

# Parkminster United Church

Sunday, October 22, 2017

**The CHURCH shall remain HOLY.**





# PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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**Sunday, October 22, 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: "We Gather Together" *arr. by Joel Raney*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **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**

Fold up the newspaper.  
Turn off the kettle.  
Close up your agenda  
filled with dates,  
and times,  
and people,  
and places that claim you.

**We have been called to be in community,  
to be the body of Jesus-the Christ.**

Come into this place of welcome,  
Bring all of yourself,  
leave nothing at the door,  
invite every pain, every joy, every doubt, every failing,  
and know that is enough to be accepted here.

**We will worship in joy and gratitude!**

*\*Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Richard Fairchild found at <http://www.rockies.net/~spirit/sermons/sr-healing-service-1.php>*

★ Introit: “Spirit, Open My Heart”  MV #79

## **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.**

★ Children’s Song: “Water Flowing from the Mountains”  MV #87

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.

## **EXPLORING**

### **Opening Our Hearts**

**Holy One,  
In our struggle to hear your Word,  
bless even our doubts, our wonderings,  
our wanderings, our soul-struggles,  
life's deep questions, and deeper mysteries.  
Teach us to love our questions  
as well as our answers. Amen.**

 Scripture                      Matthew 22: 34 – 46                      (NT, pg. 25) *NRSV*

Ministry of Music:              “I Am a Stranger”                      *arr. by Tom Eggleston*

Reflection

★ Hymn:                                      “We Are Pilgrims”                      🎵 VU #595

## **RESPONDING**

### **Offering – invitation**

Offertory: “Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown” *arr. by Larry Shackley*

★ 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

#### The 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](http://www.theworshipwell.org/pdf/Lords_Prayer_Paraphrase.pdf)*

### RETURNING

★ Hymn: “We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection”  
♪ VU #586

★ 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: “Bouree” *by G. F. Handel*



It is with great sadness that we share the recent passing of two Parkminster members, Walter Runge and Michael Williams. As a caring congregation, we hold their family in the light and hope they feel comfort from our prayers.

Walter passed away on September 25 at the age of 97; a private family service was held. Michael passed away October 16 at the age of 72. A memorial service was held at First United on October 20, 2017, Rev. McComb officiated.

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

- Ushers:**..... Gary McLellan, Ginny McQuay
- Greeters:** ..... David, Carol, Sylvia, Vivian and Russell Bertrand
- Lay Reader:**..... Heather Watts
- Candle Lighter:**..... Sylvia and Vivian Bertrand
- Chancel Arrangements:**..... Pat Harris
- Counters:** ..... Steve & Sarah Quanz
- Coffee Hour Hostess:** ..... Linda Bird
- Coffee Hour Dessert:** ..... Linda Bird

- 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.*

**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 remain in the Upper Hall until Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.** Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted. Please note "Food Bank" on your offering. Questions? Please contact Brian Harper at [gbharper2@gmail.com](mailto:gbharper2@gmail.com)  
*Thank you for your generosity! ~ Wendy Watson, Chair of Outreach*

**A Thank You Message from Laura Forde:** “To my Parkminster family, I just wanted to say thank you to those who came out to my party (Oct 14<sup>th</sup>) for taking time out of your weekend to come celebrate my recent transplant with me. It really meant a lot for me to see all of you and I truly appreciated all of your well wishes. Thank you again, Laura”.

**Meeting of House Group Leaders - Sunday, October 29:**  
House Group Leaders will *meet after the service on Sunday, October 29* in the Family Room. We'll schedule the 2018 house group calendar and review any changes in procedures. As well, it's a chance to gather your feedback and ideas. We'll have coffee and dessert there. Very special thanks to our Leaders for an outstanding job done over the past year!

**This week let us pray for:**

**World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle**

The Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

**Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle United Churches**

Central United Church, Welland