

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

**Intergenerational Service - Graduate Recognition Sunday**  
**Third Sunday after Pentecost - June 14, 2026**

*You are my hope, my trust from my youth;  
 from the time of my birth I have leaned on you.*

*Psalm 71:5-6(a)*

**Minister** Rev. David Allan      **Music Director** Martha Vickers  
**Office Adm.** Margaret Daniels      **Custodian** Lester Scott  
**Greeters** Lola Nelson & Gary Branch  
**Audio & Visual Technician** Shirley Allain & Lester Scott  
**Minister Emeritus** Rev. Blair Lewis

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for next Sunday</u>
Psalm 16 Joel 2:21-29	Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39
The bulletins today are placed in loving memory of <b><i>Cleveland Jagoe</i></b> by the family	

*We extend congratulations to our high school graduates:*  
***Alex Brown, Brody Knowles, Katie Lavigne,  
 Elliott Nelson and Adam Young***

*We welcome:*

***Katie Lavigne, our BHS graduate; Adam Young, our ESN graduate;  
 Amanda Godin, Berklee College of Music-Master of Music in Music Education  
 & Larissa Halliday, New York University, Doctor of Dental Surgery***

*Congratulations to all on the  
 well-deserved, hard-earned accomplishments!*

*The asterisk \* identifies those times in the service where you are invited to stand as you are able.*

**MUSIC FOR GATHERING.**

**\*PROCESSION OF GRADUATES** – “Land of Hope and Glory”

**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.**

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

*Isabel MacLaggan*

We come at different stages in our journeys:  
**we come to worship carrying our memories and experiences,**  
 our gratitude, commitments, regrets and laments,  
**our assurances and concerns,**  
**and our hopes, visions and dreams.**

*Brooke Knowles*

We come as seekers and wonderers;  
**we come as disciples open to learning too.**  
 Young and old and somewhere in between,  
**we come knowing the Spirit is among us.**

*Isabel MacLaggan*

Yes, we come to worship as we are,  
 we come conscious of who we hope to be,  
**we come as the generations of God’s beloved Creation.**

*Brooke Knowles*

Today we gather, as God sings us into being,  
 loving us into belonging.  
**We are gathered in the Holy Name that is Love.**

“Where Two or Three Are Gathered”

***Where two or three are gathered  
in my name,  
I am there,  
I am there.***

**GATHERING PRAYER:**

Christ is here as we are here. As we gather to listen and reflect, to pray and to sing, God of all, bind us more closely together, draw us more closely to you. Open our hearts and minds to more fully learn the lessons of love, and the life that is in you. In this hour, expand our awareness, our consciousness to better experience your desire and your design, that through the lives we share, the world may more fully come to know you. As seekers of your wisdom, we come before you. As children of light, we pray.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN:** “Make a Joyful Noise”

VU #820

*Refrain:*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!*

*Worship your God with gladness.*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth.*

*Come to this place with a song!*

Know that your God has made you.

Know it's to God we belong.

And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.

Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain*

Enter these gates, thanks giving.

Enter these courts with praise.

Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.

Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain*

Ages through endless ages,  
seasons of endless years,  
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.  
Worship your God with a song!

*Refrain:*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!*

*Worship your God with gladness.*

*Make a joyful noise all the earth.*

*Come to this place with a song!*

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

We light this candle to remind us of the shining presence of our risen Christ and the Divine delight in our re-creation. It is the light that is never eclipsed, that rises over every heart and every new horizon. May the Lovelight always shine in our eyes, that together we see more clearly the beauty and the need of the world. In its light may we envision and see ourselves anew. And together, may we respond with a faithful and unconditional love that helps to overcome the shadows of fear with grace, hope, justice and peace.

*(The Christ Candle is lit)*

**LIGHTING THE AFFIRMING CANDLE:**

The Christ Light shines for all, it shines in the midst of all of Creation, it shines within our very being. It is the luminosity of Love, of blessing and belonging. We lament that the Light has not and is not always seen that way. Too often the Christ Light is thought to be eclipsed within and through some of us simply because of who we are, as though shadows are cast upon Creation by our very creation, as though there is in fact a darkness that can indeed overcome the Light.

*(The Affirming Candle is lit...)*

And so, from the flame of the Christ Candle we light this Affirming Candle, to make it clear, so that all can clearly see, that through the prism of Love, the Christ Light refracts to display the colours and beauty of the diversity of God's beloved Creation.

As the youth at last week's Regional Council Annual Meeting proclaimed, "the light is colourful!" We do not put a bushel basket over the light. We join with our God in singing "Let there be light." Because it is good. Because God sees all of God's Creation as good. Because our God is good.

**CHORAL RESPONSE:** "Know That God Is Good" MV #104

***Know that God is good,  
know that God is good,  
know that God is good,  
God is good, God is good.***

***C'est vrai: Dieu est bon!  
C'est vrai: Dieu est bon!  
C'est vrai: Dieu est bon!  
Dieu est bon! Dieu est bon!***

***Know that God is good,  
know that God is good,  
know that God is good,  
God is good, God is good.***

**PSALM 16:** Randy Breckenridge

***Refrain: Songs of praise well up from my heart!***

Remain ever before me, O Living Presence, for in You I am safe.

**You are my Beloved; in You and through  
You I can do all things.**

I look to those who are at one with You and learn from them your ways;

**my delight increases each time I sense  
your Presence within me!**

***Refrain: Songs of praise well up from my heart!***

Love is my chosen food, my cup, holding me in its power.

**Where I have come from, where're I shall go,  
Love is my birthright, my true estate.**

I bless the Counsellor who guides my way;

**in the night also does my heart instruct me.**

I walk beside the Spirit of Truth; I celebrate the Light.

**I bask in The Oneness of All!**

***Refrain: Songs of praise well up from my heart!***

Thus my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

**I shall not be afraid, nor fall into the pit of despair;**  
for in Love's presence I know fullness of joy.

**You are my Beloved and, in You I will live forever!**

***Refrain: Songs of praise well up from my heart!***

**Acknowledgement:**

Psalm 16 paraphrase written by Nan C. Merrill,  
*Psalms for Praying: an invitation to wholeness.*  
(Bloomsbury: New York, 2007) pp. 20-21.  
Refrain by Rev. David Allan

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:** (*responsively*)

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

**And also with you!**

*Please share with one another words and signs of peace.*

**PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES**

*Jennifer Oliver, Representative of Christian Development Team*

*Katie Lavigne*

*Adam Young*

*Amanda Godin*

*Larissa Halliday*

**EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS**

*Sandra Boone*

**SHARING OUR STORIES:** hopes and dreams

**\*HYMN:** "Look to the Light"

Look to the light it's shining.

Open your eyes and see,

that there's love enough for the whole wide world,  
enough for you and me.

Open your eyes and see.

Listen to the voices singing.  
Open your heart you'll see,  
that the Spirit sings with the whole wide world,  
a song for you and me.  
Open your heart and see.

Reach to the earth with loving.  
Open our hands and see,  
that there's food enough for the whole wide world,  
enough for you and me  
Open your hands and see.

Let's join our hands together.  
Stretch 'cross the earth and seas.  
For there's room enough for the whole wide world,  
enough for you and me.  
Open up your eyes and see.  
Oh, open up your eyes and see.

*Words and music: Pat Mayberry © 2000  
Arrangement: David Kai © 2018*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:** *(in unison)*

**As we listen and reflect, may we be blessed with wisdom as with curiosity. May we discover deeper truths as well as better questions. And may the word of God nourish us so that together, we grow in faith, hope and love. Amen**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Joel 2:21-29 *Jennifer Oliver*

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER** *Rev. David Allan*

**MESSAGE** *Inzwi Munikwa*

**GIFT OF MUSIC:**

**MINUTES FOR AFFIRMING** *Amanda Godin*

**INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING:**

Our hearts and minds and spirits have been expanded. Our imaginations have been sparked. Our wonder just might turn into the work of the kingdom! And so, in gratitude and grace, we give. Our offerings will now be gathered.

**OUR OFFERING IS GATHERED**

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE:** "What Can I Do?" MV #191

***What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. (I'll sing with joy.)  
I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love.  
I'll do my share.***

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

**When we gather and grow in the likeness of you, our God, we give as we receive. When we see in one another and the world the beauty and goodness of your Creation made in your image, in whom you can be recognised and experienced, we give as we receive. Bless these gifts as you have blessed us all, that through them and each of us here the world may know healing, joy, justice and peace. May all know your love, and see visions and dream. Amen.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF JESUS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** "We Are the Singers"

***Refrain:***  
*We are God's people, hopeful and joyful  
One open circle round Jesus Christ!*

We are the singers who celebrate Jesus,  
we are the cast of a play to unfold,  
we have a part at the heart of the Gospel,  
action that speaks as the Story is told,

**Refrain:**

*We are God's people, hopeful and joyful  
One open circle round Jesus Christ!*

This is the wonder, that we should be chosen!  
We, like the earthenware vessels we are,  
clay in the mold to enfold the great treasure:  
light of more power than planet or star,

**Refrain:**

We are the travelers set out on a voyage,  
ship that will sail with whoever will board,  
we who can dream a regime of acceptance,  
seeking a country of loving accord,

**Refrain:**

We have a life that is greening and growing,  
centered on Jesus, the root and the vine,  
we are a place for each race and each rainbow,  
household of faith with a pledge of new wine,

**Refrain:**

**\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL SENDING FORTH:**

"Wherever You May Go"

*Refrain:*

*Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
and your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

Say the word and I will stay,  
I will never go away,  
we will travel side by side  
and God's love will be our guide.

*Refrain:*

From beginning to the end  
I will always be your friend,  
when you need me, I'll be there,  
you can trust my faithful care.

*Refrain:*

*Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
and your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

**\*SHARING THE LIGHT**

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished.)*

**\*RECESSION OF GRADUATES – "Land of Hope and Glory"**

**POSTLUDE**

MV #214

# Church News

**Summer hours are now in effect** – The office will be closed on Fridays until the Labour Day Weekend.

**Choir Practice** – The weekly practice will resume in the fall. There will be a short practice session just prior to each weekly service.

**Peanut Butter** – Once again this year our goal is to collect 1,000 jars of peanut butter to donate to the Bathurst Volunteer Center. Up to June 11<sup>th</sup> we have received 424 jars with funds on hand to purchase another 105+.

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 joyfully, give gratefully, give without boasting.

**Hospitality & Friendship Time** – A heartfelt thank you to all of the dedicated members of The Hospitality & Friendship team and other volunteers who assist with the "**Coffee & Treats Time**" after each worship service. June 21<sup>st</sup> will be the final Sunday for coffee time until September. They all deserve a well-earned break for the summer.

## Community News

The annual Stonehaven New Bandon Cemetery Service will be held on **Sunday, June 28, 2026 at 2 PM** in the Chapel in Stonehaven. Father Paul Gwese will be leading the service. Donations can be made to any of the three funds: Chapel Fund, Cemetery Fund or Perpetual Care Fund. All donations will be receipted, just be sure to include your mailing information.

The Annual Meeting for the Stonehaven New Bandon Union Cemetery Inc will be held on **Monday evening, July 6, 2026**, at the chapel beginning at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Joel 2:21-29** NIV, with inclusive language

**21** Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely our God has done great things!

**22** Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

**23** Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Creator, your God, for God has given you the autumn rains because the Creator is faithful. God sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before.

**24** The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

**25** "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten - the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm - my great army that I sent among you.

**26** You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Creator, your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed.

**27** Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

**28** "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your children will prophesy, your old ones will dream dreams, your young ones will see visions.

**29** Even on those in servitude, all those regarded as the lowliest of humanity, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.



## Graduation 2026

Bathurst High School

*Katie Lavigne*

*École Secondaire Népisiguit*

*Adam Young*

*Amanda Godin*

*- Berklee College of Music  
with Master of Music  
in Music Education*

*Larissa Halliday*

*- New York University  
with Doctor of Dental Surgery*

*Guest Speaker - Inzwi Munikwa*

*First United Church*

*309 St. Patrick Street  
Bathurst, New Brunswick*



## A Graduation Blessing

*Embarking on a journey which began some time ago,  
how could you have imagined all the things  
you'd come to know.*

*You learned to use each challenge as an opportunity,  
to overcome each problem, despite adversity.*

*It wasn't always easy keeping up with what was "cool", but  
you held on tight to your beliefs  
and carried them through school.*

*You found your voice and chose a path that honors  
who you are, and that, I think, may be  
your greatest lesson learned thus far.*

*For no one could be prouder of the person you've become,  
and that is why we're confident that  
the best is yet to come.*

*May you never waste a moment  
"wishing" life was not unfair.*

*Rather use the gifts God gave to you,  
to change the world out there.*

*Your Graduation signals us that you are on your way,  
so spread your wings and fly my dear, forever and a day!*

*By Barbara D. MacAdam*