

Parkminster United Church
Sunday, July 2, 2017





PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
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Sunday, July 2, 2017
Reflection: “Canada 13,000”
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!

Celebrating Canada

Prelude: “Bobcageyeon” *by The Tragically Hip*

★ Introit: “My Love Colours Outside the Lines” 🎵 MV #138

Welcome

One: Today we celebrate Canada Day and the 150 years of nationhood created by the British North America Act. We celebrate our vast, rich, and diverse country. We celebrate our values of inclusion and openness to diversity. We celebrate the peace we live with and the peace we help create around the world. We have much to be proud of.

But celebration is not the only agenda for this day. We cannot celebrate the good that Canada shares in without admitting that it has come at a cost to First People whose history with this land is over 13,000 years old. As settlers from many places in this world of ours, we need to reconcile our relationship with those whose land we now occupy and repent of the hardship colonization has brought to Aboriginal people.

Today, with a deep desire for reconciliation, 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 affirm our faith in the power of love and the gift of the spirit.

Joys and Concerns

Welcoming One Another

★ Children's Song: "Dance with the Spirit" 🎵 MV #156

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

One of our United Church creeds names reconciliation as one of the gifts of the holy. Jesus carries reconciliation into our world and as we follow his way, we are given the ministry of reconciliation, of making peace for one another and with one another.

In our day of "truth and reconciliation," we understand the political agenda that comes with settling disputes between First People and colonists. But there is more than politics for us. Seeking reconciliation is faith-work. It is spirit-bringing work, the heart of our life as followers of Jesus. The work of reconciliation deepens our faith and is what faith requires of us.

Breathe deeply of the spirit of reconciliation. Let that spirit work in you personally. Let it call you to the ministry of healing in our world.

Prayer

♪ Song:

**We are becoming peace.
We are becoming peace,
wells of patience, wells of grace,
make our souls a holy place.
We are becoming peace.**

Seeking Understanding

Ministry of Music: “When I’m Up” *by Great Big Sea*

📖 Scripture: Matthew 10: 40-42 (NT, pg. 11)

About Scripture

Today’s scripture is part of a series of instructions that Jesus gives to his disciples. They are about to embark on their first solo healing and teaching mission. Jesus empowers his friends with the ability to heal and instructs them on how to meet strangers and how to behave in their presence.

He is pretty clear that the disciples are not to overwhelm those whom they meet with the “truth,” or with the “right” way to believe, or with the “answers” to life’s problems. Jesus asks his friends to pay attention to the response of the strangers whom they meet. If there is openness, then offer welcome and accept their hospitality. If there is coolness or disinterest or animosity, then move on.

Many biblical scholars do not think that Jesus actually said these words. They believe that the words are intended for the first Christian communities that were not even at the “church” stage of development. The early communities in Matthew’s

context were separating from the Jewish synagogues, their first home. The Jews who followed Jesus were leaving the Jews who did not believe that he was the anointed one for whom they were waiting. As the Jesus-followers traveled around, they would meet some who welcomed Jesus' message and some who thought that message undermined all they believed and trusted. So the teaching on how to welcome was absolutely relevant and useful for Matthew's day.

We must ask the question, "What is the welcome message's relevance for us?" In our diverse home and native land, we cannot expect that everyone will think as we think. We are going to meet difference of opinion that comes naturally with diversity. A clear example of this diversity is the gap between First People and settlers. When Canada was colonized, the settlers moved in to Aboriginal land, much the same way the Israelites moved into Canaan that was already populated with its native tribes. Who owns what? Where is home for First People and where is home for the settlers? What is sovereign for each? Who is in charge? What does each deserve?

How do we, who are mostly settlers, welcome our neighbours and honour their understanding of "land" and "home?" How do we establish respectful relationship across difference? How do we reconcile two diverse agendas and share power of self-determination? How do we resolve land claims and adjudicate who belongs to what? How do we respect and honour one another and help preserve what makes a people a "people?"

When Jesus sent out the disciples, he said that whoever welcomes them welcomes him and the one who sent him. Reconciling with Canada's First People is not just a political problem to solve. It is our spirit-work of reconciliation and along with land claims and protection of language and culture, we are living by spirit for the sake of unity and peace. Even our spiritual welfare is on the agenda. Ready?

Reflection: "Canada 13,000"

★ Hymn: "Deep in Our Hearts"  MV #154

Living Reconciliation

Offertory: “Wondering Where the Lions Are”
by Bruce Cockburn

Dedication: “Christ Has No Body Now But Yours” 🎵 MV #171, v.4

Offering Prayer, said by all:

Today brings hope and possibility. It brings new life and new beginnings. Today is one more opportunity to affirm our deep faith that in spite of our fears, love is stronger than death.

Our calling is to make this hope live for others. We offer our gifts for the sake of transformation and the promise of new life for all. Amen

Prayers for Reconciliation

★ Hymn: “Though Ancient Walls” 🎵 VU #691

★ Commissioning and Blessing

★ Sung Alleluia 🎵 MV #52

Postlude “This Land is Your Land” by *The Travellers*
(Please sing along – lyrics printed on insert)

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

Ushers: Henry Tensen

Greeters:..... Ken & Mary Willsie

Lay Reader: Annette Dekker

Counters:..... Steve & Sarah Quanz

Musicians: Jamie Hofman, Lee McWebb, Angie Murray &
..... Neil Murray

Juice Hour:..... Nancy Dykstra

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

(full listing in "What's Up" email)

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

Summer Worship Needs Your Help

Because of vacation schedules, House Groups are not operating during the summer. Volunteers are needed during July and 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!

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**



Happy Canada Day!