

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

February 20, 2022

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

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<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b>	<b><u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u></b>
Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Exodus 34:29-35
Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40	Psalms 99
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2
Luke 6:27-38	Luke 9:28-43

*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**

Light to soften the shadows. Light to warm the air. Light to warm our hearts.

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

Light of presence, refining light, light of Christ.

**CENTERING FOR WORSHIP**                      MV #12 (Verse 2)  
"Come Touch Our Hearts"

***Come touch our souls that we may know and love you,  
your quiet presence all our fears dispel;  
create a space for spirit to grow in us,  
let life and beauty fill us,  
come touch and bless our souls.***

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively)*

...Look around and see all the images of the Spirit assembled here.

In you, in me, in each of us,

**God's spirit shines for all to see.**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**\*GATHERING HYMN –**

VU #291

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

*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*

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

...Help us, we pray, to be so much more.

**More in who we are. More in how we act. More in what we dream. More in how we love.**

The more we're intended to be

**in your very image.**

**Amen**

**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)*

*Sandra Boone & Brenda Parrott*

Luke 6:27-31

**\*SINGING A SONG** – "Draw the Circle Wide"

MV #145

*Refrain*

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side,  
draw the circle wide.*

God the still point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms.

*Refrain*

Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call.

*Refrain*

Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door.

*Refrain*

*ENGAGING*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Cheryl Brewster*

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Luke 6:27-38

**REFLECTION**

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Martha Vickers*

*RESPONDING*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

*Bev Murphy*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

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

**Holy One,  
with this offering,  
we present ourselves as well:  
all that we've been,  
all that we are,  
all that we'll become,  
and our resolve to walk  
in your way of love.  
Amen**

**SHARING OUR CONCERNS** – "Jesus, Remember Me" – VU #148

*Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.*

**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** –

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

VU #684

Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your healing power,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:

Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

*Refrain  
O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

**\*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 church office hours are Monday to Friday 9 AM to 3 PM. The office will be **closed on Monday, February 21, 2022** for Family Day.

**Peanut Butter Update** - As of February 17, 2022, 24 jars of Peanut Butter have been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center and an additional 96 jars have been dropped off directly at the Centre from the donations made to the church office. Peanut butter can be dropped off at the church office anytime during office hours.

**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.

**TAKE OUT Roast Pork Supper** will be held on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Tickets will be available starting February 22<sup>nd</sup> - \$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*



**Covid-19 Update** - Anyone 5 years of age or older will be asked to show proof of being fully vaccinated (two doses) or medically exempt when entering the church building. This practice will continue for Sunday services and those visiting the Church office and buildings during the week, until further notice. We are also required to wear masks at all times while in the church building. Physical distancing in the seating arrangements will also continue.

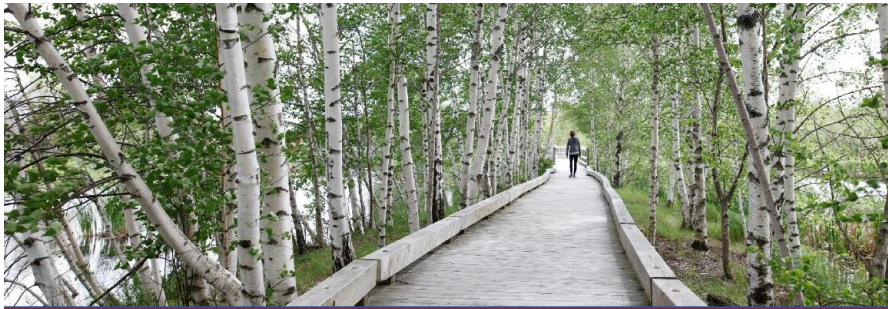
# Church News

**Reminder** – As we have returned to in-person services 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. This will allow for proper set up with physical distancing and also preparation of the correct number of bulletins.

**Purses Plus** – The Community Outreach Sub-team, in consultation with Passage House, a residence for the abused, has decided to coordinate a project in support of needy residents. Supplies will be gathered, delivered to Passage House and replenished, as available. Requested supplies include, but are not limited to used purses in good condition, reusable shopping bags, tooth brushes/past, hand/body cream, soap/shower gel, hair combs/brushes, nail files/clippers or cleaning supplies. Donated items may be deposited in a designated container in the narthex. For more information please contact Helen Knowles at 546-9563.

*“Be the reason someone smiles.  
Be the reason someone feels  
loved and believes in the  
goodness in people.”*

*— Roy T. Bennett*



## Herbert S. Sharp Scholarship

2022

This scholarship was established by Herbert S. Sharp, Class of 1890 and is awarded to students located in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, or Prince Edward Island, who are Protestant, a non-smoker, and who have demonstrated financial need. Preference given to members of the United Church of Canada and to applicants from Prince Edward Island.

### How to Apply:

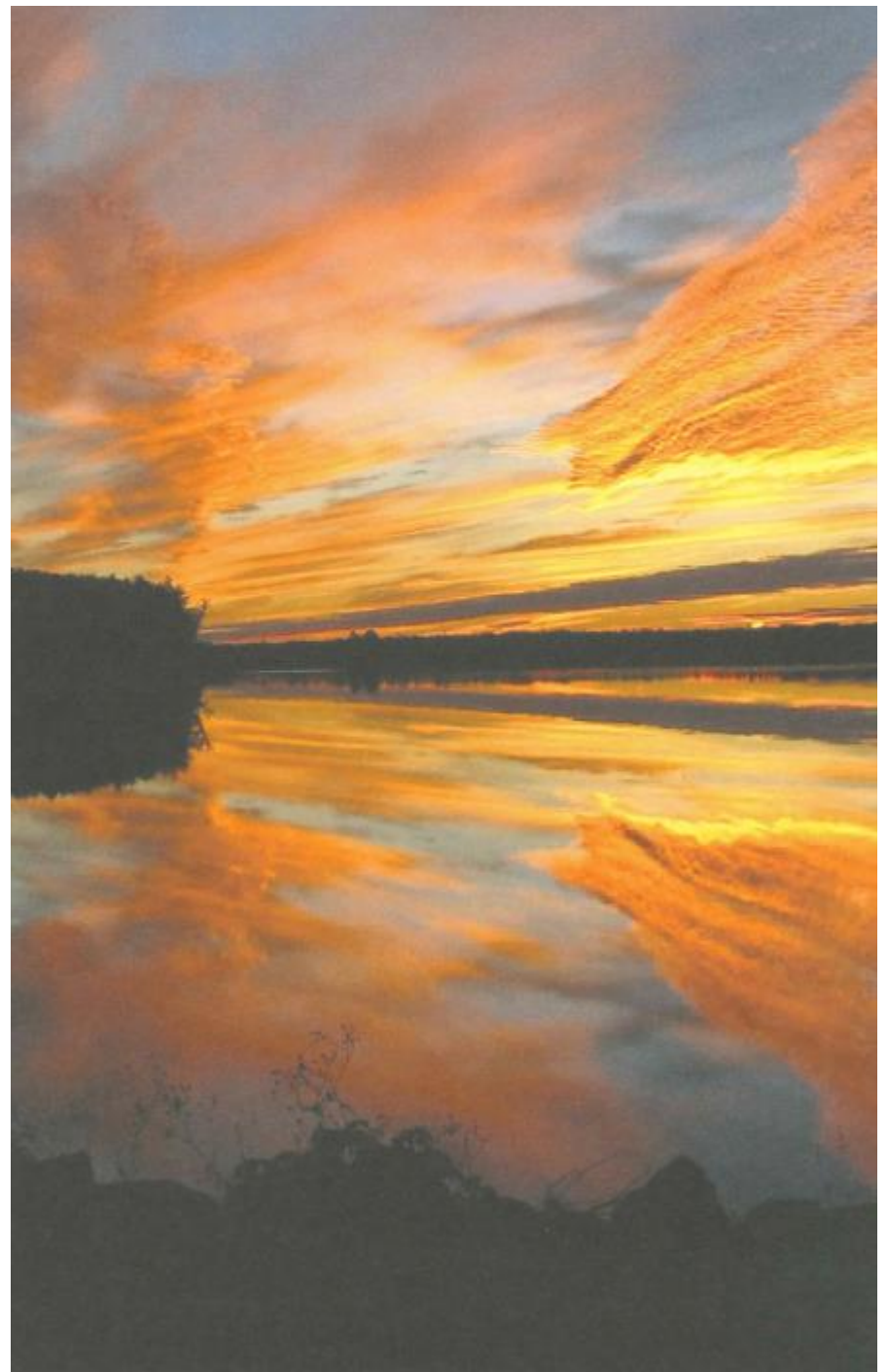
- Submit an online admissions application to MtA and specify that you are a member of the United Church of Canada within **Section IV Scholarship Donor Criteria** located on the **Entrance Scholarship** tab of the online application. ([mta.ca/apply](https://mta.ca/apply))
- Submit the following supporting documents:
  - Entrance Bursary Application (available online within [Connect@MtA](mailto:Connect@MtA) once admitted)
  - One letter of reference from a minister

**Value:** \$8,000 (\$2,000 per year – renewable upon maintaining 3.3 GPA on full course load)

**Deadline:** An admission application and all supporting documents must be received by **March 1**.

**Information:** [financialaid@mta.ca](mailto:financialaid@mta.ca) | 506-364-2258

**MountAllison**  
UNIVERSITY



## SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

### GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

3 Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

5 And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

6 For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest.

7 God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.

8 So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.

10 You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

11 I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

### LUKE 6:27-38

27 "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

30 Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.

31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.

33 If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

34 If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."