

# Parkminster United Church

**Sunday, October 22, 2017**

3:00 p.m.



*Covenanting  
Service*

Rev. Heather Power  
&  
Rev. Joe Gaspar

**PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**

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**Sunday, October 22, 2017**

**COVENANTING SERVICE**

Presider: Rev. Fred Monteith

**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 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.**

★ Introit: "Deep In Our Hearts"  MV #154  
(Joe and Heather process Christ Light)

## **Call into Community**

We gather this day to worship together as we mark a new beginning.

**Different people, different lives, different histories,**

Woven into one community through the mystery of Holy Love.

**We gather this day to give public witness to our hopes and dreams and intentions for this new beginning.**

Different hopes, different dreams, different intentions, woven together into a community of new promise.

**We gather this day committed to living out that new promise. May our worship and our living be a sign of the promise keeping One in whom we live and move and have our being.**

### **Prayer of Approach**

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything; there is a time for dying and a time for rising. We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying good bye to their green, letting go of what has been. We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in coloured patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns. As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence. May we gain strength from this.

Amen.

### **Presentation and Reading of the Warrant**

*Representative of Presbytery: Sarah Leffler*

We are gathered here in the presence of God to celebrate a new ministry and to covenant together for the service of God in this place.

*Chair of the Joint Search Committee: Delbert Russell*

We present Rev. Heather Power and Rev. Joe Gaspar who have been called into a team ministry of Word, Sacrament, Pastoral Care, Education and Outreach with Parkminster United Church. We believe they are qualified and have been prayerfully and lawfully selected.


*Representative of Presbytery:*

Joe and Heather, you are here in response to the call of Parkminster United Church and by the action of Waterloo Presbytery and Hamilton Conference. We come together to mark a new relationship among you, the Presbytery and the Pastoral Charge. May the God who has given us the will to do these things give us the power and the grace to perform them.

**EXPLORING**

**Opening Our Hearts (Prayer for Illumination)**

We are listening. Listening in the hope that through the mystery and the power of your Spirit we might hear a word that will break us open. We are listening. Listening in the hope that we might hear a word that will fan the holy spark within us into shining light. We are listening. Listening in the hope that that we might hear a word that will bind us into your beloved community. Might it be so. Amen.

 Scripture                      Romans 12: 1-10

*(The Message: The Bible in Contemporary English)*

Ministry of Music:            “Never Gonna Let You Down”

*by Colbie Callait*

Reflection:                    “Breathing the Questions”    Rev. Philip Cable

★ Hymn:                        “Sing a Happy Hallelujah”                      🎵 VU #224

## Act of Covenanting

*Representative of Presbytery:*

As we embark on this beginning together let us stand as we are able and join in a statement of our communal faith:

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### Statement of this New Ministry

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Heather and Joe, as a team you have undertaken the ministry of Word, Sacrament, Pastoral Care, Education and Outreach in this place. You, the members of the Pastoral Charge are

called to join Joe and Heather in worship, study, prayer and action. We, the Presbytery, will be responsible for the oversight of this ministry. Let us ask for God's grace as we covenant together this day.

**All: Gracious God, by our baptism you have called us to Christ's ministry. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us as we commit ourselves to worship and work together in Christ's name. Amen.**

### **Promises of the New Team Ministry**

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Heather and Joe, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourselves to this new trust and responsibility?

*Heather and Joe: We do.*

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Will you accept the support, the encouragement, and the discipline of the Presbytery and together with its other members, be responsible for the oversight of the Church's life?

*Joe and Heather: We will by the grace of God.*

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Will you accept the support and the encouragement of this Pastoral Charge?

*Heather and Joe: We will by the grace of God.*

### **Promises of the Pastoral Charge**

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Would the members of Parkminster United Church please stand? Will you join with Joe and Heather in a ministry of worship, study, prayer and action within this Pastoral Charge and in the world?

*Members of the Pastoral Charge: **We will.***

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Will you support them as they serve among you in ministry?

*Members of the Pastoral Charge: **We will by the grace of God.***

*(Members of the Pastoral Charge may be seated.)*

### **Promises of the Ministry Team**

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Heather and Joe, you will be engaged with each other in your various ministries within Parkminster. Will you exercise your responsibilities faithfully and support one another prayerfully?

*Ministry Team: We will by the grace of God.*

### **Promises of the Presbytery**

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Would the Members of the Presbytery please stand? Will you, as members of Waterloo Presbytery, join with Joe and Heather and Parkminster United Church in the ministry that is both theirs and ours?

*Members of Presbytery: We will.*

*Representative of Presbytery:*

Will you exercise oversight for their work and witness, support and encourage them in this ministry?

*Members of Presbytery: We will by the grace of God.*



## Presentation of Symbols

### *Bible and Newspaper*

Presenter:

Take this Bible and newspaper. Be among us as ones who teach and proclaim the word speaking to our lives and our world.

**All: Amen.**

### *Water*

Presenter:

Be among us as ones who baptize in the name of the Triune God.

**All: Amen.**

### *Water, Towel & Basin*

Presenter:

Be among us as ones who serve those who are young, old and in-between — inside and outside these walls.

**All: Amen.**

### *Bread and Cup*

Presenter:

Be among us as ones who break the bread and bless the cup, as ones who care for those who hunger and thirst.

**All: Amen.**

### *Lego Blocks*

Presenter:

Be among us as ones who build community and nurture faith with children, youth and families.

**All: Amen.**

### *Representative of Presbytery:*

Heather and Joe and Parkminster United Church, let all these be signs of the ministry that is ours and yours in this place.

**All: Amen**

## The Covenant Response

*Representative of Presbytery:*

As Representative of Waterloo Presbytery, I, Sarah Leffler now declare that a covenant relationship exists among Rev. Heather Power, Rev. Joe Gaspar, Parkminster United Church and Waterloo Presbytery. Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made.

**All: *Halle, Halle Halle***     ♪ VU 958

## Greetings from Presbyters

★ Hymn:        “Water Flowing From the Mountains”     ♪ MV #87

## RESPONDING

### Offering – invitation

Offertory:    “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

*arr. by Lloyd Larson*

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** (*from our faith tradition*)

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil:  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 the power, and the glory  
 forever and ever. Amen.

## RETURNING

★ Hymn: “I Have Called You by Your Name” 🎵 MV #161

★ 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: “All the People Said Amen” *by Matt Maher*  
 (performed by “The Band”: Colleen Usaty, Lee McWebb,  
 Matt and John Watson, Jamie Hofman and Angie & Neil Murray)

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