

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

November 13, 2022

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Greeters** Charles Ramsey &
Custodian Lester Scott Linda Knowles-MacPherson

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Lectionary for today	Lectionary for next Sunday
Isaiah 65:17-25 Isaiah 12 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43
<i>Today's bulletins are in loving memory of</i> Rodney Scott by Elna & family	

*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 CRIST CANDLE

...We light the Christ candle to remind us we aren't to hide the light of Christ under a bushel basket or within the walls of a church building, but to take it out into the world so everyone will know and experience God's love, peace, and justice.

The Christ Candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP: "Come Build a Church"
(Seasons of the Spirit – volume 7)

***Come build a church with soul and spirit,
 come build a church of flesh and bone.
 We need no tower rising skyward;
 no house of wood or glass or stone.***

***Come build a church with human frailty,
 come build a church of flesh and blood.
 Jesus shall be its sure foundation.
 It shall be built by the hand of God.***

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CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

The God of new beginnings,

begins with us here.

The God of re-creation,

recreates dead-ends into new living.

The God of dreams,

dreams in us a new world.

The God of wholeness,

brings a new kind of harmony into the world.

The God of vision,

envisions new possibilities in us.

The God of love,

adores our lives, and yet, makes them new.

GATHERING PRAYER

*GATHERING HYMN – “Seek Ye First the Kingdom” - VU #356

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God’s righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah.

Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, Hallelujah.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

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)*

*SINGING A SONG – “Friend to Friend” *(Seasons of the Spirit)*

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

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.
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.

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.

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.

*Words and music: Eduardo P. Hontiveros, Philippines
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ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Anne Wilson

Isaiah 65:17-25

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC - "Like a Healing Stream"



RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bev Murphy

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD

*OFFERING HYMN

*We bring our gifts to share,
and lift our grateful prayer
that with our faithful care,
our world will grow.
Through work of minds and hands
in gestures small or grand,
let willing hearts expand the love You sow.*

*OFFERING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Holy One,
keep us hopeful, we pray,
and attuned to your presence and work.
Then, may these and all our gifts,
given for your vision of a just and peaceful Creation,
be used wisely.
May they bring your kingdom to flower
here among us
and in all places.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

...to healing, to comfort, to you.

May this vision be seen more fully in us.

...to justice, to freedom, to you.

May this vision be seen more fully in us.

...to community, to love, to you.

May this vision be seen more fully in us.

...to care, to harmony, to you.

May this vision be seen more fully in us.

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.**

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN – "I See a New Heaven" – VU #713**

*Refrain:
I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.*

Church News

This Week at First United November 14th to 18th

Monday	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Wednesday	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice

There, there on the banks of a river
bright and free,
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,
the Tree of Life will be.

Refrain:

*I see a new heaven.
I see a new earth
as the old one will pass away,
where the fountain of life flows
and without price goes
to all people who abide in the land.*

There, there where death dies
and our lives are born again,
body and soul, struggling but whole
like flowers after the rain.

Refrain

There, there where the darkness
brings visions from above.
There where the night, bearing new light,
reveals the promise of love.

Refrain

There, there where we work
with the love of healing hands.
Labour we must, true to our trust
to build a promised new land.

Refrain

***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 office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Peanut Butter Update - As of November 9th, 2022, 319 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 609 including what has been purchased with monetary donations.

Memorial Hymn Sing - By now you have received a letter with the Hymn selections. If you haven't, or know of someone who hasn't and would like to be included please contact the church office at 546-3532 and one will be sent out to you. Please fill out the information and submit it to the office by dropping it in the mail, offering plate or leaving it at the church office by **December 1st**. Join with us on December 11th, 2022 at 2 PM to sing Christmas Carols that mean so much to us as we remember our loved ones.

Passage House Update - Temporarily, this agency was not accepting donations. However, management has informed us that their greatest & only current need is pyjamas, both children & adult in all sizes. Our suggestion is that same would be ideal as White Gifts! Thanks for your ongoing support.



Poinsettia Fund: Once again this year we are hoping to have the beauty of our sanctuary enhanced with poinsettias for the Christmas season. Those wishing to contribute to the annual poinsettia fund may place an envelope in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Please mark clearly on the face of the envelope – Poinsettia Fund with your name, PAR or envelope number. List the names that you wish to have printed in the Christmas bulletin insert. Donations will also be received in the church office – deadline is December 13, 2022.

Church News

Annual Christmas Benevolence Fund: - It's that time of year! Giving to this fund is even more important than ever because COVID-19 is still affecting lives. Once again this year the process is a bit different, but we hope the results will be the same or better as previous years. Should you wish to give you will find an envelope on the tree which will be placed in the narthex on Sunday, November 20th. And then you may drop it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office during the week. Make your cheques payable to First United Church. Please mark clearly that this donation is for the Benevolence Fund. The proceeds from this fund support the Bathurst Volunteer Center and people in our congregation who need assistance.

We thank-you for you generosity
– Community Outreach Sub-Team

TAKE OUT Turkey Supper will be held on Thursday, November 24th from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Tickets are \$17 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
Kenny's Trucking Ltd. & Shine House
(A Division of Stothart Automotive)

Rev. Neal will be on Continuing Education leave from Wednesday, November 16th through to Monday, November 21st. Rev. Sue White will be covering for any pastoral care emergencies. She can be reached by calling 547-5745.

Community News

Thank you! On behalf of the "Lesotho Initiative" Committee of ASD – N, a special 'thank you' is extended to you for your support of our recent calendar drive. A total of 200 "Help Lesotho" 2023 calendars were sold, and this raised \$3,000 for the work of "Help Lesotho" with Grandmothers and vulnerable children in the tiny mountain kingdom of Lesotho, Africa. Since 2006, this initiative has raised \$136,000 for the work of "Help Lesotho". (There are additional calendars available for anyone else who would like to support this cause.)

Community News

Central United Church in Clifton will be having a Roast Pork Take-Out Supper and a Bake Sale, on Saturday, November 26, 2022 from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$20 per person. For tickets please call Lois Archibald at 548-8927 or Diane Ellis at 546-6028.

"All things Christmas Bazaar" - St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, 395 Murray Ave, Bathurst - Saturday, November 26th 9 AM – 2 PM. Take-Out Soup & Biscuit Luncheon. (Free will offering) Items for sale include crafts, Christmas decorations, books, giftware, Christmas music, anything with a Christmas theme. Free admission.

SCRIPTURE READING (*New Revised Standard Version*)

ISAIAH 65:17-25

17 For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

20 No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord— and their descendants as well.

24 Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.