



PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
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Sunday, November 26, 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’re Marching to Zion” arr. by Marilynn 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 (A-nish-NA-bay) the Haudenosaunee (Ho-di-no-SHOW-nay), 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

Minute for Outreach – Dorothy Duxbury

Call into Community

One day the way of Jesus will rule every heart,
And then all that has divided us will merge
And then compassion will be wedded to power
And then both men and women will be gentle
And then both women and men will be strong
And then no person will be subject to another's will
And then all will share equally in the Earth's abundance
And then all will care for the sick and the weak and the old
And then all will nourish the young
And then creation will live in harmony
And then everywhere will be called Eden once again.
Until then we gather—to wait, to remember, to hope, to be, together as one.

*Adapted from *Celebrate God's Presence*

★Introit:

“God of the Bible”

♪ MV #28

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:

“Your Love is Amazing”

♪ MV #26

Story Time with Tracie Klaehn & Friends

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

**Generous Creator,
In the stories of your ancient people,
May we hear our story.
By the Spirit of Love and Wisdom
May our ears listen,
may our minds know,
May our wills surrender,
May our hearts break open,
that like Jesus, we may become
Love in the flesh. Amen.**

Scripture Matthew 25: 31 – 46

Matthew 25: 31 - 46 Here, Jesus tells us the kind of relationships that are expected of the faithful. In typical Matthew fashion he emphasizes accountability in the life of faith. As such he speaks in terms of a final judgement. Sheep and goats behave differently but in Palestine they were fed together. At the end of the era, when Christ comes again, he will act for the Father ("sit on ... [his] throne", v. 31). He will separate the "sheep" (v. 32) from the "goats", assigning the former to a place of honour ("at his right hand", v. 33) and the latter to dishonour. He, as "king" (v. 34) will invite the godly (or faithful)...to live with him ("the kingdom"). Why? Because the godly have fulfilled God's expectation: in reaching out to the disadvantaged they have, in fact, been reaching out to him (v. 40). We are all part of his family. But the "goats", those who have ignored the needy, will be permanently separated from God...for they have failed to see Christ in people. The "righteous" (v. 46) are the faithful, the godly, those who understand that to serve humanity is to serve Christ – and do so. We are to witness to the reign of Christ in the way we serve him in faithfulness, kindness and love to our neighbors in need.

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

- Who has God put in your path as an opportunity to show love?
 - What do you think about the Christian life and accountability?
 - What do you think of heaven and hell? In what ways are these helpful and not helpful in the life of faith?

Ministry of Music: “Lord, If I Got My Ticket, Can I Ride?” (soloists: Midori Marsh & River Guard)

Reflection

★Hymn: “When I Needed a Neighbour” ♫ VU #600

Responding

What Parkminster Means To Me

Ministry of Music: “Nothing More” by the Alternate Routes (The Band)

Offering – invitation

★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 – A Paraphrase+

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven.**

**The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory and the power that is love,
now and for ever, Amen.**

+ © 1988 Jim Cotter, Voices United, p. 916.

Returning

★Hymn: “To Show by Touch and Word” ♫ VU #427

★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: "Hold On" by *Rescue Junction*
(The Band)

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

Ushers: Steve & Sarah Quanz; Ken & Mary Willsie
Greeters: Adrienne Barrett Hofman & Jamie Hofman
Lay Reader: Barb Monteith
Story Time/Puppets: Tracie Klaehn
Chancel Arrangements: Mary Flewelling-Pinchen
Candle Lighters: Theo & Sadie Hofman
Soloists: Midori Marsh; River Guard
The Band: Lee McWebb, John Watson, Jamie Hofman,
..... Colleen Usaty, Catriona Teves & Angie & Neil Murray
Counters: Steve & Sarah Quanz
Coffee Hour Hosts: Adrienne Barrett Hofman & Jamie Hofman and
..... Ken & Mary Willsie
Coffee Hour Desserts: Adrienne Barrett Hofman & Jamie Hofman

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.)

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ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SERVICES & PROGRAMS
Please refer to the insert in today's bulletin.



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MINISTERS' MESSAGES

Our next Communion Service will be held 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.

PRESENTATION THIS EVENING

Adult Education Committee presents “ANGRY INUK”: Please join the Adult Education Committee THIS EVENING 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.

AUDIO / VISUAL HELP IS AVAILABLE!

Please contact our A/V coordinator Sandra Quehl, should you require help with the Sanctuary projector for your group's next event or meeting. Operators are standing by! You may reach Sandra by email at quewat1@outlook.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 for a local bilingual 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: Thanks to those of you who have purchased some of Tracie's children's books. Tracie will have books with her up until Christmas if anyone is interested. You may also call her at 519-579-3944 to order.

MEETING

JANUARY HOUSE GROUP: Please come to the Family Room after church on **Sunday, December 10th** to organize our January schedule. Thanks – Sue Usaty.

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 22nd, we're at 79% for the Local Fund budget. A further \$71,930 is required to meet our projected operating costs for the year of \$342,280.

As of November 19th, we're at 78% for Outreach. A further \$17,425 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
Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle
Elora United Church & Bethany United Church

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