

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

July 12, 2026

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Minister Rev. David Allan **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Greeters Brenda Gilliss & Dawn Yao
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>
Genesis 25:19-34	Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalms 119:105-112	Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:1-11	Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

We welcome and thank **Sandra Boone** for leading us in worship this morning.

We welcome **Linda Knowles MacPherson** and thank her for providing us with her amazing gift of music.

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

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

WELCOME

TERRITORY 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.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

As we light this Christ candle, we celebrate the light that guides us. This flame reminds us of Christ's presence, may this light shine through us as we step into the future with hope and love.

(The Christ Candle is lit...)

LIGHTING THE AFFIRMING 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 Affirming Candle is lit...)

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP: "Wind is Moving"

Season of the Spirit Volume 1

***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.
O Holy Spirit, move over all our lives.***

CALL TO WORSHIP

***GATHERING HYMN: "Church in the Wildwood"**

SOG #12

There's a church in the valley by the wildwood,
No lovelier spot in the dale;
No place is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

Refrain:

*Come to the church in the wildwood,
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.*

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood,
To the trees where the wild flowers bloom;
Where the parting hymn will be chanted,
We will weep by the side of the tomb.

Refrain

How sweet on a clear Sunday morning,
To list to the clear ringing bell;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

Refrain

From the church in the valley by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to the mansions of light.

Refrain

PRAYER OF HUMILITY

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 hearts are healed.***

***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.

A TIME OF SHARING FOR ALL AGES

HYMN: “Life’s Railway to Heaven”

C&W Gospel Hymnal # 98

Life is like a mountain railroad
With an engineer that's brave
We must make the run successful
From the cradle to the grave
Watch for curves and hills and tunnels
Never falter never fail
keep your hand upon the throttle
And your eye upon the rail.

Refrain:

***Blessed Savior, Thou wilt guide us
Till we reach that blissful shore
Where the angels wait to join us
In Thy praise forevermore***

You will roll up grades of trial,
You will cross the bridge of strife;
See that Christ is your conductor
On this lightening train of life;
Always mindful of obstruction,
Do your duty, never fail;
Keep your hand upon the throttle
And your eye upon the rail.

Refrain:

You will often find obstruction,
Look for storms and wind and rain;
On a fill or curve or trestle
They will almost ditch your train;
Put your trust alone in Jesus,
Never falter, never fail;
Keep your hand upon the throttle
And your eye upon the rail.

Refrain:

***Blessed Savior, Thou wilt guide us
Till we reach that blissful shore
Where the angels wait to join us
In Thy praise forevermore***

As you roll across the trestle
Spanning Jordan's swelling tide
You behold the Union Depot
Into which your train will glide
There you'll meet the Superintendent
God the Father, God the Son;
With a hearty, joyous greeting
Weary pilgrim, welcome home!

Refrain:

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: *Helen Knowles & Gayle Ferron*

Psalm 78 Verses 1-8

1 Corinthians 13 Verses 4-5

Deuteronomy 6 Verses 6-7

REFLECTION: "Legacy - What will you leave behind?"

GIFT OF MUSIC: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom"

YOUR GENEROSITY MATTERS

Ronalds Family

INVITATION TO MAKE AN OFFERING

THE 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 say a prayer. I'll bring my love.
I'll do my share.***

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

Gracious and loving God, we offer these gifts to you, along with the gratitude of our hearts. We thank You for Your endless blessings and for the opportunity to give. Please multiply these resources and use the to build Your kingdom and support those in need. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

SHARING OUR CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN:** "This Little Light of Mine" #66 AGCS

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel (NO!)
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let anyone "whiff" (blow) it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Let it shine in my hometown.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine in my hometown.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine in my hometown.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

See the light spreading round the world.
See all the faces shine.
See the light spreading round the world.
See all the faces shine.
See the light spreading round the world.
See all the faces shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

BLESSING

SHARING THE LIGHT

(The Christ Candle and Affirming Candle are extinguished.)

***CHORAL SENDING FORTH—**

"I Am Walking a Path of Peace"

MV #221

***I am walking a path of peace,
I am walking a path of peace,
I am walking a path of peace,
lead me home, I am home.***

POSTLUDE

Church News

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

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 July 9th we have received 500 jars with funds on hand to purchase another 100+.

Rev. David will be away from the church on study leave from July 7th to July 20th, returning to the office on July 21st. During Rev. David's absence, for any pastoral care emergencies, please contact the church office by telephone during daytime hours or by email (admin@firstunited-bathurst.ca) after hours.

Next Sunday, July 19th our guest presider will be Jennifer Oliver and we will also be celebrating a Sacrament of Baptism.

Church News

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.

What has your generosity yielded?

Community News

The Anglican Parish of New Bandon is holding its **Annual Strawberry Social and Bake Sale** on **Wednesday, July 15th** from **6:00 to 7:30 PM** at Christ Church Hall in Clifton. Entrance to the sale is free of charge and attendees have the option to purchase strawberry shortcake to eat-in or take out. Tickets are \$10 for shortcake and a beverage, and can be purchased at the door. No advance tickets are sold."

A SUMMER FESTIVAL BREAKFAST will be held at St. George's Anglican Church, 432 King Avenue, on **Saturday, July 18th** from **8:00 to 10:00 AM**. Tickets are \$ 10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Tickets are available in advance at the Church Office or at the door. Come and enjoy fellowship and great food.

As part of the festival taking place this week, St. Lukes Presbyterian Church, 395 Murray Ave., will be offering for sale items for a Brown Bag Lunch on Saturday July 18th from 11 am to 1 pm. Sale tables will be set up on the front lawn of the church. Cash sales only.



SCRIPTURE READING – New International Version

Psalm 78

A *maskil* of Asaph.

- ¹ My people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.
- ² I will open my mouth with a parable;
I will utter hidden things, things from of old—
- ³ things we have heard and known,
things our ancestors have told us.
- ⁴ We will not hide them from their descendants;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done.
- ⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
- ⁶ so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
- ⁷ Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.
- ⁸ They would not be like their ancestors—
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to him.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-5

- 4** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
- 5** It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

- 6** These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.
- 7** Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

*For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us all, thanks be to God.*