



PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
 275 Erb Street East, Waterloo, ON N2J 1N6
 519-885-0935 | parkuc@golden.net | parkuc.ca

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Communion

Rev. Joe Gaspar & Rev. Heather Power

LARGE PRINT Bulletins, Voices United Hymn Books and Bibles are available from the ushers.

BULLETIN NOTATIONS:

★ Signal to stand, for those who are able.

VU~Voices United Hymn book **MV**~More Voices Hymn book

Welcome Visitors! We're glad to have you worshipping with us at Parkminster and would like to make sure you feel connected. Please take a few minutes to fill out one of the white information envelopes found in the pews and place it on the offering plate, or put it in the mail slot outside the office. Whether you'd like more information about Parkminster's programs, want to request offering envelopes, or have a question about becoming a member – or whatever else is important to you, we'd love to hear from you! Welcome!

GATHERING

Prelude: “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” *arr. by Lloyd Larson*

Welcome

Statement of Welcome

One: Today, we remember our relationship with First People which has not always been healing and empowering. With gratitude and respect, we recognize the tribes on whose traditional land we make our spiritual home, the Anishnawbe, the Haudenosaunee, and the Neutral. We acknowledge,

with regret, that this history has not always been respectful. We commit to just relationship in the present.

All: Seeking true community, we welcome all who have no church home, need strength, and are seeking deep meaning. Welcome to those who have doubts or who do not believe. Welcome to those whose faith is sure, and to those who believe, but who are asking large questions.

One: Welcome to visitors and to familiar friends.
Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, youth and children, couples, and single people.

All: Welcome to people of all colours, gender identities, abilities, and sexual orientations.

One: Welcome to each who is searching for meaning, who is seeking an understanding of community and what it means to accompany one another.

All: As we come together as church, we turn to one another with gratitude and pray that we will be strong together, faithful together, and loving together. We seek blessing as we welcome the great gift of spirit in us, through us, and among us.

Joys and Concerns

★ Introit: “Come and Find the Quiet Centre” 🎵 VU #374

Call into Community

It's good that we're here,
We are needed, all of us;
our gifts, our weaknesses,

**our courage, our cowardice,
our faith and our fear.**

We are indispensable parts of the body.

Together we are the body of Christ;

God in the flesh, in this time, in this place.

Here we gather to worship,

not a hero, not a teaching, not a doctrine,

but the Spirit;

the living God, made real by our gathering.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Jesus is more than a greeting,

it is more than the wish for a life free of conflict.

It is the peace that Jesus came to proclaim—

the harmony of a life of inclusion, justice and

acceptance.

To pass the peace of Jesus is to wish upon your neighbor a life of right relationship with God, with others and with all of creation.

**In this exchange we invite one another into the
community of God proclaimed by Jesus,**

and to which the Spirit calls and points.

In that Spirit I invite you to share the peace of Jesus with your neighbour...May the peace of Jesus, the Christ be with you...

And also with you.

Following the Passing of the Peace, children and youth will leave for Sunday Morning Activities. They will join us again later in the service for Communion. Happy Learning!

For babies and toddlers, there is the Family Worship Space at the back of the sanctuary. Each week, there will be an adult present so that the children can play and be cared for while parents worship. Parents are free to come and go from that space, according to the needs of their children.

Dedication: "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**

CELEBRATING

★ Hymn: "Bread of Life, Feed My Soul" ♪ MV #194

Communion – Affirmation of Purpose

(Song of Faith, pp. 8-9)

Carrying a vision of creation healed and restored,
we welcome all in the name of Jesus.

Invited to the table where none shall go hungry,
we gather as Jesus' guests and friends.

In Holy Communion we are commissioned to feed as we
 have been fed,

**forgive as we have been forgiven,
 love as we have been loved.**

The open table speaks of the shining promise of barriers
 broken and creation healed.

**In the communion meal of wine poured out and bread
 broken, we remember Jesus,**

We remember not only the promise but the price that he paid
**for who he was, for what he did and said,
 and for the world's brokenness.**

We taste the mystery of God's great love for us, and are
 renewed in faith and hope.

Communion – Liturgy

May the Holy One be with you,

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Source of Love,

the Mystery we name God.

We do give thanks, Holy One

and remember the stories of Jesus' meals.

There were wedding banquets and picnics; there were meals with church folk and meals with tax collectors.

But Jesus always welcomed everyone, so we dare to believe that we, too, are welcome here.

More than a welcome, though, people like us found healing, meaning, hope, and purpose in his presence.

May we also find our true selves here, and our true calling.

We give you thanks as we

look forward to the heavenly banquet.

We hope for justice at last, peace at last, freedom at last, love at last, wholeness at last. May it be so!

But most of all, we give thanks for this present moment.

You are here, nearer than our breathing, and closer than our bodies.

You are here always loving us. Truly we are blessed.

In that hope we still yearn for wholeness and pray for hope in our world. We pray for our friends and families, for neighbours and strangers. For those who are ill, for those who are lonely, for those who are grieving. For refugees – those who live their lives, and birth their children, far from the comfort and familiarity of home. For all those without a place to call home. For places around the world recovering from natural disasters.

Pour your grace and love upon all the peoples of the world so that your peace and your will be known. **Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love, we give thanks and blessings to you. We bless you for your love, made known to us through Jesus, which reassures and reconciles us to you, to ourselves and to one another.**

And so in anticipation of the feast that you have so graciously prepared that we join to sing your praise:
(♪ MV #203 tune: Kingsfold)

**O holy, holy holy God, O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears Your name always!**

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with friends to tell again the ancient story of liberation from bondage. **Together with his friends he shared a meal of remembrance and celebration on that Passover eve.** After surrendering so much to God's will he knew there was only one thing left to give, **As he had done so many times before, he took bread and after having given thanks to You, Holy God, he broke it.**

Then he took wine and poured it, gave both to the disciples, this time saying, "Do this to remember me."

Jesus was then unjustly killed by the powers of his day, by those for whom love was a threat.

As faithful Jews, his friends saw Jesus as being like the passover lambs that God had once used to save Israel; Lambs that were sacrificed and whose blood adorned the doors of Jewish homes so that the nation of Israel could be spared the final plague before liberation from slavery.

To some of his frightened disciples it seemed that the broken bread was like his body, and the poured wine like his blood.

It also seemed like injustice and violence killed Jesus and his ministry.

But there were more meals – and more ministries! We thank you, Holy God, that the last supper wasn't the last meal – or the last word!

At an evening meal in Emmaus, Jesus once again ate with the disciples.

His execution wasn't the end. His presence and ministry continued in a new way.

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus, we offer you our praise, as we proclaim in song the mystery of faith:
(♪ MV #204 tune: Kingsfold)

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.
**Make us, while many, one.
Make us, though broken, whole.
Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

**Praise be to God, the Source of love!
Praise be to Jesus, Love incarnate!
Praise be to the Spirit, Love's power!
Praise be to God! Amen.**

...the gifts of God for the people of God. All is ready.

Prayer after Communion

**Holy One, by your love,
You gave us Jesus to sustain us
on our life's journey.
May we who have been nourished
by the bread he broke and the wine he poured
be united, one in mind and heart with Jesus. Amen.**

RETURNING

★ Hymn: "I Heard the Voice of Jesus" 🎵 VU #626

★ Commissioning and Blessing

★ Sung Blessing: "Peace Be with You" 🎵 MV #215

**Peace be with you, peace forever,
peace be with you, my friends.
Till we meet again, may God be with you.
Peace, peace, peace.**

Postlude: "Giga" *by Arcangelo Corelli*

Thank you to everyone who has offered their gift of time to volunteer in various ways this Sunday:

Ushers: Doris Heselwood, Barb Wynne, Norma Hutton

Greeters: Linda Bird, Franceen Wagner

Lay Reader: Lorne Calder

Candle Lighter: Kieran Alexander

Chancel Arrangements: Pat Harris

Counters: Jim Bowman, Bill Spall

Coffee Hour Hostess: Norma Hutton

Coffee Hour Desserts: Joscelyn & Chris Alexander

The Ministry of Parkminster: All of us

Ministers: Rev. Heather Power (x 22) & Rev. Joe Gaspar (x 23)

Music Director: Neil Murray (x 25)

Office Administrator: Melanie Chisholm (x 21)

Custodian: Allen Switzer (x 26)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*For a complete listing please refer to the weekly "What's UP" email.
If you would like to receive "What's UP", please contact the church office.*

House Group #2 - TODAY: Please meet in the **Family Room** following worship.

Pastoral Care – Rev. Joe Gaspar and Rev. Heather Power: If you or anyone in the congregation requires pastoral care or you become aware of someone who might be ill, in hospital or in need of some support, please contact Heather or Joe at church by phone at **519-885-0935 (Heather at ext. 22 or Joe at ext. 23)**. Voicemail messages will be checked regularly.

Post-Thanksgiving Food Drive: The need for food is always there and a simple donation can mean so much to individuals and families in need. Please help to support the efforts of The Food Bank of Waterloo Region! **Boxes for non-perishable food items will be in the Upper Hall Sunday, October 15th to Sunday, October 29th.** Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. Please note "Food Bank" on your offering. Questions? Please contact Brian Harper at gbharper2@gmail.com
Thank you for your generosity! ~ Wendy Watson, Chair of Outreach

COVENANTING SERVICE for Rev. Joe & Rev. Heather and Parkminster

Congregation: **Next Sunday, October 22 at 3:00pm**, will be the service confirming Joe and Heather's ministry with us. Confirming this relationship is a significant part of their joining our community. The presider will be Rev. Fred Monteith and the guest preacher will be Rev. Phillip Cable. **Please note this date.** We hope to see as many of us here to support them as possible.

There will be a 10:00am morning service as usual on October 22.

~ Nancy Dykstra, Chair of Worship

"JOY DAY": Waterloo Presbyterial invites all Parkminster women and their friends to "JOY DAY". Join us **Saturday, October 21st at Parkminster, from 10:00am to 2:00pm.** Tickets are \$15 (**today is ticket purchase deadline**). Lunch is included. Please contact Barbara Seaton for more information (519-623-1359).

This week let us pray for:

World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle

Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico

Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle United Churches

Caistorville, Sinclairville & Merritts