



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

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Meg's Last Service

Reflection: "A Few Thoughts on Manna and Quails"

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!

NOW WE GATHER

Prelude: "Let's Work Together" *by Canned Heat*

★ Introit: "Oh a Song Must Rise" 🎵 MV #142

Welcome

One: Today we celebrate the ending of a healing journey, the end of an interim time of seeking the holy and finding our strength. We bid farewell to Meg and Fred and wait to welcome Joe and Heather. We are grateful for love shared, love that sustained us in

sorrow and danced in us with joy. Love is our blessing.

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, 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

Greeting One Another

★ Children's Song: "Like a Rock" 🎵 MV #92

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

"Wild Geese" – by Mary Oliver

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.**

NOW WE CELEBRATE

Ministry of Music: "His Eye is On the Sparrow"

(Soloist, Lani Kerbl)

 Scripture: Exodus 16: 1-5, 9-12 (OT, pg.62)

About Scripture

Today we read about the grumbling Israelites, traveling the wilderness, and trying to stay connected with God. It was not easy.

The wilderness was a harsh place. There were no creature comforts and lots of challenges. When food ran short, the Israelites complained that God was not taking very good care of them. They were so upset that their slavery in Egypt started to look good by comparison. "It was bad in Egypt," they said. "But at least we had food to eat." They were not sending thank you cards to Yahweh.

The story reminds us that God heard the people's complaints and promised to remedy the situation. Food would arrive. The Israelites were to go out into the desert and watch for God.

The Holy showed up as a blazing light, a sure sign of God's presence. And before long, a flock of quails landed on the camp, the main course for dinner. Manna was promised in the morning as bread for the journey.

Interestingly, the Israelites were told to take only enough for one day's hunger. There was no need to hoard food, for God would provide every day what was needed. The holy dare was to trust that God was not here today and gone tomorrow.

We, too, are on a journey and we know what it means to hunger for meaning and love. Our hungers are what connect us to those who are hungering for real food. All of us are asked to trust that today and tomorrow, there will be manna enough.

Reflection: “A Few Thoughts on Manna and Quails”

★ Hymn: “Bread of Life, Feed My Soul” 🎵 MV #194

NOW WE PART

Offertory “Ain’t No Sunshine When She’s Gone”
by Bill Withers

Dedication: “What Can I Do?” 🎵 MV #191

Offering Prayer, said by **all**:

Nothing escapes love’s power to transform. No one is unworthy. Nothing is simply impossible.

Today we return thanks for the hope that the Holy is all in all and that redemption will happen no matter who we are. We offer our gifts for the sake of others and for the sake of the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Thank You to Meg

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

★ Commissioning and Blessing

★ Sung Blessing: “Peace Be with You” 🎵 MV #215

Postlude: “Stay Around a Little Longer”
by Buddy Guy and B.B. King



**Please join us in the gym after worship
to enjoy Ice Cream Sundaes & Fellowship
with Meg!**

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

Ushers:	Sarah Bruce, Stephanie Debus, Liz Forde and Wendy Ridgway
Greeters:	Annette Dekker & Henry Tensen
Lay Reader:	Jim Bowman
Counters:	Steve and Sarah Quanz
Chancel Arrangements:	Chancel Committee
Band Members:	Lee & Benjamin McWebb, Jeff Stacey, River Guard, John Watson and Angie & Neil Murray
Soloist:	Lani Kerbl
Coffee/Juice:	Jenny & Joe Sheldon
Dessert:	Transition Committee
<hr/>	
The Ministry of Parkminster:	All of us
Ministry of Word & Sacrament (interim):	Rev. Meg Grieve (ext. 23)
Ministry Pastoral Care: (interim)	Rev. Fred Monteith (ext. 22)
Music Director:	Neil Murray (ext. 25)
Office Administrator:	Melanie Chisholm (ext. 21)
Custodian:	Allen Switzer (ext. 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.

Please note: Joe and Heather will be settling into their new offices on Monday, September 25th.

Sunday, October 1st - Welcome to Joe Gaspar and Heather Power:

Next week, October 1, is our first service with Joe and Heather, our new ministerial team. We are looking forward to meeting them and to 'being church' together with them. Come to the gym for coffee and dessert after the service and welcome Joe and Heather personally to our Parkminster community.

Nancy Dykstra, Chair of Worship