

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

September 18, 2022

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

All musical selections reprinted under license #4-606499, One License for Churches

<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Job 28:20-27 Psalm 29 1 Corinthians 1:21-31 Luke 8:22-25	Proverbs 8:22-31 Psalm 148 Colossians 1:15-20 John 6:41-51
<p><i>Today's bulletins have been placed in loving memory of</i> <i>James Knowles</i> <i>by Joyce & Bill McLeod and Family</i></p>	

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where the congregation is invited to stand as able.*

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE *(responsively)*

Creator and Creating One,

in a time of change and confusion,

we need a source of unwavering light.

In a time of transition and change,

we need a light to show us the way.

May the light of Christ be that light for every one of us.

May it shine in our hearts forever.

The Christ Candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP

MV #41 *(Verse 3)*

"O Beautiful Gaia"

Refrain

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

Pine bending in windstorm, O Gaia, calling us home.

Pine bending in windstorm, calling us on.

Refrain

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Thunder roars. Mighty waves crash.

We listen for the Holy One.

It's a voice that shatters the trees and causes us to tremble in fear.

The Spirit flashes into our awareness.

In a whirl of chaos, we seek steady calm and peace.

We come to listen for Wisdom again.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

VU #288

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

(Refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide.

(Refrain)

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

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)*

May the God of peace be with you all.

And also with you.

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

***SINGING A SONG – “Teach Me, God, to Wonder”**

VU #299

Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;
let your world of beauty capture me.

Refrain:

*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;
let your world of people speak to me.

Refrain

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,
in your world of loving my place take.

Refrain

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,
see you in my neighbour when we meet.

Refrain

CELEBRATING BAPTISM

***BAPTISMAL HYMN – “Out of Deep, Unordered Water”** VU #453

[Participants gather near baptismal font during hymn.]

Out of deep, unordered water
God created land and life;
world of bird and beast, and later,
two-some people, husband, wife.

Refrain

*There is water in the river
bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver:
there is water in the font.*

Water on the human forehead,
birthmark of the love of God,
is the sign of death and rising;
through the sea there runs a road.

Refrain

Standing round the font reminds us
of the Hebrews' climb ashore.
Life is hallowed by the knowledge:
God has been this way before.

Refrain

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE (*Anne Brooks - Representative of
Christian Development Team*)

On behalf of the congregation of First United Church, I present the
following person for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism:

Charlotte Lavinia Rae Kenny—daughter of Laura Lynn (Kennedy)
Kenny & Adam Jonathan Kenny.

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND PROMISES

COMMITMENT OF PARENTS

COMMITMENT OF GODPARENTS (*Mikitta Doucet & Ryan Kenny*)

***CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT** (*responsively*)

As the congregation of First United Church, do you commit yourselves
to support and nurture these persons within a community which
worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

We do, by the grace of God.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:** "A New Creed" – VU #918 (*in unison*)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has
come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make
new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to
seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and
risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND

THE POURING OF WATER (*responsively*)

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give thanks and praise.

...Now, may your Spirit be upon us and what we do here, that this
water may be a sign of new life in Christ for all.

Amen.

THE ACT OF BAPTISM *(responsively)*

...Charlotte Lavinia Rae Kenny,

I baptize you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

MARKING WITH THE SIGN OF THE CROSS *(responsively)*

Charlotte, child of God, from this day forward, you bear the sign of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS *(responsively)*

Charlotte, may the Holy Spirit, Love’s power, guide you, inspire you, and work within you, all the days of your life.

Amen.

PLACEMENT OF BANNER SHEEP

LIGHTING OF A CANDLE *(responsively)*

[Baptismal Candle is lit from Christ Candle, signifying the light of Christ, and as a reminder of the link between baptism and Easter.]

Charlotte, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and give glory to God.

Amen.

[The candle is passed to Charlotte’s parents.]

PRESENTATION OF A BIBLE *(responsively)*

Charlotte, receive this Bible and hear what the Spirit is saying to you and the Church.

Amen.

[A Bible is presented to Charlotte’s parents.]

BAPTISMAL STOLE *(responsively)*

Charlotte, you have put on Christ. In Christ, you have been baptized.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

DECLARATION AND CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

[A Certificate of Baptism is given to Charlotte’s parents.]

In the name of Jesus Christ, Charlotte has been received into the holy catholic church, the body of Christ in the world.

[The congregation is invited to applaud.]

BLESSING *(responsively)*

Charlotte,

the grace of Christ attend you, the love of God surround you, the Holy Spirit keep you.

Amen.

[Participants return to their pews]

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Cheryl Brewster

Psalm 29

Luke 8:22-25

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “As the Deer Pants for Water”

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

**Creative Wisdom,
there is nothing we can build or create that lasts forever,
but when we respond to your voice, offering newness of life,
we're invited to share generously in the work of love and
justice.
Bless these gifts, we pray, that all Creation may be able to
sing praises, and people everywhere will know the promise of
peace.**

Amen

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

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

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “Will Your Anchor Hold” – VU #675

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife,
When the strong tides lift and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift or firm remain?

Refrain:

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.*

It will surely hold in the straits of fear,
When the breakers tell that reef is near;
Though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,
Not an angry wave shall our bark o'er-flow.

Refrain:

It will surely hold in the floods of death,
When the waters cold chill our latest breath;
On the rising tide it can never fail
While our hopes abide within the veil.

Refrain:

When our eyes behold, through the gathering night,
The city of gold, our harbour bright,
We shall anchor fast by the heavenly shore,
With the storms all past for evermore.

Refrain:

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL CLOSING**

“Take Up His Song”

MV #213

Take up his song of peace and go into the world.
Take up his song of peace in ev'ry moment.
In ev'ry moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;
lay them down, in peace, lay them down, and take up his song.

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

Church News

Church office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
The church office will be **closed** on **Monday, September 19th** to observe a "Day of Mourning" for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Peanut Butter Update - As of September 15th, 2022, 229 jars of Peanut Butter has been collected to go to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. **Our goal is 900 jars for the year** and we currently have **519** including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

There will be a musical hour featuring The Treble Makers held at First United Church, on Friday, September 23rd, starting at 2 PM. There will be no admission fee, however, a goodwill offering towards the life and work of First United Church and/or a donation of a jar of peanut butter for the local food bank would be very much appreciated. The group will play a variety of music including songs such as: "Sentimental Journey", "I'll Fly Away", "Five Foot Two", "Let Me Call You Sweetheart", "Mansion Over the Hilltop", lively jigs, etc.

Please join us for this ***Peanut Butter***  ***and Jam***  session ☺

Masks encouraged but are not mandatory.

Ways & Means Team will meet on **Tuesday**, September 20th at 9:00 AM in the Ruth Morrison Room.

Property Management Team will meet on Tuesday, September 20th at 1:00 PM in the Ruth Morrison Room.

UCW Open Circle Members will hold their final meeting Monday, September 26th at 1:30 PM in the Ruth Morrison Room.

Annual Fall Rally for all UCW Members, active and inactive, will be held on Saturday, October 15th at 10 AM in the sanctuary. Officials from the Miramichi Presbytery will be presiding and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will also take place. A "new and used" book sale will be set up in the Narthex.

Purses Plus - Community Outreach thanks you for your generosity in supporting Passage House. However, staff aren't accepting donations currently, so request that you delay contributions until further notice.

Community News

"Help Lesotho" Calendars - The Anglophone School District – North has been sponsoring "Help Lesotho" since 2006 as part of its global awareness initiative. As a fundraiser where all of the money raised goes to help finance its work with orphans, vulnerable children, and grandmothers in Lesotho, Africa; "Help Lesotho" has 2023 calendars for sale at a cost of \$15.00. You are invited to support this initiative with your donation. Gary Branch (546-9208) (egbranch@rogers.com) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 10, 2022. Payment can be made in advance by cash or cheque or when the calendars are delivered in November. Cheques are to be made payable to "Help Lesotho".

St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, will be holding **"A Family and Community Breakfast"** on Saturday, October 8th from 8 AM to 10 AM. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food. Free-will offering at the door.

SCRIPTURE READINGS *(New Revised Standard Version)*

PSALM 29

1 Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

4 The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

11 May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

LUKE 8:22-25

22 One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they put out,

23 and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger.

24 They went to him and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?"

May God bless to our understanding these significant parts of our Christian story...