



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

Sunday, July 16, 2017

~ Baptism ~

Reflection: “Soil, Seed, and Sower”
Rev. Meg Grieve

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: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” arr. Joel Raney

★ Introit: “For the Fruit of All Creation” 🎵 VU #227

Welcome

One: In this Pentecost season, we welcome the gift of promise. In this summer season, promise is the miracle of growth, of the seed planted in hope that becomes the tender shoot of possibility and finally, the blossom of beauty and the abundant harvest. Today, we celebrate growth and promise.

As well, we remember our relationship with First People. With gratitude and respect, we recognize the Six Nations tribes on whose traditional land we make our spiritual home. 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, through us, and among us.

Joys and Concerns

Welcome in the Spirit

Sacrament of Baptism

Sponsor: Isobel Field

Welcome to the Font

Baptismal Song

**I am a child of God, nothing can shake my confidence.
I am a child of God, no one can take my inheritance.
Never alone I'll stand, strengthened by God's own hand.
I am a child. I am a child, a child of God.**

Presentation

We present for baptism Reid James Cronin, beloved child of Stephanie and Erin Cronin. We welcome his new life and pray blessing on him.

Questions for Reid's Parents, Erin and Stephanie and his God Parents, Amanda Adlam & Kenny Reuben:

- ❖ Do you believe in God, whose creative energy makes us with possibility and hope and offers us life that has meaning and purpose?
- ❖ Do you believe in Jesus, the holy-human one who shows us the way of compassion and justice?
- ❖ Do you believe in spirit-energy that supports us and draws us into our full potential?

For Stephanie and Erin

Your life has been blessed by your son, Reid. Will you provide for him a loving home where he can learn right relationship, know safety, be encouraged by your compassion and faith, and grow into his full potential as a child of God?

For Amanda and Kenny

You are Reid's godparents, his loving adult friends, his mentors and supporters. Will you love him, play with him and pray for him, and offer him the good example of your lives?

Question for Parkminster United Church

As loving community who trusts in the holy and are committed to justice and peace, will you open the circle of Parkminster United Church and welcome Reid as a member? Will you support his faith journey and offer him your blessing and peace? **(We will.)**

Thanksgiving for the Water

Celebrating the Sacrament and Anointing Reid

Presentation of Reid's Baptismal Candle and Certificate

Sung Blessing

On the day that Reid was born, on the day that Reid was born,

On the day that Reid was born the angels sang and they blew on their horns,

And they danced. They danced. They smiled and raised up their hands

On the day, on the day that Reid was born.

Baptismal Song

I am a child of God, nothing can shake my confidence.

I am a child of God, no one can take my inheritance.

Never alone I'll stand, strengthened by God's own hand.

I am a child. I am a child, a child of God.

★ Children's Song: "We Give Our Thanks to You" 🎵 MV #187

Story Time

Following the story time, children and youth will leave for Sunday Morning Activities. Happy Learning!

For babies and toddlers, there is the Family Worship Space at the back of the sanctuary. Parents are free to come and go from that space, according to the needs of their children.

Opening Our Hearts

Any seed is planted in hope of abundant growth. We remember that the seed must die to itself before it can produce its harvest. This is an agricultural metaphor for resurrection.

What seeds of hope have been planted in you?

What/who nurtured you?

What “harvest” has resulted?

Prayer

Song

**I am becoming peace.
I am becoming peace,
a well of patience, well of grace,
make my soul a holy place.
I am becoming peace.**

PLANTING AND GROWING

Ministry of Music: “Blue Skies”

by Irving Berlin
(Lani Kerbl, soloist)

 Scripture: Matthew 13: 1 - 9

(NT, pg. 13)

About Scripture

Today we read the parable of the sower who scattered seed of promise wherever s/he went. Some seeds fell on the path and were eaten by birds. Some fell on rocky ground where there was no depth of soil and soon died for lack of nutrients. Some fell among weeds and were soon choked out. And some seeds fell on good soil and grew to produce an abundant harvest.

Most sermons invite us to consider what kind of “soil” we are. This is not a bad thing to think about, for the better the “soil” of our lives, the more abundant our harvest of love and justice. We need to take responsibility for our capacity to make the world a better place.

There is another approach to this parable that follows an ancient way of reading story. This way asks us to put ourselves in every part of the narrative. So, the parable of the sower invites us to imagine ourselves as the seed as well as the soil. What possibilities are in the world because our seed-gifts are scattered for the sake of the common good?

And then we imagine ourselves as the sower. Can we be the ones who actually plant hope and future and new life for others? This would mean seeing ourselves doing “God-work” or seeing ourselves as Jesus, and not simply following him. So what will it be? Soil? Seed? Or sower?

Reflection: “Soil, Seed, and Sower”

★ Hymn: “Soil of God”  MV #174

HARVEST

Offertory: “Summertime” *by George Gershwin*
(Lani Kerbl, soloist)



Dedication: "What Can I Do?"  MV #191

Offering Prayer, said by **all**:

Today we recognize our capacity to change the world, to plant hope and joy, to harvest justice and peace. We know that if we choose to, we can change the world.

**We make our morning offering, and add to it our acts of kindness and compassion, because we know that love and generosity seed a harvest of hope for all.
Amen**

Prayers for Soil, Seed, and Sower

- ★ Hymn: "Praise God for the Harvest"  VU #517
- ★ Commissioning and Blessing
- ★ Sung Blessing "Peace Be With You"  MV #215
- Postlude: "Gavotte in F Major" *by Giovanni Martini*

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

Ushers: Isobel Field; Dorothy Duxbury; Barb Pryor
Greeters:..... Amanda Kalbfleisch & Cedric Charette
Lay Readers: Kathleen Vanderlinden
Counters:..... Steve & Sarah Quanz
Soloist: Lani Kerbl
Chancel Arrangements: Chancel Committee

The Ministry of Parkminster: All of us
Ministry of Word, Sacrament & Pastoral Care (Interim):
 Rev. Meg Grieve (ext. 23)
Music Director:..... Neil Murray (ext. 25)
Office Administrator:..... Melanie Chisholm (ext. 21)
Custodian: Allen Switzer (ext. 26)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(please refer to the weekly "What's Up" email for a complete listing)

From the Office: Please note from July 18th to 21st the church office will be closed daily for a brief period during the noon hour. Otherwise it is business as usual, Tuesday to Friday. Thank you.

Pastoral Care – Rev. Meg Grieve: 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 Meg at church, **519-885-0935, ext. 23** or by email at **rev.meg.parkminster@gmail.com**

"Thank You" from Judy Paul: "Dear Parkminster Friends: Parkminster has been an important part of my life for almost 25 years; a place of acceptance and warmth; a place where I nurtured my faith; a place for me to serve. It was at Parkminster that my passion for social justice was ignited. It is where I had opportunities to learn and further our work for a better world. For all this I am very grateful. Thank you for your friendship and for the lovely farewell on June 18th. With love, Judy Paul"

Summer Worship Help – Only a Few Spots Needed: Because of vacation schedules, House Groups are not operating during the summer. Volunteers are needed for a few remaining spots in August for greeting, ushering, as lay readers and to provide juice/lemonade. **Sign-up sheets are in the upper hall.** Your help would be greatly appreciated! Thanks to those of you who have already signed up.

Neil Murray Night – Tickets Now on Sale! **Saturday, September 30 @ 7:30pm - Navy Club in Waterloo.** Pick up or reserve your tickets today after church! **Cost: \$20 per person; \$10 students/teens.** Cash/cheque – pay at the door. You may also buy/reserve tickets from the church office (519-885-0935) or call Bruce Mutton (519-894-1687). Thank you for your support!

Facebook Update: If you have any events to advertise, photos from events you'd like to share, or have any questions about Parkminster's social media, **please email Laura Mutton at mutton.laura@gmail.com**

COLOUR ME!

