunteer Center and people in our congregation who need assistance.

We thank-you for your generosity
– Community Outreach Sub-Team

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.

Community News

The North Shore Shrine Club are raising funds to help sick children by the sale of calendars and fruit cakes. The funds are used to pay for the transportation of sick children to the hospital in Montreal. The calendars are \$20 each and you have the chance to win \$25 each day of the year. The fruit cakes - 3 cakes per box - are \$20 per box. To order a calendar or cakes please contact Harvey Spence at 546-2742. Thank you!

SCRIPTURE READING – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

PSALM 126

A Harvest of Joy

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

3 The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

4 Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

5 May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

6 Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

ECCLESIASTES 3: 1-8

Everything Has Its Time

1 For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:

2 a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

3 a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;

4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

5 a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

8 a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.