

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

March 24, 2024

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

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Mark 11:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 John 20:1-18
<p>The bulletin today has been placed in loving memory of Andrea Clowater, Hudson Clowater and Kenneth Bernier by Wayne and Colette Clowater & in loving memory of Stephen McLean by the family</p>	

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...

GATHERING

MUSIC AS WE GATHER

WELCOME & TERRITORY 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.

LENTEN CANDLE-LIGHTING (responsively)

(As we follow the path of Jesus, we light one additional candle for each Sunday of Lent.)

Today, we take one step further on our Lenten journey, travelling in the shadow of our teacher, hoping to follow faithfully in his Way.

We keep our senses attuned, attentive to God's Child, the Beloved. Even when what we experience makes us uncomfortable or afraid, we don't turn away.

Six Lenten Candles are lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP -

VU #123 (Verse 1)

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

**Hosanna, loud hosanna
 the happy children sang;
 through pillared court and temple
 the joyful anthem rang;
 to Jesus, who had blessed them
 close folded to his breast,
 the children sang their praises,
 the simplest and the best.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Autumn & Grace Ronalds

Voice 1: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because power of the people won't stop!

Voice 2: Say what?

Voice 1: There is no power like the power of the people to bring change, because the power of the people won't stop!

Voice 2: Friends, which side are you on? Which side?

Voice 1: Justice for our children is justice for all

All: and we will strive for justice until freedom is one.

Voice 2: Friends, which side are you on? Which side?

Voice 1: Justice for our children is justice for all

All: and we will strive for justice until freedom is one.

Voice 2: Save us, Holy One, have mercy and save us.

Voice 1: Open to us the gates of righteousness.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Voice 2: Hosanna in the highest.

GATHERING PRAYER

***GATHERING HYMN** – “Come Into the Streets with Me”

Music printed on back page of bulletin

Come into the streets with me!
Come to where the crowds will be,
see a strange and gentle king
on a donkey travelling.

Refrain:

*Come and follow my leader,
come and follow my leader,
Jesus Christ is riding by,
come and follow my leader!*

All the people shout his name,
waving branches, sing his fame,
throw their coats upon his road,
glad to praise the Son of God.

Refrain:

If the soldiers draw their swords,
will we dare to sing these words,
be his friends for just a day,
cheer him on, then run away?

Refrain:

Jesus goes where things are rough,
Jesus knows when life is tough,
always comes to us, his friends,
so his story never ends.

Refrain:

LENTEN TENEBRAE

Brooke Knowles, Courtney Woods, Katie, Grace & Avery Scott

...One Candle is lit, as well as the Christ Candle...

One: Crowds of people lined streets to welcome Jesus from Nazareth riding into town on a donkey.

Two: On the other side of Jerusalem, some others went to see a proper Roman military parade.

One: They watched Pontius Pilate riding on a war horse accompanied by battle-hardened foot soldiers with their swords, shields, helmets, and war drums.

Two: They were the enemy. They were impressive and fearful.

One: At Jesus' parade, the people were shouting, "Hosanna, save us, we pray."

Two: Save us from the tyranny of the Romans who rule over us.

One: Save us, so we may live in peace.

Two: Save us, so we can live with dignity.

One: Save us, so we can live as ones created in God's image.

Two: We shout. We pray. And we wait.

One: When will the day of God, the *kingdom* of God, come?

The sixth candle is extinguished.

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.***

Two: Let us pray.

**Holy One,
please do not let the fools of this world destroy it.
Do not let them gloat over us.
Do not let them have the last say or the last laugh.
May your will be done.
May justice and peace prevail.
May we truly know
that we live and move our being
in you and through you.
This we pray, in Jesus' name.
Amen**

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

...The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Jelly Bean Prayer

***SINGING A SONG** – "He Came Riding on a Donkey" VU #124

He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy kind of lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him,
staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them,
on to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises;
waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David;
riding on to take his throne.

Then the children gathered, singing
shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
in the streets their song was ringing,
"Hosannas" filled the morning air.
Timid adults strained to see him,
caught the Spirit, joined the song;
spread their cloaks along before him,
branches flashing in the sun.
So all the city sang his praises;
waking streets and dancing crowd;
he is here, the Son of David;
our Messiah, Son of God.

In our fasting, and our feasting,
called to follow in his way;
called to walk his road to Easter,
called to live his cross today.
Hosanna to the Son of David,
hosanna in the heavens above;
blessed is he who comes to save us,
blessed is he who brings his love.
Let us join to sing his praises;
open hearts and souls to God;
he is with us, Son of David;
God's Messiah, Christ the Lord.

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Anne Brooks

Mark 11:1-11

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC - "When They Heard that Jesus was Coming"

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Anne Wilson

INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING**THE OFFERING IS GATHERED**

***OFFERING RESPONSE –** VU #541
 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 praise God, all creatures high and low;
 give thanks to God in love made known:
 Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

***OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**Grace-filled One,
 we present our offerings of time, talent, and finance.
 May they be agents of grace in an often world in need.
 May they inspire your work everywhere and always.
 Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

...Let us give thanks.

We give thanks, blessed one.

THE LORD'S PRAYER – VU #916 (A Translation) (in unison)

**Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
 may your name be made holy,
 may your dominion come,
 may your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today the bread we need;
 and forgive us our debts,
 as we have forgiven our debtors;
 and do not put us to the test,
 but rescue us from evil.
 For yours is the dominion, and the power,
 and the glory forever.
 Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN – "All Glory, Laud and Honour"**

VU #122

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
 to you, Redeemer, King,
 to whom the lips of children
 made sweet hosannas ring.**

You are the King of Israel,
 and David's royal son,
 now in the Lord's name coming,
 our King and blessed one.

(Refrain)

The multitude of pilgrims
 with palms before you went;
 our praise and prayer and anthems
 before you we present.

(Refrain)

To you, before your passion,
 they sang their hymns of praise;
 to you, now high exalted,
 our melody we raise.

(Refrain)

Their praises you accepted;
 accept the prayers we bring,
 great author of all goodness,
 O good and gracious king.

(Refrain)

***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, Lenten Tenebrae & Lenten candles are extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

Church News

This Week at First United – March 25 th to March 30 th		
Monday	9:00-11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
	9:00 AM	Ways & Means - RMR
Wednesday	8 AM	Supper Preparation - DEMH
Thursday	4:15 PM	Choir Practice
	4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Roast Pork Take out - DEMH
	4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Roast Pork Eat in - DEMH
Friday	10:00 AM	Good Friday Service
	Church Office Closed	
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market

Church office hours - Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please note the church office will be closed Friday March 29th and Monday April 1st. The office will re-open Tuesday April 2nd.

Peanut Butter – Once again this year we have set **a goal of 900 jars** of peanut butter to donate to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Up to March 21st, 2024 we have collected 206 jars.

Confirmation Classes: If anyone is interested in attending confirmation classes, please contact Rev. Neal or the church office at 506-546-3532.

Eat in or Take out Roast Pork Supper will be held on **Thursday, March 28th**. \$18 for adults and \$6 for children. For tickets please call (506-546-3532) or drop by the church office. Tickets are on a first come/first serve basis.

Sponsored by



Church News

Upcoming special services:

Good Friday – March 29th at 10 AM

**Easter Sunday – March 31st at 10 AM with
Holy Communion**

As part of our **Stewardship Program** here at First United, information on Planned Giving through Wills and Bequests is available to our congregational membership. All members are encouraged to review this information and take the appropriate steps pertaining to your wishes. The information is available from the church office.

Below you will find a stewardship quote relating to the same.

"Give what you have. To some one,
it may be better than you dare to think."

~ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

On behalf of our Pastoral Care Team, a most sincere **Thank You** is extended to those who attended and generously donated to our church at the St. Patrick's concert on Thursday March 14! A very energizing and entertaining time was enjoyed by all who attended!

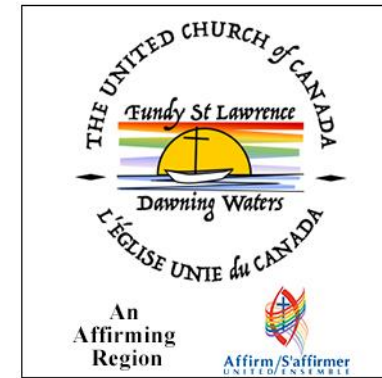
A genuine "Thank You" is extended to the members of **The Treble Makers** whose ongoing donation of their valuable talents and their time is sincerely appreciated by all in our church family as well as in our community!!

Community News

A FAMILY AND COMMUNITY BREAKFAST will be held at St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, April 13th from 8:00 – 10:00 am**. As this community event serves to fund our local mission projects, we rely on donations and ask that you consider a minimum donation of \$ 8.00 to help defray costs. We appreciate your kindness and support. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food.

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning

Waters Regional News



Registration for Youth@Region is now live!

Y@R is a place of community and a place of faith where United Church youth, between grade 6 and 12, meet from across New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Gaspé, Quebec. It takes place during the Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council (FSLDW), May 31 - June 2, 2024. As some delegates are coming to the meeting Thursday evening, youth are welcome to come as well. Please indicate on your registration your arrival date.

Please make [this link](#) available to the youth, grades 6-12 in your community of faith.

If you have any questions, please email Catherine Stuart, Regional Minister for Children, Youth and Young Adults at cstuart@united-church.ca, or Lisa Folkins, Director, at lisa.folkins@gmail.com.

COME INTO THE STREETS WITH ME

CONGREGATIONAL / ASSEMBLY VERSION

Words by
SHIRLEY ERENA MURRAY

Music by
RON KLUSMEIER



1. Come in - to__ the streets with me! Come to where__ the
2. All the peo - ple shout his name, wav - ing branch - es,
3. If the sol - diers draw their swords, will we dare__ to
4. Je - sus goes__ where things are rough, Je - sus knows__ when



crowds will be, see a strange__ and gen - te king
sing his fame, throw their coats__ up - on his road,
sing these words, be his friends__ for just a day,
life is tough, al - ways comes__ to us, his friends,

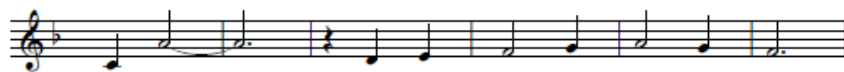


on__ a don - key trav - el - ing_____
glad__ to praise__ the Son____ of God._____
cheer__ him on, then run____ a - way?_____
so__ his sto - ry nev - er ends._____

Refrain



Come and fol - low my lead - er,____ come and fol - low my



lead - er,____ Je - sus Christ is rid - ing by,



come and fol - low my lead - er!_____

MUSIKLUS

MUSIKLUS - Box 678 - Parksville, British Columbia V9P 2G7 - Canada
TELEPHONE: (250) 954-2319 FAX: (250) 954-1683 WEBSITE: www.musiklus.com EMAIL: staff@musiklus.com
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SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 11:1-11

Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

1 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples

2 and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.

3 If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

4 They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,

5 some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"

6 They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it.

7 Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.

9 Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

11 Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

May the Spirit bless to our understanding this significant part of our Christian story...