

PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018

Second Sunday after Epiphany



Rev. Heather Power & Rev. Joe Gaspar



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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

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

Call into Community

One: Something made the hairs stand up on our necks.
Was it you, O God?

All: Was it you that we saw blowing over the water?

One: Was it you that we heard moving through those feet?

All: Was it you that we felt in the beating of our own hearts?

One: Was it you that called our names?

All: Come, O God. Come to search us. Come to know us again.

One: We were knit in your womb. We have tried to count your works.

All: Come, O God, so that we can hear you calling our names. Here and now. Come, let us worship!

★ Introit: "Come and Find the Quiet Centre" ♪ VU #374

Passing of the Peace



One: The peace of Jesus is more than a greeting,

All: it is more than the wish for a life free of conflict.

One: It is the peace that Jesus came to proclaim—

All: the harmony of a life of inclusion, justice and acceptance.

One: 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.

All: In this exchange we invite one another into the community of God proclaimed by Jesus,

One: 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...

All: And also with you.

EXPLORING

Prayer of Preparation

God of Epiphany,

Help us to be as present as we can be,

to the story, to the message, to ourselves,

that your presence may be announced and

your call to us revealed.

Amen.

★ Children's Song: "Teach Me, God, to Wonder" 🎵 VU #299

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.

Scripture – 1 Samuel 3:1-10

This week's focus scripture is a remarkable passage in the sense that we see Samuel make the transition from a young boy to a man, to a prophet. And since the priestly tradition is under judgment, there is now the movement to the prophetic tradition becoming the dominant way through which God speaks. It will take the wisdom of the ageing and blind priest to open Samuel's eyes as to who is calling.

Like most calls in the Old Testament, this is not a general call. Rather, it comes in a time of spiritual emptiness. There is no word from God, and there are no ethics due to the corruption; there is a military threat and, as the story of Samuel unfolds, the people move towards wanting a king as leader. (Israel had no king at that time but was ruled by judges.) Through it all, Samuel becomes the sole source for God's word, which may be the reason that further in the reading, in verses 11–20, God takes a most direct role, allowing us to see the radical move that God makes with this call.

With this visionary, auditory revelation, we begin to get glimpses of what is to take place in the long story that will take place after this encounter. This call does not involve just one person. It will touch upon an entire people. God's word will no longer be rare but will be spoken to those in leadership, as well as those being led. Spiritual challenges and changes will take place in the life of God's people, and both the social and political realms will be transformed by this experience in the quiet shadows of a sacred space.

Question for Reflection

- How do we relate our personal calls with calls to a community?

Ministry of Music: “Like the Stars of the Sky” *by Joanne Bender*
(Tracie Klaehn, flute)

Reflection

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

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory

★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 (*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, the Lord of Sea and Sky" 🎵 VU #509

★ 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



It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Parkminster member, Gladys Morlock. Gladys passed away on January 6, 2018 at the age of 92. A memorial service will be held on February 3, 2018, 11:00am, at the Erb and Good Funeral Home. May our prayers support Gladys' friends and family as they mourn their loss.

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

Ushers: Heather Watts, Lloyd Hart, Ron & Sue Usaty

Greeters: Don & Roxy Linkletter

Lay Reader: Cobie Love

Story Time: Tracie Klaehn

Audio/Visual Coordinator: Sandra Quehl

Chancel Arrangements: Chancel Committee

Counters: Jim Bowman and Bill Spall

Coffee Hour: Sue Usaty

Coffee Hour Dessert: Charlie Love

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)



The flowers in the sanctuary today are placed by Norma Hutton & her family, in loving memory of her husband, Harvey Hutton.

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.)

MINISTERS' MESSAGES

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.

This week let us pray for: **World Council of Churches Focus** – Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen;
Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle - Grace United Church, Hanover

ANNUAL MEETING – SAVE THE DATE

The **Annual Report** and **Annual Congregational Meeting** (ACM) are coming soon! Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 4, 2018**. The ACM will immediately follow the morning worship service in the sanctuary. It is important for as many people as possible to attend as we will need to have quorum for important votes. We will need to approve the 2018 budget, approve a new slate of volunteers for chairs, council executive and committees, governance, etc. There will be coffee and light snack available. We expect that the Annual Report will be available to the congregation a few days ahead of the meeting.

Note: the congregational budget information session will be held after the service on **Sunday, January 28th**. Find out about the budget and have your questions answered ahead of the Annual Congregational Meeting.

AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANCE

AUDIO / VISUAL Help is Available! Please contact our A/V coordinator Sandra Quehl, should you require help with the "big screen"/projector for your group's next event/meeting. quewat1@outlook.com