

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

**Sixth Sunday in Lent – Palm Sunday**  
**April 13, 2025**

**Clergy** Rev. David Allan     **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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<b><u>Good Friday Lectionary</u></b>	
Psalm 22 & Luke 22:14-23 & 23:1-56	
<b><u>Lectionary for today</u></b> Psalm 118 Parts 1, 3, 4 Zechariah 9:9-10 Luke 19:28-40	<b><u>Lectionary for Easter Sunday</u></b> Psalm 118 Parts 1, 2, 3 Isaiah 65:17-25 Luke 23:50-56 & 24: 1-12
<i>The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of</i> <b><i>Terry McLean Disney</i></b> by Mom and Dad <i>~Nora &amp; Eldie McLean</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*

**MUSIC FOR GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** *(in unison)*

**...As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and love, 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.**

**\*CENTERING FOR WORSHIP** - "Come into the Streets with Me"  
*(Words by Shirley Erena Murray/Music by Ron Klusmeier)*

*(while waving palm branches)*

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*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *(responsively)*

Hey! Do you hear that? I think he's coming!

**Who?**

Jesus! The Messiah! Oh boy! Hosanna!

**Hosanna! Hosanna!** *(loudly)*

He's coming closer! He'll be here any minute! Get your palm branches ready!

**Hosanna! Hosanna!**

*(even louder – and wave your branches!)*

Here he is, our king! Riding... on a donkey?

**Choir:**

**Wait – what?! Why is a king riding on a donkey?**

**Men: Where's his army?**

**Women: Has he come to save us or not?**

Riding on a donkey. No shouts of rebellion. No army. Just a message of hope:

**"God's kingdom is coming... and God's kingdom is here!"**

A simple message of love:

**"Love one another as I have loved you."**

Let us follow this Servant King. Let us worship our God.

### **GATHERING PRAYER:**

Holy Week has begun, a time of enthusiasm and expectation, of service and sharing a sacred meal. It's a time of suffering, loss and hopes dashed, of questions and mourning. It's a time of opening, of rebirth, life, light and celebration again. It's the time of our life, O God, where so much of who we are is told in the story that we share. And so, we pray *hosanna*, help us now loving God, help us as we worship, strengthen us for this holy week. Walk with us as our journey continues into Jerusalem. With quickening heartbeats, we pray, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Amen



### **\*GATHERING HYMN:**

VU #122

"All Glory, Laud and Honour"

*(while waving palm branches)*

***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)***

### **LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY:**

*Gayle Ferron*

During the season of Lent, we remember and retell the story of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. He came bringing light and love, assurance and amazing grace. But there were those who were shut down by the shadows of fear, or reshaped by a desire for power, with hearts that were shrunken and shrivelled up. They sought to extinguish the light and exclude the love that brings life.

There are many stories of those who have struggled and failed to be faithful. Sometimes the story is our own. We remember the story of when Jesus and the disciples were at supper in an upper room, and how the disciples argued about which of them was the most faithful. Peter claimed he was the one. But Jesus told them all that the cup from which he was about to drink was too bitter for any of them to take. One by one, each would forsake him. Peter said that he would never, ever do that, that he would follow Jesus anywhere, and go through anything Jesus went through. Jesus replied that Peter would suffer the same things that he would suffer and more besides, but before any of that, before a rooster crowed in the morning, he would deny Jesus three times. After Jesus was arrested, Peter followed the crowd and warmed himself by a fire while Jesus was being questioned. As he sat there, a maid from the house saw him and said, "Aren't you one of his disciples?" Peter said, "No, I am not." Another recognised his accent and said, "You're from Galilee. You've got to be one of his followers." Again, Peter said that he did not know Jesus. A little while later, still another man came up to the fire and said, "Didn't I see you with this Jesus when he was teaching?" With a mixture of anger and fear in his trembling voice, Peter said, "I told you! I never knew this man!" In the distance, a rooster crowed. Peter glanced up and saw Jesus looking at him through the doorway. Peter turned away and ran from the courtyard, with tears streaming down his face. Even those who loved Jesus the most were not all able to support him in his darkest hour. When they could have been there, they went into hiding, and except for Mary Magdalene and other women, except for his mother and the beloved disciple, they allowed Jesus to suffer and die without them. As friends abandoned him into the hands of his enemies, a little of the light that had come into the world went out.

We know that the lovelight will always be raised up, it will rise over every new horizon, and we know that it will never be overcome. And yet, in such places, in too many places still, the presence of the light within and among all was dimmed for a while...

*Another candle is extinguished*

## **CHORAL RESPONSE:**

"Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary"

MV #18

***Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy tried and true;  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary for you.***

## **ASSURANCE:**

The Hebrew word "Hosanna" means "Save us!" It means "Help us - now!" It is a cry that is urgent, and it is a cry that demonstrates trust and faith. We share that same faith as those people long ago, and it is not misplaced. For our God is with us in all our journeys, in all of the places where we find ourselves - in our joy and in our suffering, in our fear and in our failings, when the light shines and when shadows fall, with the strength and the bond of an unending love. We are not alone.

## **\*THE NEW CREED: (in unison)**

VU #918

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

*The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt. 1980 & 1995*

***And when you call for me,  
I have already answered.  
And when you call for me,  
I am already there.***

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 118 (Parts 1, 3 & 4) VU Page #837

*Refrain: Hosanna! Hosanna!*

*(while waving palm branches)*

**SHARING OUR STORIES** *(with those of all ages)*

**\*HYMN:** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

VU #123

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.

From Olivet they followed  
'mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm-branch waving,  
and singing clear and loud;  
the Lord of earth and heaven  
rode on in lowly state,  
content that little children  
should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!"  
That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer;  
earth, let your anthems ring.  
O may we ever praise him  
with heart and life and voice,  
and in his humble presence  
eternally rejoice!

**It's been a long journey in this season of Lent, and Jerusalem is just around the corner. On this day of rest, may we be refreshed with your word, God of our life, and so continue with Jesus, with hope, with devotion and with the assurance of unbridled grace. Amen**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

*Wayne Lord*

Zechariah 9:9-10

*See, your king comes to you, lowly, and riding on a donkey*

Luke 19:28-40

*Jesus approaches Jerusalem to cheering crowds*

**A STORY:** "Holiness and humble hosannas"

**GIFT OF MUSIC:** "Antiphonal Hosanna"

**YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS**

*Ronalds Family*

**INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING:**

We have joined the crowd with our hopes and hosannas, and now we respond to our community and to a world in need. We respond as God responds, with love and words of hope, and with grace and generosity...

**THE OFFERING IS GATHERED**

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE:**

"Give What You Can, Take What You Need"

***Give what you can, take what you need.  
For the body of Christ, is enough to feed.  
The hungry for Spirit and the thirsty for love.  
Give thanks when you can to our God up above.***

*Gathering L/E 2017 pg. 53 Words & Music: Bryan Cook*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER:** *(in unison)*

**We do not always know where we are going, or what is around the next corner. But we continue to walk the Way trusting in your love, O God. And we trust too that all that we offer here will, through that love, bring the kingdom of heaven ever nearer in our hearts, and in your world. As the faithful once laid down their cloaks, we lay down our lives for the coming of your peace. May it always be so. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF JESUS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** – “We Glimpse, O Love, Your Hidden Way”  
*(tune VU 108 Winchester New)*

Ride on ride on O, longing Lord.  
Below your feet our coats we lay.  
Above your head the branches wave.  
We glimpse, O Love, your hidden way.

Ride on ride on O, sorrowing King,  
processing through our scattered aims.  
And mounted low, close to our hearts,  
a lingering trace of hope impart.

Ride on, ride on O, lonely One.  
Ride through the clamour of the day.  
And when the silence rises new  
draw us more deeply into you.

*Words - Catherine Smith © 2019*

**\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION; SHARING THE LIGHT**

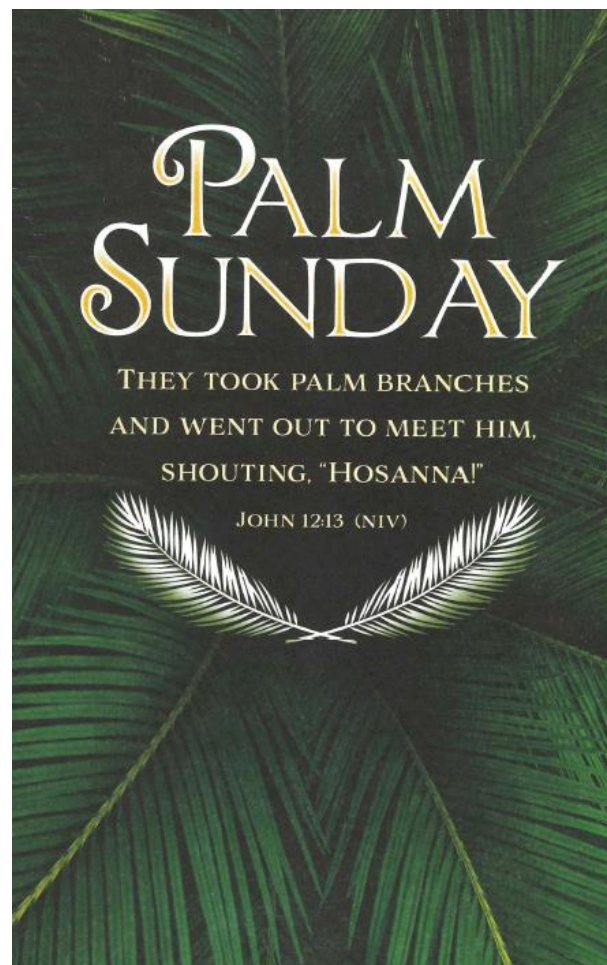
*Christ Candle is extinguished*

**\*CHORAL CLOSING** – “Stay with Us through the Night” –  
VU #182 *(Verse 1)*

***Stay with us through the night.  
Stay with us through the pain.  
Stay with us, blessed stranger  
till the morning breaks again.***

**POSTLUDE**

**Acknowledgements:** Call to Worship adapted from one by the Very Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, then in Vancouver, BC. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2022, p. 37. Used with permission. Our Lenten Candle liturgies this season have been adapted from those by the Rev. Alexander H. Wales, while at First Presbyterian Church, Warrensburg, MO.



# Church News

This Week at First United Church		
Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday to Friday		
Monday	9:00 - 11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Tuesday	9:30 AM-11:30 AM	Quilters – DEMH Downstairs office
	1:00 – 3:00 PM	Knitters - RMR
Wednesday	9:00 - 11:00 AM	Badminton – DEMH GYM
Thursday	4:00 PM	Finance Team - RMR
	4:15 PM	Choir Practice
Friday	10:00 AM	Good Friday Service - Sanctuary
Good Friday - Church Office Closed		
Saturday	8:00 AM–1:00 PM	Bathurst Community Market - GYM

**Peanut Butter** –Our quota for 2025 is to collect 1,000 jars of peanut butter for the Volunteer Center. Up to April 10<sup>th</sup> we have received 331 jars and have funds on hand to purchase another 85+ 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 minister and to the Pastoral Care Team.

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.

Is it service? Is it clothes? Is it money? Is it yourself?  
 What will you offer to celebrate Jesus this week?

**First United Quilters** are now gathering on *Tuesday mornings* in the old office downstairs in the Donald Eddy Memorial Hall from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. It is a time for *fun, work, talk* and *fellowship* with new or old friends. Please contact Anne Brooks (506-548-2156) or Pat Thibodeau (506-546-2705) for more details

# Church News

**Livestream Update** – We are now live-streaming our services through YouTube. Please have patience with the sound issues as we become comfortable with the program. Many thanks to Lester Scott and Donald Eddy for their hard work bringing the livestream to fruition.

**Eat in or Take out Ham & Scallop Potato Supper** will be held on **Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**. \$18 for adults and \$6 for children. Please contact a member of the *Ways & Means Committee* or drop by/call (506-546-3532) the church office for tickets. Tickets are on a first come/first serve basis.

*Sponsored by  
Bayside Automotive Group*



## Community News

Come and enjoy an evening of music with Derek Knowles and the Jammers when they perform at **Christ Church Hall** in Clifton on **Saturday, April 26** beginning at 6:30 pm. No tickets are needed in advance but a free will offering will be accepted at the door. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**The Bathurst Legion** will begin serving a delicious breakfast every Sunday beginning today. 9 AM to 1 PM - \$10 per person. This will be a weekly project and everyone is welcome.





**ZECHARIAH 9:9-10**

**The Coming of Zion's King**

**9** Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,

righteous and victorious,

lowly and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

**10** I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**LUKE 19:28-40**

**Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King**

**28** After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

**29** As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

**30** "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

**31** If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

**32** Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them.

**33** As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

**34** They replied, "The Lord needs it."

**35** They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it.

**36** As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

**37** When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

**38** "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

**39** Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

**40** "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."