**Be United Communities of Faith**

**Bridgewater United Church**

**October 22nd, 2023 21st after Pentecost Peace Sunday**

**Minister:** *Reverend Neil McEwen* **Music Ministry Director:** *Barbara Pate*

**Guest Minister:** *Reverend Dr. Wayne Smith* **Guest Musician:** *Terra Lee Kelly*

**Audio Visual Technician:** *Ewart Morse* **Sound Engineer:** *Evan Rafuse*

**Greeter:** *Joy Bird* **Greeter:** *Diane Patten*

*The asterisk (\*) indicates the congregation may stand, as they are able.*

*The print in* ***BOLD*** *is where the congregation participates.*

Prelude

**\*Hymn:** **# 220 VU – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Chorus: B-United**

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Invitation To Worship:**

We wake to a world of beauty and catastrophe,

**a world of vision and violence,**

**compassion and cowardice.**

We live in such a wounded world –

beyond the grief of natural disasters,

**we face the devastation of human violence.**

How do we give prayerful expression to our grief?

**Chorus:** **I Love You, Lord**

Opening Prayer

Your Generosity Matters: Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

Offering our Thanks

**Offertory Response: # 537 VU – Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands**

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Time with Children

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn:** **# 672 VU – Take Time to Be Holy**

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Genesis 21:8-21

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Scripture Reading: James 3:2-10

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 31:9-14 – Part Two – page 758 VU**

Gloria Patri

Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:24-30

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

Message

Reflective Meditation

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn:** **# 333 VU – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Extinguishing The Candles

Commissioning And Benediction

Postlude

***CCLI No., 11287624, 20371363***

***The church bulletins are given to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of parents, Harold and Hazel Knox***

***and Clyde and Jean Uhlman, gift of Randall and Brenda Knox.***

***The October radio broadcast is presented to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of Robert (Bob) MacLaren,***

***gift of wife Carole and family.***

**Bridgewater United Church**

**Wants To Stay In Touch With You!**

1. Please pass along your email to the Church Office at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca), so that you can be added to congregational emails regarding events, services, and storm closures.

2. Check out our website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca) for information about our Church, event calendar, worship services and so much more.

3. The Church Office wants to remind members of the congregation, if the worship service is cancelled, an announcement will be placed on CKBW (98.1 FM), the church’s website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca), Facebook and the church voicemail stating the cancellation by 9:00am on Sunday morning.

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**Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice**

The United Church of Canada is a community of hope, a vibrant and vital church with both purpose and vision. We live in a time of rapid change in religious life, great inequities between peoples, and collective harm to our earth community. Together, we strive towards repentance, repair, and right relations with all peoples and the planet. Living purposefully into this call and vision anticipates becoming the Beloved Community—the ever inbreaking, transforming, reconciling realm of God, Today!

**Vision Statement**

As followers of Jesus Christ, Bridgewater United Church is a church family that values each person as equal and unique loving expressions of God with gifts and talents to share. People of all ages, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, differing abilities, ethnic background, economic circumstance, and those experiencing other barriers that limit inclusion are welcome to fully participate in all our ministries.

**Mission Statement**

To create a vibrant community of followers of Jesus where everyone deeply knows they belong, are cared for, can grow spiritually and actively demonstrate our love in the world and towards one another.

**Core Values**

We value energetic engagement in our:

Spiritual Health

Generosity

Acceptance of all

Responsiveness to the world

Love for God, creation, self, and others

**#APlaceWhereEveryoneBelongs**

**#ChooseLove**

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87 Hillcrest Street, Bridgewater, NS, B4V 1T2

Church Office Phone: (902) 543-4833

Minister’s and Pastoral Care Private Church Phone: (902) 543-6854

Reverend Neil McEwen[westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com) (902) 523-5687

Barbara Pate [music@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:music@bridgewaterunited.ca) (902) 830-0708

Church Office E-mail:  [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:buc@tallships.ca) Website:  [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca/)

Church Office Hours ~ Tuesday to Friday ~ 10:00am – 12:30pm

Be sure to like and share our Facebook and YouTube page!

Our Church is a **Nut-Free and Scent-Free Church**

**Attention Knitters**

UCW will be collecting mittens that you have been busily knitting for the Schools Plus programs in Lunenburg and Queens Counties. They will be accepted by any UCW member or for pick up you may call Diane Patten at (902) 543-4330. Thanks.

**UCW “No Baking” Bake Sale**

The UCW are having a “No Baking” Bake Sale during the month of October. The success of this project in the past has been due to your generous response and will be much appreciated again this year. In the past, the UCW have supported projects such as Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Starfish Canada, Schools Plus Emergency Fund, Brunswick Street Mission, our Mission and Service Fund. Throughout the month of October, contributions may be left with the Church Office or with any UCW member. Please make cheques payable to Bridgewater UCW. Thank you.

**40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism**

We offer this opportunity to learn and grow in our understanding and faithful response to racism in our church, community and circles of living. We offer to our Communities of Faith this resource but also the opportunity to come together to discuss what we have heard and experienced. An in-person discussion will be held at Bridgewater United on Tuesdays at 1:00pm starting on October 24th and a ZOOM discussion session will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30am starting on October 25th.

**Come and Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage**

All are welcome to join Marilyn and Jack Logan in the C.E. Centre (Gym) on Saturday, October 28th from 2:00pm-4:00pm, as they celebrate 65 years of wedded bliss. They were married on November 1, 1958 at St. Mark’s United, Saint John, NB. Come and reminisce, sharing stories with one another. Refreshments by the UCW.

**Bridgewater United Church Women Christmas Bazaar**

The UCW Christmas Bazaar will be held on **Saturday, November 18th** **from 10:00am-1:00pm** in the C.E. Centre (Gym) at Bridgewater United. Bazaar tables include Baking (Christmas and other baking); Trinkets and Treasures (No White Elephant items please); Jams, Jellies and Pickles; Plants and Flower Arrangements and Craft and Knitting. Donations for these tables will be greatly appreciated by your UCW and can be brought to the church **on Friday, November 17th from 1:00pm-4:00pm and 6:00pm-8:00pm.** Come prepared to do some Christmas shopping.

**West Side United Christmas Craft Market**

Join West Side United; 2702 Highway 331, Pentz on Saturday, November 25th from 8:30am – 3:00pm for their Christmas Craft Market. Vendors can reserve a table for $20.00 by phoning (902) 688-1580. A variety of vendors offering Crafts, Gift Ideas, Food and Baked Goods and more. Silent Auction and Canteen. Door Prize Draw.

**Universal Cheer Christmas Market**

Universal Cheer will be hosting a Christmas Market on Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00am – 1:00pm at Bridgewater United. Admission is $3.00. Vendors can reserve a space for $25.00 by registering on Universal Cheer’s Facebook page. Space is limited.

**Guest Minister: Reverend Dr. Wayne Smith**

Wayne is the product of a former one-room Methodist church within the United Church, located on the corner of his parents' pig and cattle farm. He is an alumni of both Presbyterian and United Theological colleges in Montreal. After a career as a journalist and editor, his first Ordained pastoral charge was in Pictou County. He served as a part-time military chaplain in Truro, Montreal and Halifax, then accepted a full-time contract as military teacher and staff officer at the Canadian Forces Chaplains School and the former Canadian Naval Reserve school, CFB Borden, Ont. He joined the ministry of the United Church in 2009. He has served as Transitional Specialist and Interim Minister in the former presbyteries of Simcoe, Toronto South, Montreal, Valley; later Called to a two-point charge in Moncton, N.B. He retired from William Black Memorial United, Glen Margaret. His retirement projects include Secretary of the Association of United Church Clergy, Program Director at the FM/online community broadcaster QCCR in Liverpool, and co-Chaplain with his wife, The Rev Carol Smith, with the North Queens Fire Association, Caledonia.

**Guest Musician – Terra Lee Kelly**

Terra Lee is a School Counsellor at Park View Education Centre. She is originally from Sussex, New Brunswick and has a Bachelor of Music and Education from Mount Allison University. She has been very involved in music on the South Shore, as a member of Seaside A Cappella Show Chorus and a Quartet called Four Shore.

**Living out our Faith with an Attitude of Gratitude**

Journey through this Season of Thanksgiving, by considering purchasing an extra item or two when grocery shopping for the Food Bank or Souls Harbour and put it in the boxes at the grocery store or place it in Brother Lawrence's Wheelbarrow.

**B-United Supports Our Local Food Bank**

Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated throughout the month. For October, there is a request for Peanut Butter, Jam, Cheese Whiz, Animal Crackers and Instant Rice. Thank you for your support.

**14th Annual Bridgewater United Pie Sale Fundraiser**

On November 24th and 25th, under the guidance of Yvonne Hirtle, Bridgewater United is hoping to have our 14th Annual Pie Sale. With this, many volunteers are needed to create pie crust, peel apples and make the pies. We are looking for 8 volunteers on November 24th at 2:30pm and 12 volunteers for making pies and 8 volunteers to peel apples on November 25th at 9:00am. These volunteers must be in place by November 1st, or the decision to not hold this fundraiser will be made. The Ways and Means Ministry has limited volunteers, so the decision to only create 100 pies has been decided. Phone the Church Office to volunteer at (902) 543-4833.

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“I can't change the direction of the wind,*

*but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.”*

*~Jimmy Dean*

***“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

***~ Matthew 6:21***

Prayerfully decide what you will give each year to your Church and divide that amount by twelve. Contributions help our Church’s Ministry, with a dependable flow of contributions, to increase our overall financial stability. Church envelopes allow your Church Givings to be tallied into a year-end income tax receipt. Your regular givings supports the local ministry of our congregation. With a Church Envelope you can designate where you would like your givings to be distributed.

**Local Expenses Designation** helps with the overall daily upkeep of the building, such as electricity, heating costs, insurance, as well as personnel expenses.

**Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects that The United Church of Canada is a part of such as helping people overcome poverty, train new ministers and Mission and Service Gifts support vibrant and vital ministries for the healing of the world.

**Building Fund Designation** helps with repairs/upgrades that need to be undertaken by B-United, to make sure our building is safe for all that use it.

**Food Bank Designation** helps The Bridgewater Inter-Church Food Bank, which provides help to those who are in need. We encourage our members to bring in non-perishable food bank items to be placed in Brother Lawrence’s Wheelbarrow in the Narthex throughout the month or you can place a monetary donation in the Offering Plate. This can be specified on your Church Envelope.

**PAR** is a monthly pre-authorized bank withdrawal by Bridgewater United Church directly, that can be increased or decreased five business days before the end of the month. PAR is not only convenient, but it ensures regular monthly givings to help your Church’s Ministry even when you are away.

**Sunday School Local Designation** helps with obtaining supplies for weekly curriculum, snack items, yearly curriculum lessons and events the youth will be taking part in and much more. It provides for the daily upkeep of Sunday School.

**Sunday School Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects of The United Church of Canada.

**e-Transfers** are now accepted by Bridgewater United Church. Add [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca) as a payee, and you can submit your donation that way.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tracy Rafuse, Envelope Steward, at (902) 543-4833 or by email at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca). Thank you.

*We are now given an opportunity to be a blessing to others.*

*Through our PAR commitments, through our money, and through our time and talents,*

*we now return to God, so that we might be a part of God’s Love and God’s Mission.*

**B-United PAR Authorization Form**

**(Pre-Authorized Remittance)**

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**B-United PAR Authorization**

Donor Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Gift Amount: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My Monthly Gift of $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be designated to benefit monthly:

*(Please specify amounts designated to which Church Fund)*

Local: $\_\_\_\_ Mission and Service: $\_\_\_\_ Building $\_\_\_\_ Food Bank: $\_\_\_\_

I/we authorize, Bridgewater United Church, to debit my/our bank account on one of the following dates, 1st, 20th, or Month-End of every month, starting on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

I/we may change the amount of my/our contribution five days before month-end, by contacting the Envelope Steward with this adjustment. I/we have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. I/we waive my right to receive pre-notification of the amount of pre-authorized remittance (PAR) and agree that I do not require advance notice of the amount of PAR before the debit is processed monthly.

I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and understood all the provisions contained in the terms and conditions of the pre-authorized payment authorization and that I/we have received a copy.

Please attach a **VOID** cheque.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_