



PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
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Sunday, November 19, 2017

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: “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

arr. by Marilyn Ham

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 (An-ish-in-aabe), the Haudenosaunee (hau-de-no-sau-nee), 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

Call into Community

Strong mother God, working night and day,
Gather us in, provide for us.

Warm father God, hugging every child,
Embrace us as we give ourselves to you.

Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
Lead our hearts in the way of Jesus

Old, aching God, grey with endless care,
Grant us the wisdom of Sabbath rest.

God of many names and God beyond naming,
You have called, and we have come,
to be your people, let us worship together.

★ Introit: “Let Us Build a House”

♪ MV #1
(vs. 1, 2, 4, 5)

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.

Exploring

★ Children’s Song: “How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place” ♪ MV #29

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. 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.

Opening Our Hearts

**God of reckless grace and endless freedom,
Whatever holds us back
from throwing ourselves at the feet of your Word,
remove it now.**

**Ready us to hear what we need to hear,
to feel what we need to feel,
to understand what we need to understand,
to change what we need to change.**

May it be so. Amen.

Scripture **Matthew 25: 14 – 27**

Matthew 25: 14 – 27 Jesus continues to tell parables about the kingdom of heaven. In the previous parables, he has told us that we need to be prepared for the Second Coming at all times. Today's parable is set in the realm of finance. A master, before leaving on a journey, entrusts his slaves with his money, "each according to his ability" (v. 15). (A *talent* was about 15 years' wages for a labourer, a large sum of money.) Two servants invest the money and earn more (vv. 16, 17); the third simply buries it (v. 18). When the master returns (v. 19), he praises the investors; they, he says, will be made responsible for "many things" (vv. 21, 23), and will "enter into the joy of your master". But the third slave, admitting that he was afraid of his master's wrath (v. 24), simply returns the original sum (v. 25). The master chastises him for his wickedness and laziness. This slave loses what he has been given (v. 28) and is condemned to "outer darkness" (v. 30). This would have caused a stir in Jesus' day, for a rabbinic maxim commends burial of money as a way of protecting it.

Chris Haslam-<http://www.montreal.anglican.org/comments/apr33m.shtml>

Matthew – Three gospels[†] (the good news) in the New Testament portion of the bible offer similar portraits of the life of Jesus. This gospel is the first in the New Testament, but it was probably the second to be written. Scholars recognize that it borrows material from Mark, and from a *sayings* source containing sayings of Jesus and known as Q (for *Quelle*, German for *source*). The author shows an understanding of Jewish culture and religion not found in the other gospels. It was probably written about 60 to 70 AD, possibly for a largely Jewish audience.

[†] The stories of Jesus—Mark and Luke being the others.

Chris Haslam- www.montreal.anglican.org/comments/aadv1m.shtml

Questions for Reflection

- When does faith feel like a burden, when does it feel like freedom?
- What are the sources of fear in your life? How does this hold you back?
- What do you need in order to let go of fear in faith, in life?

Ministry of Music: "Spirit Sing" *by Joseph Martin*

Reflection

★ Hymn: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" 🎵 VU #575

Responding

What Parkminster Means To Me

Offering – invitation

Offertory: "Minuetto" *by Ludwig van Beethoven*
(Tracie Klaehn, flute)

★ 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

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer - Paraphrase+

**God within us , God beyond us, God among us,
May the Mystery always be named and
known among all peoples and in all times.
May creation give way
to the rule of love and the power of life.**

**Satisfy our hunger, and grant us a
hunger to see the whole world fed.
Restore us to right relationship with You,
with creation, with others, with ourselves.
Strengthen us to reject all
that would lead us away from You,
Come to us when we choose death over life.
Give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For in your love we find the only power,
the only home, the only honour we will ever need,
in this life and the life to come.
Amen.**

+Adapted from paraphrases found in the New Zealand Prayer Book (1989) and one by Sarah-Dylan Breuer found at http://www.theworshipwell.org/pdf/Lords_Prayer_Paraphrase.pdf

Returning

★ Hymn: "I Feel the Winds of God"  VU #625

★ 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: "Vivace" *by Georg Philipp Telemann*
(Tracie Klaehn, flute)

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

Ushers: Jamie Hofman & Adrienne Barrett Hofman, and
..... Ken & Mary Willsie
Greeters: Bruce & Shelley Mutton
Lay Reader: Jim Bowman
Flute: Tracie Klaehn
Chancel Arrangements: Mary Flewelling-Pinchen
Candle Lighters: Theo & Sadie Hofman
Counters: Ron & Colleen Usaty
Coffee Hour Hosts: John & Wendy Watson
Coffee Hour Desserts: Jim Bowman

The Ministry of Parkminster:..... All of us
Ministers:..... Rev. Heather Power (x 22) and
..... Rev. Joe Gaspar (x 23)
Music Director:..... Neil Murray (x 25)
Office Administrator:..... Melanie Chisholm (x 21)
Custodian:..... Allen Switzer (x 26)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For full details please refer to the weekly "What's UP" email.

(If you would like to receive "What's UP", please contact the church office.)

NAME TAGS

Name Tags Moving: In order to help Heather and Joe get to know everybody we are going to try moving the name tag board into the gym so that everyone keeps them on until they have had a chance to greet Heather and Joe after the service. When you come to worship on Sunday head into the gym to pick up your name tag and back there after the service to drop it off. Thanks so much.

MINISTERS' MESSAGES

Next communion will be on Sunday, December 3rd, the first Sunday of Advent.

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.

Ministers' Day Off: Rev. Joe and Rev. Heather take Friday as their day off during the week. For urgent matters that cannot wait until their Sunday to Thursday work schedule, please contact the church office and they will be contacted for you.

Rev. Heather – Study Leave: Rev. Heather will be taking the remainder of her study leave November 23 - 27. While she is away, Rev. Joe is available for any pastoral emergencies.

PROGRAMS/EVENTS

TODAY! Outreach Presentation: "Gaia's Gifts": The Outreach Committee would like to thank you for your ongoing support by inviting you to a family-friendly special presentation **this afternoon at 2:00pm at Parkminster**. Peter Rasberry, a former outdoor education specialist, will present a slide show and talk called "Gaia's Gifts". This will be a way for us to reach out to the natural world around us.

AED Training: The course has been set up for **Saturday, Nov 25th** at the church from **9:00am-1:00pm**. Cost **\$60** per person no tax. The course includes written and practical training in CPR including AED training. We need at least 10 participants to have the course at Parkminster. **Please email or call Bert Blackburn if interested.** bertblackburn@gmail.com or 519.886.8232

“Walking With Our Sisters”: An Indigenous art installation to honour missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two Spirit people. It features over 1700 moccasin tops or "vamps", decorated with beading, quilling or in other ways. **Nov. 19-25 in Oshweken (Six Nations).** To learn more: <http://walkingwithoursisters.ca>

Or go with Marilyn! Marilyn Hill will be driving a van on Thursday, November 23, leaving from PUC at 8:30 am and returning around 1pm. There are a total of 7 seats in her van. Please get in touch with her if you'd like to join her.

Adult Education Committee presents “ANGRY INUK”: Please join the **Adult Education Committee on November 26 at 6:30pm** for a special viewing of the film, Angry Inuk. Some of you may have enjoyed this film last year when it aired at the Princess Cinema but if you missed it or were wanting to see it again, here is your opportunity to learn more about Inuit culture and expand your understanding of Indigenous peoples.

Decorating for Christmas! The UGO-IGO group has accepted the request to decorate the church for Christmas this year. A small committee has done some preliminary planning and we need your help to pull it together. We also need some “MOPS” (Men Of Parkminster) to offer their strength! **Decorating will be done on Sunday, Nov 26th, followed by a finger-food potluck.** Please contact Sheril Stinson by email, if you are available: sheril.stinson@sympatico.ca

Save the Date - Young Family Advent/Christmas Party! Join us on **Saturday, December 2nd from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** to celebrate this special time of year together. We'll enjoy a meal together, as well as fun activities to get everyone in the spirit! All are welcome - please invite other families who might like to join us that evening. **RSVP to Rev. Heather at revheather.parkminster@gmail.com**

DID YOU KNOW?

John Watson’s Trip to Nicaragua: February 1, 2018 will bring about John Watson’s 8th trip to Nicaragua. The work project is in a small community on an island, in Lake Nicaragua. The classrooms, cafeteria and washrooms are being built are for a local bi-lingual school. The cost of materials for each project is approx. \$4,000 US. If you wish more information on this program or would like to make a contribution through the Outreach Committee at Parkminster, please contact John Watson at 519-579-3555 or email: drwatson46@hotmail.com

Parkminster Author – Tracie Klaehn: Tracie Klaehn now has five published children’s books. She has books them with her today for those who are interested.

FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Seeking Volunteer for Church Council Secretary: You are invited to serve as Secretary for Council for the next 2 years. The Council meets once a month except July and August and for special Congregational meetings such as the Annual General Meeting.

You will be included in the important discussions as the church moves forward and you will keep up to date with the life of Parkminster. Minutes will be submitted electronically to the Office Administrator, Melanie, for circulation to Council and Committees. Please contact Melanie or a member of the Nominating Committee if you are interested: Maedith Radlein, Mary Reynolds, Barb Leask Wynne, Liz Forde or Jeanne Foster.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As happens each year-end, we’ll keep you posted during November and December on progress in reaching the amount of offerings needed to pay operating costs for the year, and to reach our Outreach goal.

As of November 8th, we’re at 69% for the Local Fund budget and at 72% of the Outreach goal.

A further \$103,000 is required to meet our projected operating costs for the year of \$342,000. A further \$21,800 is required to meet our year-end Outreach goal of \$80,000.

Outreach Goal - \$80,000



Local Fund - \$342,280



This week let us pray for:



World Council of Churches Focus
East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines

Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle
Dublin Street United Church, Guelph