

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

May 26, 2024
Trinity Sunday

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

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	1 Samuel 3:1-20 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23—3:6
<p>The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of Bruce Smith by Grant and family and Mary Gammon by sister, Helen and brother-in-law Peter and 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.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

... Remembering his promise that when two or three are gathered in his name he will be there, we light this candle to welcome the presence of the risen Christ here with us today.

The Christ candle is lit...

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP – “Wind is Moving”

Seasons of the Spirit vol. 1 pg. 39

***Wind is moving over water,
 patterns shifting out across the bay.
 Grass is bending on the hillside;
 clouds are drifting right across the sky.
 O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.
 O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.***

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

As sunlight dazzles on lakes and sunsets blaze through the sky,

let the brilliance of Creator's love guide us to see God's way.

With the cry of a loon rising up into the dusk, or the shouts of children playing in a field,

let the melody of Creator's love, sung through Jesus, help us receive God's word.

Like granite running jagged through the hills, or creeks flowing from source to sea,

let the presence of Creator's Spirit ground us, so we may know God's strength within us.

GATHERING PRAYER *(responsively)*

Holy One...

Holy Three...

Known in our hearts.

Great Mystery!

Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

Source of life, always and all ways.

We rest in this moment, opening ourselves to you.

Breathe new life into our souls, we pray.

Guide us to paths of love.

Fill us with the desire to live for you!

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Great Mystery!

In our hearts.

Holy Three.

Holy One.

Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN –**

VU #415(*vs. 1-5*)

“God, We Praise You for the Morning”

God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer and promise,
joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.

God, we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.

God, we praise you for the Savior,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

PRAYER OF HUMILITY (*responsively*)

Holy One, sometimes...

we're a people of unclean lips (*congregants touch their lips*), we
speak words that hurt, we neglect to speak up for the forgotten.

Wash us clean of our iniquities, we pray, and cleanse us of sin.

Sometimes, we're a people of unclean hands (*congregants cup hands above their heads*), we work for our own good and don't always serve the poor.

Wash us clean of our iniquities, we pray, and cleanse us of sin.

Sometimes, we're a people of unclean hearts (*congregants cross hands over their hearts*), we love the world more than you and don't love our neighbours as ourselves.

Wash us clean of our iniquities, we pray, and cleanse us of sin.

Sometimes, we're a people of unclean minds (congregants place hands on their heads), we think of ourselves more highly than we ought, and don't seek your will and direction.

Wash us clean of our iniquities, we pray, and cleanse us of sin.
(Moment of silence)

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)*

...Peace be with you.

And also with you.

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

Matthew 28:18-20

***SINGING A SONG** – "Come Dare to Be"

Come dare to be all that you are in Christ;
be what his loving, be what his thinking
see in your person: you are eternal light.

All that you have, he gave to you at first;
challenge and courage, will and commitment,
spring from one fountain: so you will never thirst.

From yoke or bond his love has set you free;
free to love others, praising and serving
Christ who is present in human lives we see.

Even today you are what you will be;
judged and forgiven, from death arisen,
take up life's fullness, for Christ has made you free!

ENGAGING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jini Palmer

Isaiah 6:1-8

John 3:1-17

REFLECTION

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

GIFT OF MUSIC

RESPONDING

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Bev Murphy

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)*

**Triune One,
you model for us
what it means to be a community
in your self-giving and sacrificial nature.
As we bring our offerings this day,
we pray they'll be used for your purposes
that your glory will be shown
in every area of the world.
Amen**

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(responsively)*

...Creator and Creating One, bring healing and restoration.

May we be faithful in our task to care for the world.

...Incarnate One, help us work with you to bring comfort, work for justice, and provide for the needs of those around us.

May we be faithful in our task to care for the world.

...Empowering One, help us be outposts of your realm, a sign and example of your saving light to those of us who wander in the wilderness.

May we be faithful in our task to care for the world.

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

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN – VU # 606 *(tune St. Peter VU 34)* "In Christ There Is No East or West"

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be;
all children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north;
All Christ-like souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

*BLESSING

*CHORAL CLOSING –

MV #222

"May the Peace of God Be Your Peace"

***May the peace of God be your peace.
May the love of God be the love you show.
May the joy of God be the joy you know,
and may the world that God would see
be found in you.***

(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)

POSTLUDE

Church News

This Week at First United Church		
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Ways & Means - RMR
Thursday	Ham & Scallop Potato Supper	
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market

Wayne Lord will be leading our worship service on **June 2nd** as Rev. Neal, Martha and Jini will be attending the Annual Regional Meeting for Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters.

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

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 May 23rd, 2024 we have collected 353 jars.

Calling all graduates – from high school, university and/or college. If you are aware of anyone graduating this year please let either Rev. Neal or the church office know by Monday, June 3rd. The annual celebration for the graduates will be held during our worship service on Sunday, June 16th.

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 / adherents 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.

"Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."
Mark 10:21

The drive to give is as important to an understanding of humanity as the desire to receive.

Jacques T. Godbout

Church News

The West Bathurst Cemetery Committee wishes to extend a sincere **"Thank you!"** to Audrey Ronalds, Community Schools Engagement Coordinator; B.H.S. teachers – Sheena Daley and Jennie Chapman; B.H.S. students from the Rotary Interact Group and International students; and to the students and staff (Shannon Scott, Roberta Whelton, and Jim Chamberlain) of the Positive Learning Center who spent time cleaning the grave stones at the cemetery. Your volunteer time spent washing each memorial stone after the fire of the neighbouring Eddy Group Company is very much appreciated.

Your commitment to good citizenship and helping others is amazing!

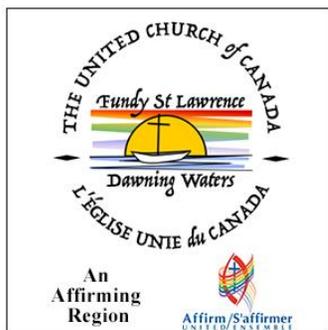
Eat in or Take out Ham & Scallop Potato Supper will be held on **Thursday, May 30th**. Tickets are available starting Monday, May 6th. \$18 for adults and \$6 for children. Please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or drop by or call (506-546-3532) the church office for tickets.

Community News

A take-out only Lobster Supper will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2024 at Christ Church Hall, Clifton. Pickup between 2:00 pm and 3:30 pm Adults \$25, Children under - 12 \$15 For tickets contact via FB Messenger or at phone number listed; Kay Addison 506-350-0960, Darlene Dempsey 506-544-6997, Nancy Hodnett 506-545-5263, or Lesa Scott 506-546-8293.

YARD SALE will be held at St. George's Anglican Church Hall, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, June 1st from 8 AM to 12 PM.**

A FAMILY AND COMMUNITY BREAKFAST will be held at St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, June 8th from 8 AM to 10 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

RENDEZ-VOUS 2024: AUDACIOUS HOPE

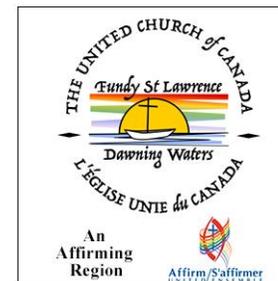
You are invited to join us for the Audacious Hope National Gathering, a transformative event designed for youth, young adults, and their leaders. Early-bird pricing is now open! Sign up today!

When: Wed, Jul 3 - Sat, Jul 6 2024

Where: Brock University
1812 Sir Isaac Brock Way
St. Catharines, Ontario L2S 3A1

Presented by the Rendez-vous 2024 team of The United Church of Canada and the LIFT team of The Presbyterian Church in Canada in an exciting new partnership!

For further information please see the brochure in the narthex and go to <https://united-church.ca/events/rendez-vous-2024-audacious-hope>



Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional News

BERWICK CAMP 2024

Berwick Camp will be holding its 152nd encampment this summer from July 26 to August 4. This year we will be welcoming our United Church Moderator, the Right Rev Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, as Minister in Residence. She will be conducting the service on Sundays at 10am, and Monday to Friday evenings at 7pm. We'd love to welcome members of congregations from all over the Maritimes and beyond to spend some time with us this year. If your church is in the Berwick area, we would love to have the whole congregation celebrate Sunday services under the hemlocks with us. Have further to travel? We are hoping that churches from outside of the area will pool for transportation for a day visit, and stay for the evening service. Or, come and experience the whole week! Registration is now open. More information can be found on our website (<https://www.berwickcamp.org>), including the link for registration and the daily schedule (with more details on events to come as we get closer). So come check it out!

We are sending along here a promotional video giving a bit of a snapshot of what Berwick is all about. If you are able to show this at your churches on camping Sunday (or any time!), please do! Many churches have campers that attend that would be happy to answer questions about the camp experience. Link to video: <https://youtu.be/aDoCbTSbSK8>

Hope to see you there!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

ISAIAH 6:1-8

A Vision of God in the Temple

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

3 And one called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

5 And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

JOHN 3:1-17

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."

3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

5 Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit.

6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'

8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

11 "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony.

12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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