

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

January 30, 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>
Jeremiah 1:4-10	Isaiah 6:1-13
Psalms 71:1-6	Psalms 138
1 Corinthians 13:1-13	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 4:21-30	Luke 5:1-11

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

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 (*responsively*)

As one week finishes and another begins, we've come to this place

**that we might place ourselves, our lives, our loved ones, and
all our cares and joys in God's embrace,**

whose welcome is always assured.

We come confident that the Spirit is always with us.

We come thankful that, in the world in which we live, we have this
community to call our spiritual home

and people to walk with on our journey.

GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN – VU #333
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (tune Blaenwern)
(*Emma Vickers - recorded June 14, 2020*)

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY *(responsively)*

Sometimes, Holy One, we're scared.

Other times, we simply don't know what to do.

Most of the time, though, we give in to our wants

even when we suspect it's not what you'd want for us.

Holy One, we don't always trust in you

the way we know we should.

Show us the way, then, that we may follow faithfully

even when we're led to the edge;

to the place where the world tells us

we shouldn't be.

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*

Jeremiah 1:8-9

SINGING A SONG – "Friend to Friend" *(Seasons of the Spirit Vol. 7)*

Let us now as God's own people,
give the sign of peace,
proclaiming our love for one another,
binding friend to friend.

Chorus

*Christ Jesus calls us to love one another,
to be one in him, friend to friend,
in love to each other,
we shall give our hands.*

In our care for one another,
by each kindly word,
by ev'ry loving deed, we make known
the love of Jesus Christ.

Chorus

We feed the hungry, clothe the naked,
give drink to those who thirst,
for Jesus came in love as a servant
and we follow him.

Chorus

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jini Palmer

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

Martha Vickers

GOING OUT (as God's people)

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Holy One,
living out the ministry put before us can be scary.
It's not just our tithes and offerings you ask of us—but
everything.
So we can be truly faithful, then, show us how to live out the
ministry we're called to, speaking out against injustice and
speaking up for the marginalized.
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 (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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN – "To Show by Touch and Word" – VU #427
(Emma Vickers - recorded May 24, 2020)

To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.

BLESSING *(responsively)*

...Together, then, we go out to serve where we're called to,
ever mindful we're not alone.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL CLOSING

MV #211

"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

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 4th. Any receipts not picked up by then will be mailed via Canada Post.

On line services should be available for Sunday morning on the church website and on Monday on our Facebook page. Bulletins can be found on the church 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 (fristadmin@nb.aibn.com) before noon each Friday for the following Sunday's service.

Peanut Butter Update for 2021 – 588 jars were dropped off at the church and an additional 375 jars were dropped off directly at the Volunteer Center for a total of **963 jars**. From May 2020 to December 2021 \$2,085 has been donated directly to the volunteer center by individuals from our church family for the purchase of peanut butter. As well \$135 was collected for the purchase of school supplies. *Thank you everyone for your generosity.*

A message from Sarah Charters, Director of Philanthropy at The United Church of Canada:

Your gifts have provided more than 8,360 full vaccinations for people in the Global South and East. We will keep you informed about the number of vaccinations your gifts are providing. You can visit the [Gifts with Vision](#) website, or follow us on [Facebook](#) for all the latest news about what your generosity is accomplishing.

SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS & OUR VERY BEST WISHES to HERMAN COMEAU who celebrated his 99th birthday on January 11th.

*"If things really do get better with age,
then You are approaching **perfection!**"*



SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

1 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant

5 or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

6 it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part;

10 but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

13 And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

LUKE 4:21-30

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

22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

23 He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"

24 And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

25 But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;

26 yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

27 There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

28 When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.

29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.

30 But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.