



For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon, and stars of light,

*Refrain*  
*God of all, to you we raise*  
*this our hymn of grateful praise.*

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

*Refrain*

For each perfect gift sublime  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,

*Refrain*

### **TAKE UP THE CHALLENGE** *(A Lenten Spiritual Practice)*

Lent Challenge 1

*Cheryl Brewster*

**CHORAL RESPONSE** – “Silent Spring Song” *(Verse 1)*  
*(Words by Shirley Erena Murray/Music by Ron Klusmeier)*

***Now is the time for a reckoning,  
now all is flowering and flourishing,  
God, help your children mindfully listen:  
soon there may be just a silent spring.  
Silent spring,  
silent spring.***



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

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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

*Helen Knowles & Jini Palmer*

Luke 4:1

**\*SINGING A SONG** – “We Will Bring Your Peace into the World”  
*(Seasons of the Spirit Vol. 3)*

*Refrain*  
*We will bring your peace into the world.*  
*We will bring your peace into the world.*  
*With a loving hand do the best we can.*  
*We will bring your peace to the world.*

Jesus you ask us to be gentle,  
Jesus you ask us to be kind,  
to take good care of each other,  
then your peace will be here for all to find.

*Refrain*

Jesus, you ask us to be friendly,  
Jesus you ask us to be fair,  
to take good care of each other,  
then your peace will be here for all to share.

*Refrain*

*ENGAGING*

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Isabel MacLaggan*

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Luke 4:1-13

## REFLECTION

### MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

#### GIFT OF MUSIC

"Loving God's World"

*John & Isabel Clouston  
(c) Catherine MacDonald*

*RESPONDING*

#### MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Bev Murphy*

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

**Holy One,  
we have been gifted with the discipline of giving,  
so we might truly celebrate thanksgiving.  
Continue to lead us away from temptation, we pray,  
and deliver us from evil,  
that we may remain forever alive  
in the joy of your presence.  
Amen**

#### SHARING OUR CONCERNS

##### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

*...let us give thanks:*

***R. we give you thanks, blessed Spirit.***

##### 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.**

*GOING OUT (as God's people)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CLOSING HYMN –

VU #651

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Guide me, O though great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.



**\*BLESSING**

**\*CHORAL CLOSING** – “An Old Irish Blessing”

***May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be ever at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again, and until we meet again,  
May you be held in the hollow of God's hand.***

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**POSTLUDE**

*An Easter Poem*

*Easter is very special to me,  
It expresses everything I can be.  
Easter is not all about eggs and bunnies  
But about having a good time and being funny.  
Easter is very special to me,  
Because I take my confirmation.  
But I also learn about the Lord  
who did not fight with a sword  
But our Lord, he died for our sins.  
He showed me the way, the truth and the light  
and not to fight.  
But following and calling upon his name  
Puts the people who don't believe in Him to shame.  
I love Him and I will follow His way  
As I walk I His footsteps now, and every day.  
- Khana Lopez*

# Church News

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

**Peanut Butter Update** - As of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, **44** 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.

**Covid-19 Update** - Effective March 6, 2022, all visitors are required to sanitize their hands, and to wear masks at all times while in the church building. Physical distancing in the seating arrangements will also continue. This practice is for Sunday services and those visiting the Church office and buildings during the week, until further notice.

**Reminder** – 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 on Friday for next Sunday's service. This will allow for proper set up with physical distancing and also preparation of the correct number of bulletins.

**Thank you to our volunteers in January & February:** **Minute for Missions** – Bev Murphy; **Scripture Readers** – Jini Palmer; Helen Knowles; Wayne Lord; Cheryl Brewster and Gary Branch; **Vocalists** – John & Isabel Clouston; **Sound System** – Brenda Parrott and Shirley Allain; **Children's Story** – Brenda Parrott & Sandra Boone, Margaret Daniels and Carter & Jennifer Lavigne; **Greeters** – Margaret Payne-Chénard and Gayle Ferron; **Counters** – Mike Kierstead and Margaret Payne-Chénard and **Videographer** – Don Eddy

# Church News

**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*



**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.

**Annual General Meeting** for First United Church has been scheduled for Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> following the worship service.

News reports of the invasion of **Ukraine** stir both our hearts and our conscience. As people of faith, The United Church of Canada holds in prayer all those facing fear and violence and seeks the immediate cessation of war. To donate money to help **Ukraine**, through the United Church of Canada, go to this link: <https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/conflict-ukraine>

# Community News

**St. George's Anglican Church**, 432 King Avenue, will be having a Baked Ham Take-Out Dinner on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 12 and are available from the Church Office (546-3225).

# COVID-19 Procedures Update

As we have all worked so diligently to keep our community and our First United Church family as safe as possible, we are moving cautiously to reduce the pandemic restrictions. The plan our COVID-19 Response Team has developed is as follows:

## Effective March 6, 2022:

- There is no longer any requirement for all entering the church building to be fully vaccinated.
- All other public health practices continue to remain in effect.

## Effective March 14, 2022:

- Prior registration to attend worship services is discontinued.
- Signing-in at the entrances is discontinued.
- Hand sanitization **will** continue at the entrances.
- We welcome and encourage all who would prefer to wear masks and continue to maintain physical distancing to do so. Wearing of masks and physical distancing are no longer requirements.
- If you have symptoms of a respiratory illness, please do not attend the church.
- Deep cleaning of the church building will continue, and our ventilation system will remain turned on during the Services and office hours.
- The Minister will not wear a mask while in the Chancel, and speakers may choose not to wear a mask.
- Congregational singing and occasional soloists will continue – with and without masks depending on the person's preference.

## Effective later in April if all goes well:

In addition to the above,

- The choir may return!
- Hymnbooks will be available in the chairs and pews.
- Refreshments after church may occur, possibly outside initially.

Many, many thanks to all of you for your continued support, encouragement and eye-smiles during these past two years. We are indeed a people of love and hope!!!

**Your COVID-19 Response Team**

# Free Tax Clinics

Get your benefits and credits

If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation, volunteers can do your tax return for you!



**Where:** KC IRVING CENTER

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**When:** MARCH 28-April 1 and April 4 -8 FROM 900 TO 3:00

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Go to [canada.ca/taxes-help](https://canada.ca/taxes-help) or call **1-800-959-8281** for more information.

Volunteers are not employees of the Canada Revenue Agency

## **Do you need help with your tax return?**

The Community Volunteer Tax Program (CVITP) is collaboration between the Canada Revenue Agency and community organizations.

If you have a modest income and a simple tax situation, volunteers from CVITP may be able to complete your tax return for you, **free of charge**.

## **Are you eligible for help through CVITP?**

An individual with income less than \$35,000, a two person family with income less than \$45,000, plus \$2,500 for each additional person in the family can get their return done **free**.

In general, your tax situation is simple if you have no income or if your income comes from employment pension, benefits such as Canada Pension Plan, employment insurance, social assistance, registered retirement savings plans, support payments, scholarships, fellowships, bursaries or grant, and interest (under \$1,000).

If unable to attend the clinic at KC Irving Center contact either Margaret Payne-Chénard 546-4656 or Mike Kierstead 548-4393 and arrangement can be made for preparing your return.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION

### DEUTERONOMY 26:1-11

1 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it,

2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us."

4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God,

5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,

7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;

9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God.

11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

### LUKE 4:1-13

4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness,

2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

4 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world.

6 And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,

10 for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

11 and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

12 Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.