

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

May 28, 2023

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Audio & Visual Technicians Shirley Allain & Donald Eddy
Greeters Peter & Edie Gammon

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23	Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20
<i>We welcome Jennifer Oliver Lavigne who is leading us in worship today – Thank you!</i>	
<i>We also welcome Linda Knowles MacPherson as our guest pianist/organist today and thank her for the beautiful music</i>	

The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where you are invited to present yourselves, body, mind, and spirit, as is comfortable for you today...

Pentecost, also known as Whitsunday, will be celebrated on May 28th this year. The word has its roots in the Greek word 'pentecoste,' which means '50th day.' Pentecost is a major festival in the Christian church and is celebrated by believers on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter.

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

***WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** *(in unison)*

...As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original peoples, the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and in friendship with its people.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

As we prepare ourselves for worship, we light the Christ Candle reminding us that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The Christ Candle is lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP - "Praise to the Lord" – VU #835

(Verse 1)

***Praise to the Lord, all of you, God's servants.
 Blessed be the name of our God now and ever.
 From the rising up of the sun
 May the Lord be praised,
 praise to the name of the Lord!***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

Powerful Spirit, strong Wind –

Stirring us to life, breathing hope into despair.

Warming Spirit, dancing Flame –

Kindling joy and filling us with courage.

Comforting Spirit, gentle Breeze –

Refreshing our weariness, softening our grief.

Wise Spirit, blazing Fire –

Illuminating our path, casting out the darkness.

Holy Spirit, soaring Dove –

All: Calling us to worship, filling us with love.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” VU #395

Refrain
Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro’ the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, Wind, Wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

Refrain

You swept thro’ the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro’ your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

CHORAL RESPONSE – “Love Us into Fullness” – MV #81

Love us into fullness,
touch us with your grace;
Jesus, in your mercy,
draw us to your face.

Love us into fullness,
hold us in your care,
cheer us with your presence
here and everywhere.

Love us into fullness,
and we will be strong;
Jesus, walk beside us,
fill our hearts with song.

***GREETING ONE ANOTHER** (*responsively*)

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Carter Lavigne & Brenda Parrott

Acts 2:1-2

***SINGING A SONG** – “I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy”

Text: George W. Cooke

Tune: I’VE GOT THE JOY, Irregular; George W. Cooke

I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I’ve got the peace that passes understanding,
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
I’ve got the peace that passes understanding,
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Helen Knowles

Acts 2:1-21

REFLECTION – “Together We Worship” - Rev. Greg Powell

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC – “Jesus You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

RESPONDING

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Judy Losier

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING IS BROUGHT FORWARD

***OFFERING HYMN** – “These Gifts We Bring”

*These gifts we bring with grateful hearts,
to reconcile, make new.
Gather us in grace, show us the way,
to live our lives in Truth
to share Your love in all we do.*

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

We praise and thank you, God, for this holy moment in our worship and in our lives when we offer you what others in our world need. Take our offerings, our witness, our service to benefit all within our human family. May your presence and love be known through our service now and always. Amen.

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER – *(in unison)*

Our Father/Mother/Creator

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,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN** – “I Feel the Winds of God Today” VU #625

I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water's crest, and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest, and brave another cruise.

It is the wind of God that dries my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts shall rise the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease or pleasure I should be,
O let me feel your freshening breeze, and I'll put back to sea.

If ever I forget your love and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above; it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way, you will not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today; today my sail I lift.

*BLESSING

***CHORAL SENDING FORTH** – “I Wish You the Blessing” (2X)

*I wish you the blessing of faith to sustain you,
friends to support you, challenge to stir you,
songs to empower you, peace to refresh you,
tears to release you, laughter to heal you,
love to nurture your soul.*

The Christ Candle is extinguished.

POSTLUDE

Church News

Church office hours – Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

UCW Open Circle Members will be recognized for their enduring commitment and dedication to the life and mission of their organization and in support of First United Church during our worship service on **June 4, 2023**. Please reach out to any UCW members and ensure they are made aware of this service and we hope as many as possible will attend.

2023 High School Graduates will be honoured with a special service on Sunday, June 18, 2023. Please come and celebrate with us!

Prayer Request Box - If someone has a prayer request you can write the request and put it in the box. The box will be brought forward to Rev. Neal when the offering is presented.

Cake Pans – The Ways & Means Team would like to remind anyone who has baked cakes for the suppers that there are still several pans upstairs in the kitchen. Please drop by and pick them up during the church office hours.

Community Outreach Request - Second Chance is a business, located on King Ave, that sells second hand items & proceeds are used in support of the homeless, etc. In a recent visit, I learned that they are assisting, much more than usual, needy families/individuals in providing household furnishings. Currently, the greatest need is bedding & towels, which do not need to be new, just clean & in good condition. Thus, the Community Outreach Sub Team is requesting that members of the congregation, as able, donate same to support Second Chance in their efforts. Since this is the season in which Spring Cleaning occurs, perhaps you'll discover that you have more towels/bedding than you require & consider sharing. Contributions may be brought to the church or taken to Second Chance. For more information, contact Helen M Knowles at 546-9563.

Church News

Peanut Butter – Our pledge this year to the Bathurst Volunteer Center is **900 jars**. As of May 25th **368** jars have been donated.

Ways & Means Team would like to thank everyone who assisted, either by working in the kitchen, baking, serving the food, buying and/or selling tickets, with the recent Ham & Scallop Potato Take-Out Supper. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of MacDonald's Restaurant Bathurst the team realized a profit of approximately \$4,600. The next event is planned for September, the famous **Beef BBQ Supper!**

Community News

Anglican Parish of New Bandon will host a take-out Lobster Supper on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at the **Christ Church Hall, Clifton**. Pick-up between 2:30 pm and 4:00 pm. All tickets will be sold in advance. Ticket prices - Adults \$25.00 - Children [under 12] \$15.00. For tickets, please contact:

Kay Addison	506-350-0960
Darlene Dempsey	506-544-6997
Nancy Hodnett	506-545-5263
Lesa Scott	via Facebook Messenger

St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, will be holding "A Family and Community Breakfast" on Saturday, June 10th 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)*

ACTS 2:1-21

The Coming of The Holy Spirit

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.

6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"

8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?"

9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

13 But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

Peter Addresses the Crowd

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

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