

*The United Church of Canada*  
*Bathurst Pastoral Charge*  
**First United Church, Bathurst**  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

**January 23, 2022**

**Minister** Rev. Neal Palmer    **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels    **Custodian** Lester Scott

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 19	Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:14-21	Luke 4:21-30

*GATHERING*

**MUSIC AS WE GATHER**

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

...Light of presence, refining light, light of Christ.

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP**                      VU #82 (*Refrain Only*)  
"A Light is Gleaming"

***A light is gleaming, spreading its arms  
throughout the night, living in the light.  
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love  
is burning bright, living in the light.***

**CALL TO WORSHIP & GATHERING PRAYER** (*responsively*)

...We come electronically but gathered, yearning, seeking, anticipating.

**We come yearning for teaching. We come seeking wholeness in our brokenness. We come anticipating connection by Spirit weaving.**

We come to be emboldened by following the way of Jesus.

**We come like a tossed salad of variety—different histories, different geographies, different ages, different abilities, different perspectives—but we come together as one.**

In our unity and in our wonder, we come in prayer:

**We open ourselves to you, Holy One—our whole selves, our flawed and quirky, incomplete but striving selves. Awaken us to discover the unique service placed within us. Encourage us to relish the opportunities for helping and for healing. Enliven us by your embrace of us all, showing us how to include all we encounter.**

**Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN** – "Spirit Come"

*(Seasons of the Spirit Vol. 8)*

*Chorus*

*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*

*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*

*Open our eyes, open our hearts.*

*Come Spirit come.*

Chosen to bring good news  
to ev'ryone poor, abused.  
We are your hands, we are your voice.  
Spirit come.

To captives we shout, proclaim  
freedom in Jesus' name.  
Fill us with love. Fill us with power.  
Spirit come.

*Chorus*  
*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*  
*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*  
*Open our eyes, open our hearts.*  
*Come Spirit come.*

Good news that blind can see.  
Oppressed ones can now be free.  
We are your hands, we are your voice.  
Spirit come.  
Announcing the time's arrived  
when God will save people's lives.  
Fill us with love. Fill us with power.  
Spirit come.

*Chorus*  
*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*  
*Spirit come, (Spirit come)*  
*Open our eyes, open our hearts.*  
*Come Spirit come.*

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### **PRAYER OF HUMILITY** *(responsively)*

...In our humanity,

**we sometimes become set in our ways.**

In our fear,

**we can be reluctant to break out of familiar routines.**

In our complacency,

**we're not always willing to try new things.**

### **CHORAL RESPONSE** - "And When You Call for Me" - MV #96

***And when you call for me,  
I have already answered.  
And when you call for me,  
I am already there.***

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

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **SHARING A STORY** *(with those of all ages)* Margaret Daniels

Luke 4:17-18

### **SINGING A SONG** - "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" - VU #570

Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,  
healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,  
washing tired feet, and saving those who fall;  
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

Take my hands, O Jesus, let them work for you,  
make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;  
let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,  
till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

*ENGAGING*

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Jini Palmer*

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

#### **REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

**GIFT OF MUSIC – “We Are One”**

*Martha Vickers*

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Bev Murphy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

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

**Holy One, we pray,  
inspire us in your ways,  
that in our imaginings, hopes, and prayers,  
we become the fulfillment of all that's possible  
in our world, in our neighbourhoods,  
in our church,  
and in each of us.  
Amen**

**SHARING OUR CONCERNS**

VU #400

*“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

***Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace!***

**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.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN –**

*“Walk with Me”*

VU #649

*Refrain  
Walk with me, I will walk with you  
and build the land that God has planned  
where love shines through.*

When Moses heard the call of God  
he said, “Lord, don't send me.”  
But God told Moses, “You're the one  
to set my people free.”

*Refrain*

Now Peter was a most unlikely  
man to lead the flock;  
but Jesus knew his holiness  
and he became the Rock.

*Refrain*

Young Mary Magdalene was sure  
her life could be much more,  
and by her faith she dared to let  
God's love unlock the door.

*Refrain*

And when you share your faith with me  
and work for life made new,  
the witness of your faithfulness  
calls me to walk with you.

*Refrain*

## BLESSING

### CHORAL CLOSING

"Go Now in Peace, Guided by the Light"

*Go now in peace,  
guided by the light of Christ,  
so you may be  
nourished by the Word of Life.*

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

### POSTLUDE

MV #211

# Church News

The regular church office hours are Monday to Friday 9 AM to 3 PM.

**2021 Tax Receipts** are ready for pick up at the church office until February 4<sup>th</sup>. Any that are not picked up by then will be mailed via Canada Post.

**The Ways & Means Team** is disappointed to announce the postponement of the Take-Out Pork Supper that was scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup> due to the Covid Pandemic. The Team is hopeful that a March supper can be held as a takeout...but Covid will decide that for us!!

**On line services** should be available for Sunday morning on the church website or on our Facebook page. Bulletins can be found on the website as well.

**Reminder** – When in person worship services resume you will need to register with the church office, either by telephone (546-3532) or email ([firstadmin@nb.aibn.com](mailto:firstadmin@nb.aibn.com)) before noon each Friday for the following Sunday's service.

**Peanut Butter Update** As of January 20, 2022, 9 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. To date we have also collected \$250 at the office.

**Please Note** - In an effort to assist the Bathurst Volunteer Center, should you wish to make a monetary donation you may now do so by **issuing your cheque to First United Church**, indicating it is to be used for the purchase of Peanut Butter. Your donation will be marked as such and will be included on your annual tax receipt. Your cheques can be dropped off at the church office or mailed to 309 St. Patrick Street, Bathurst NB E2A 1E2. Periodically someone from our Community Outreach Team will purchase the peanut butter and have it delivered directly to the Volunteer Center.

## *Just Like A Child*

*How I wish to trust  
In life, no questions asked,  
Hanging on God's words,  
Confident and relaxed,  
Just like a child.*

*How I long for conscience  
As mild as the breeze,  
Having goodwill with others  
And always at peace,  
Just like a child.*

*How I long for courage  
That laughs at fear,  
Knowing I'd surely be caught  
When tossed in the air,  
Just like a child.*

*How I wish to take  
Life's journey with ease,  
Jolly through thick and thin,  
As cool as you please,  
Just like a child.*

*How I need this grace,  
So dear Lord, to you I come.  
Help me to believe  
And receive your kingdom,  
Just like a child.*

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## AN INTERESTING IDEA FOR 2022

### *Around the New Testament in 80 Days.*

**Our United Church Moderator, Richard Bott, is inviting us to read through the New Testament between now and Easter.**

He is selecting five readings a week and suggesting for each we ponder these questions:

- Was there anything here that surprised me, or jumped out at me?
- What did I learn (if anything) about being a disciple of Jesus when the text was written?
- What might this text be saying to my life, today? What might God be inviting me to do or be through my understanding?

Each reading takes about 15 minutes – and you can easily catch up if you are a day or two behind!

If interested, checkout Moderator Richard Bott on Facebook -- Around the New Testament in 80 Days - it begins! #InspiredbyScripture.

Each day he will be posting a link on Facebook to the New Revised Standard Version of the reading for the day on <https://www.facebook.com/ModeratorRichardBott>.

If you've got thoughts or comments about the reading, you'll be welcome to post them as comments on the daily posts.

#### **Here's the list for the first 8 weeks:**

##### **Week 1**

03-Jan Mark 1-2 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507873319>  
04-Jan Mark 3-4 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507873361>  
04-Jan Mark 5-6 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507873389>  
06-Jan Mark 7-8 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507875903>  
07-Jan Mark 9-10 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507875937>

##### **Week 2**

10-Jan Mark 11-12 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507875964>  
11-Jan Mark 13-14 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876110>  
12-Jan Mark 15-16 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876136>  
13-Jan 1 Thessalonians <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876169>  
14-Jan 2 Thessalonians <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876227>

##### **Week 3**

17-Jan Galatians 1-3 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876258>  
18-Jan Galatians 4-6 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876309>  
19-Jan Philippians <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876332>  
20-Jan Colossians <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876359>  
21-Jan Philemon <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876385>

##### **Week 4**

24-Jan Ephesians <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876417>  
25-Jan Matthew 1-3 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876436>  
26-Jan Matthew 4-7 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876457>  
27-Jan Matthew 8-10 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876478>  
28-Jan Matthew 11-12 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876496>

##### **Week 5**

31-Jan Matthew 13-15 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876514>  
01-Feb Matthew 16-18 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876530>  
02-Feb Matthew 19-22 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876547>  
03-Feb Matthew 23-24 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876574>  
04-Feb Matthew 25-26 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876590>

##### **Week 6**

07-Feb Matthew 27-28 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876607>  
08-Feb 1 Corinthians 1-4 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876626>  
09-Feb 1 Corinthians 5-9 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876653>  
10-Feb 2 Corinthians 1-6 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876670>  
11-Feb 2 Corinthians 7-13 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876689>

##### **Week 7**

14-Feb Romans 1-4 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876706>  
15-Feb Romans 5-8 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876724>  
16-Feb Romans 9-12 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876740>  
17-Feb Romans 13-16 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876758>  
18-Feb John 1-3 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876783>

##### **Week 8**

21-Feb John 4-5 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876805>  
22-Feb John 6-8 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876823>  
23-Feb John 9-10 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876840>  
24-Feb John 11-13 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876860>  
25-Feb John 14-16 <https://bible.oremus.org/?q1=507876876>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

### 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

15 If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many members, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

22 On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

23 and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;

24 whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member,

25 that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.

26 If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?

30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

31 But strive for the greater gifts.

### Luke 4:14-21

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,

17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”