

*The United Church of Canada*  
*Bathurst Pastoral Charge*  
**First United Church, Bathurst**  
[www.firstunited-bathurst.ca](http://www.firstunited-bathurst.ca)

**October 13, 2024**

Thanksgiving Sunday

**Interim Minister** Rev. Ivan Gregan **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott  
**Greeters** Julie and Harvey Spence & Brooke Knowles  
**Audio & Visual Technicians** Shirley Allain & Donald Eddy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Joel 2:21-27 Matthew 6:25-33	Job 38:1-7, (34-41) Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45
<p>Today's bulletins have been placed in loving memory of  <b><i>Vivian Howatt</i></b> <i>by her family</i> and  the bulletins and the hydrangeas at the front of the sanctuary  have been placed in loving memory of  <b><i>Edna &amp; Huntly, David, Peter &amp; John Ferguson</i></b>  <i>by Linda and family</i></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.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively)*

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

**For the beauty of the earth,  
for the colours of the Autumn,  
Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.**

For the miracle of migration and the ingenuity of hibernation,  
Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

**With walls for the wind,  
a roof for the rain,  
and for food for a friend,  
Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.**

Surrounded by safety and blessed with abundance,  
let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

**Let us worship God from whom all blessings flow.**

**\*CENTERING FOR WORSHIP –**

VU #549

*"For All Your Goodness, God"*

***For all your goodness, God, we give You thanks.  
Thanks for the food we eat,  
and for the friends we meet,  
for each new day we greet,  
We give You thanks.***

**\*LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE** *(in unison)*

**We give You thanks, Almighty God,  
for the wonders by which we are surrounded,  
but chiefly for revealing yourself in and through Jesus.  
He is the Light of the World.  
We light this candle to remember that,  
when two or three are gathered together in his name, he  
here among us.**

*The Christ Candle is lit...*

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**God of Creation, Giver of every surprising gift,  
gather us together and reveal to us the gifts  
You have hidden in each of us,  
and give us courage to use them for your ministry,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN**

**\*GATHERING HYMN –**

VU #516

“Come, You Thankful People, Come”

Come, you thankful people, come,  
raise the song of the harvest home!  
All is safely gathered in,  
safe before the storms begin;  
God, our maker, does provide  
for our needs to be supplied:  
come to God’s own temple, come,  
raise the song of the harvest home!

All the world is God’s own field,  
harvests for God’s praise to yield;  
wheat and weeds together sown,  
here for joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear:  
Harvest giver, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For our God, one day, shall come,  
and shall take his harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away;  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the weeds to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner evermore.

Even so, God, quickly come  
to your final harvest home!  
Gather all your people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there for ever purified,  
in your presence to abide:  
come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

**PRAYER OF HUMILITY** *(in unison)*

**Holy God,  
teach us how to perceive abundance and  
how to give thanks.  
Before we notice anything,  
You have blessed us with beauty.  
Before we reach out to You in prayer,  
You are listening,  
Before we ask, You have provided.  
Before we turned to You, You turned to us in  
deep love and met us in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Recreate us with deep thanksgiving and remold us  
until we are filled with Your Spirit.  
Remove all obstacles to your Will,  
in Christ our Lord, Amen**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND FORGIVENESS**

**CHORAL RESPONSE – “How Deep the Peace”**

MV #95

***How deep the peace, the confidence,  
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.  
How deep the peace, the confidence,  
Of those whose heart are healed.***

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

In peace, dear God, I come to You  
through Jesus Christ who makes me new.  
And while I run or play or rest,  
be with those whom I love best,  
Guide me in your Holy Way,  
as You walk with me each day, Amen.

# GOD MADE FLOWERS

Words by  
WALTER FARQUHARSON

Music by  
RON KLUSMEIER



1. God \_\_ made flow - ers, God \_\_ made trees, cat - er - pil - lars,  
2. God \_\_ made child - ren, grown - ups too, gave us all some

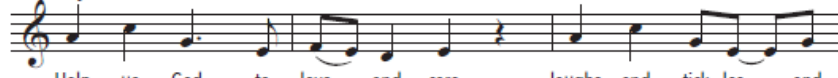


and \_\_ bum-ble-bees. God \_\_ made el - bows, God \_\_ made knees,  
work \_\_ to \_\_ do. Help \_\_ us, \_\_ God, to love \_\_ you more,



pol - lens and dusts that make \_\_ us sneeze.  
keep \_\_ good friends and find \_\_ some more.

### Refrain



Help us, God, to love \_\_ and care, laughs and tick - les \_\_ and



hugs \_\_ to \_\_ share. Help us, God, to love \_\_ and care,



laughs and tick - les \_\_ and hugs to share.

MUSIKLUS

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## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(in unison)*

**Help us hear what is not read,  
Help us hear what is not said,  
Help us hear your Voice today,  
Echo in this place we pray. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Joanne Wiseman

Joel 2:21-27

Matthew 6:25-33

## REFLECTION

### MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

### GIFT OF MUSIC – “Come Touch Our Hearts”

### YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS *(formerly Minute for Mission)*

*The Ronalds Family*

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

#### \*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)*

**We present to You our gifts time, treasure, and talents.  
Together use them and us for You Glory  
and the good of others, in Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen.**

## COMMUNAL PRAYERS

### THE LORD’S PRAYER – NOTRE PÈRE

*GOING OUT*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CLOSING HYMN – “Praise God for the Harvest”

VU #517

Praise god for the harvest of the orchard and field,  
praise God for the people who gather their yield,  
the long hours of labour, the skills of a team,  
the patience of science, the power of machine.

Praise God for the harvest that comes from afar,  
from market and harbour, the sea and the shore:  
foods packed and transported, and gathered and grown  
by God-given neighbours, unseen and unknown.

Praise God for the harvest that's quarried and mined,  
then sifted, and smelted, and shaped, and refined;  
for oil and for iron, for copper and coal,  
praise God, who in love has provided them all.

Praise God for the harvest of science and skill,  
the urge to discover, create, and fulfil:  
for dreams and inventions that promise to gain  
a future more hopeful, a world more humane.

Praise God for the harvest of mercy and love  
from leaders and peoples, who struggle and serve  
for fairness and kindness, that all may be led  
in freedom and safety, and all may be fed.

**\*SENDING FORTH**

**\*CHORAL CLOSING** – "Lift Us Up, Send Us Out"

***Lift us up, send us out  
as we now go in peace  
and our worship and living entwine.  
May God's presence be near  
and may concord increase  
when our hope and our actions combine.  
Be the salt, be the light  
and let each be a sign  
that our caring will highlight the way.  
Share a meal, plant a tree,  
let our faith underline  
that by giving, our love is conveyed.***

*Text © Allan Baer, 2014  
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*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**POSTLUDE**

# Church News

This Week at First United Church		
Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday to Friday		
Monday	<b>Office Closed – Thanksgiving Day</b>	
Tuesday	1:00 – 3:00 PM	Knitting Group
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market

**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 October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we have collected 697 jars.

If you are aware of **anyone in the hospital or needing a visit**, please let the office know (506-546-3532) and the message will be forwarded to the Pastoral Care Team.

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 2 PM - Christmas Hymn Sing**



The choirs of First United Church in Bathurst and Central United Church in Clifton will once again be offering an afternoon of Christmas music on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent! A reception will follow.

If you would like to join the combined choir for this event, practices will begin Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM. All are welcome! More details will follow regarding tickets.

***Mark your calendars, tell your friends & family to come and join us for this musical event!***

**Correction to Newsletter Quiz # 1 – When did First United come into being?** It has been brought to my attention that I had a typo on answer # 1 – I indicated the year was 1942 when in-fact it was been **1941**. My apologies for the error...*Margaret*

# 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 2025 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](mailto:egbranch@rogers.com)) will be taking orders for these calendars until October 15, 2024. Payment can be made in advance by cash, cheque, or eTransfer, or when the calendars are delivered in November. Cheques are to be made payable to "Help Lesotho". Thank you to the congregation of First United Church for your continued support of this initiative.

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pokeshaw & Black Rock **Cranberry Festival** is scheduled for ***October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024*** at various locations and times. Activities include Cranberry Bog Tours, Peat Moss Fields Demo, Paramotor Flying; Café & Market, Lobster Boat & Fishing Demo, Drop-In Cider Making. They are also teaming with North Tetagouche / Kinsale for the Provincial Biennial Awards & Irish Canadian Cultural Associate N.E., featuring the CALNAN BAND! For more information see the poster on the bulletin boards or visit Pokeshaw & Black Rock Recreation Council Inc. Facebook page.



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

#### JOEL 2:21-27

- 21** Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the Lord has done great things!
- 22** Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- 23** O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the Lord your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.
- 24** The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- 25** I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.
- 26** You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the Lord your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people  
shall never again be put to shame.
- 27** You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again  
be put to shame.

#### MATTHEW 6:25-33

- 25** 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
- 26** Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
- 27** And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?
- 28** And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,
- 29** yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.
- 30** But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?
- 31** Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?"
- 32** For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- 33** But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.