



PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH
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EASTER SUNDAY

April 1, 2018

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

Youth in Gr. 7 and up are invited to the Youth Room at the beginning of the service for a special Easter session. Children will remain in the service until Story Time. We will all come together for Communion.

Reading – Easter Poem by Joyce Rupp

Choral Introit: “Their Sound is Gone Out” *by G.F. Handel*

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: Friends welcome to this celebration of resurrection, this festival of hope. This morning, the good news is that you don't have to believe anything to be true to yourself. We are not here to indulge in the certainty of answers, we are here to walk the Jesus path, the path that leads us away from the places of death in our lives and our world. This morning is an invitation to journey to a place deep within yourself where the holy dwells, and waits to be resurrected in your life. No confessions of belief are necessary,

just a willingness to journey with Jesus and see where that takes you.

We are called into community this morning to proclaim and celebrate the good news...

All: Jesus is risen, love lives!!!

- ★ Introit & Christ Candle Lighting:
“Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks” 🎵 VU #179

EXPLORING

Prayer of Preparation

All: O Great Love, for whom there are no stones too big to remove, roll away the boulders that block our hearts. May this story of power and grace fill us with new life and bring us out from the tomb of indifference, alive again in You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Adapted from Celebrate God's Presence

- ★ Children's Song: “Joy Comes with the Dawn” 🎵 VU#166
(vss. 1 & 2)

Story Time

Following the story time, children will leave for Sunday Morning Activities and our traditional Easter Egg Hunt!



We appreciate some of our children have allergies and ask them to check with their caregiver or leader before consuming any treat. All treats purchased for this morning were made in a peanut free facility but do contain milk and soya.

The children will join us again later in the service for Communion. Happy Learning & Happy Hunting!

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.

★ Children's Song: "Joy Comes with the Dawn" 🎵 VU#166
(vs. 3)

📖 **Scripture—John 20: 1-18**

Acclamation

One: This is the good news of Jesus.

All: **Thanks be for this grace.**

John 20: 1-18— Mary Magdalene's first reaction to the empty tomb was disbelief. Because the tomb was empty, she presumed that Jesus' enemies had taken his body from the tomb. She immediately ran to tell Peter and the Beloved Disciple, what she had seen. When they came to the tomb, the Beloved Disciple is given credit for believing, whereas Peter is credited only with seeing the burial linen. Mary did not leave the vicinity of the tomb when the other two disciples went home. As the story continues, she has a vision of two angels sitting where the body had lain. This is more a symbolic detail than an actual event. The presence of angels serves to acknowledge the divinely initiated resurrection. Jesus revealed himself to Mary, but she did not recognize him. When Jesus spoke to her, she responded immediately and attempted to cling to him. Warning her not to cling to him physically, he gave her a mission to be a witness to the other disciples.

John Shearman <http://seemslikegod.org/lectionary/>

John—This is the fourth gospel[†] (good news). Its author makes no attempt to give a chronological account of the life of Jesus (which the other gospels do, to a degree), but rather "...these things are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." John includes what he calls signs, stories of miracles, to help in this process.

[†] *The stories of Jesus—Matthew, Mark and Luke being the others.*
Chris Haslam-<http://montreal.anglican.org/comments/ceas7m.shtml>

Questions for Reflection

- How does the pattern of death and resurrection play itself out in your life, in the world?
- When has God gone on ahead of you calling you to a new place? Did you listen? Why or why not?

Ministry of Music “The Heavens are Telling” *by F.J. Haydn*

Reflection

- ★ Hymn: “Stay with Us through the Night” 🎵 VU #182

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory “Hills and Valleys” *by Tauren Wells*
(The Band)

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

**All: 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

CELEBRATING

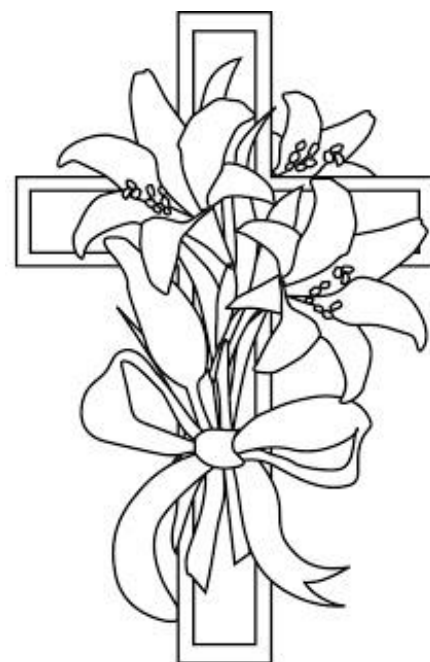
Sacrament of Communion

One: What are we to make of this day?

All: When graves are opened...

One: When life refuses to be contained...

All: Then nothing is impossible!



One: Hope is never extinguished and love is never conquered.

All: Let resurrection happen again in us and in our world.

One: Open our lives to live and to love in the midst of death and despair.

All: Out of chaos and fear you bring beauty and hope.

One: Out of despair and death you create courage and new life. And so, we join in the song of a new day
(♪ MV #203 tune: Kingsfold):

***“O holy, holy holy God, O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace.***

***Hosanna in the highest heav’n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One
who comes and bears Your name always!”***

One: On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with friends to tell again the ancient story of liberation from bondage.

All: As faithful Jews, his friends saw Jesus as being like the Passover lambs that God had once used to save Israel;

One: Lambs that were sacrificed and whose blood adorned the doors of Jewish homes, so that the nation of Israel could be spared the final plague before liberation from slavery.

All: To some of his frightened disciples it seemed that the broken bread was like his body, and the poured wine like his blood.

One: At supper on the night before He died Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

**All: This is my body, broken so that you may know life.
Eat it and remember me.**

One: After the meal Jesus took wine, poured and blessed it.
Then He gave it to His disciples saying:

**All: This is my blood, shed so that you may know life.
Drink it and remember me.**

One: In the terrible days that followed it seemed like injustice and violence killed Jesus and his ministry.

All: But there were more meals - and more ministries!

One: So, now, Creator of Life, we share in this meal, we celebrate together, and we remember You.

All: And we will continue to do this until resurrection has flooded the whole creation.

One: At this time, we also remember all with whom you would have us share your feast.

All: We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .

One: all who are ill or alone . . .

All: all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .

One: all whom the world counts as last and least . . .

All: We pray for the church and its varied ministries . . .

One: for nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .

All: for those whom we love and those whom we are challenged to love.

(Prayers of the day)

All: And so, in memory of the Love that walked among us, in acknowledgement of the Love that lives within us and in hope of Love yet to come, we offer our praise, as we proclaim in song the mystery of faith

(♪ MV #204 tune Kingsfold):

***“Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ will come, come again.”***

One: So we ask and committ ourselves,

All: Open us to your Spirit,
that we, and these gifts,
touched by your grace,
may be signs of life and love
to each other, and to all the world.



One: We conclude our preparations in gratitude and humility by praying:

All: Praise be to the Mystery, the Source of love!
Praise be to Jesus, Love made flesh!
Praise be to the Spirit, Love's power!
Praise be to God! Amen.

...the gifts of God for the people of God. Come all is ready.



The serving of the bread and the juice today emphasizes the need for us to respond to God's grace and so you are invited to come forward.

(As you are given the bread and the juice you may respond with "amen" or "thanks be to God". If you are unable to come forward please remain seated, an usher will watch for you and approach you about being served in the pew)

One: We give thanks for the sacred life,
pulsing in creation, revealed in Jesus
renewed in resurrection and available to us now.

**All: Thank You Holy One for touching us again
with Your life through bread and wine;**

One: For joining our lives with Yours through Jesus;

**All: And for renewing resurrection in our hearts
through your Holy Spirit.**

One: Filled with life, we now offer ourselves
to be life-bringers in the world.

**All: Through us may the tombs of self-centeredness
and injustice continue to be opened, that all
creation may experience fullness of life.
Amen.**

RETURNING

★ Hymn: "I Danced in the Morning" 🎵 VU #352

★ **Commissioning and Blessing**

★ **Sung Blessing “Halle, Halle, Halle”**

♪ VU #958
(sung twice)

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Postlude “God is on the Move” by *7seventh Time Down*
(The Band)

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

Ushers:.....Ray Gormley & Laura Hamilton; Mark & Anne Dunbar

Greeters:Mark & Anne Dunbar

Lay Reader:.....Marg Parkinson

Guest Musicians:The Band (River Guard, John Watson, Lee McWebb,
.....Jeff Stacey, Angie & Neil Murray)

Sunday Morning Activities:.....Lynn Harper; Iso McGregor; Rob Vanderlinden

Communion Helpers:.....Jennifer Allen & Lee McWebb; Henry Tensen;
.....Marj Eveleigh; Sheril Stinson & Don Pendlebury;
.....Mary & Peter McLean; Jeanne Foster

A/V Coordinator:Sandy Quehl

A/V Operator:.....Sandy Quehl & Heather Watts

Counters:Marilyn Hill & Bud Adams

Chancel Arrangements:.....Virginia McQuay

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)



It is with deep sadness that we share the recent passing of Parkminster member, John Rule, beloved husband of Parkminster member, Sheila Rule. **John's family will receive relatives and friends from 2-4 p.m. on Monday, April 2nd at Henry Walser funeral home. The Memorial Service will be held at Parkminster on Monday, April 2nd at 7:00pm, with Rev. Joe Gaspar officiating. A reception will follow in the church hall.** As a caring congregation, we extend our love and most heartfelt sympathies to Sheila, her children, their families and friends as they mourn their loss. We pray they will feel comfort and support from our prayers as we hold them in the light. John will be greatly missed by his many Parkminster friends.

“WHAT’S UP at Parkminster!”



These are only a few of the things happening at Parkminster. **For a complete update please refer to the “What’s UP” email sent out every Friday.** If you would like to receive “What’s UP”, or place an announcement, please contact the church office at parkuc@golden.net . Deadline for submission – 10am Thursdays.

MINISTERS’ MESSAGES

Rev. Joe Vacation: Rev. Joe will be away from April 3 – April 10. While he is away, Rev. Heather is available for pastoral care needs. You may contact her at ext. 22 or via email: revheather.parkminster@gmail.com

Pastoral Care: If you or anyone in the congregation requires pastoral care support, please contact either Rev. Joe or Rev. Heather by calling the church; voice-mail messages will be checked regularly. You may also send a confidential email message either to Rev. Joe or Rev. Heather.

New Members at Parkminster: We will be celebrating “**New Member Sunday**” on **May 13th** as part of our worship service. If you would be interested in becoming a member at that time, please speak with Rev. Joe.

THIS WEEK LET US PRAY FOR

World Council of Churches: The Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, FYR of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia; **Hamilton Conference Prayer Cycle:** Pelham Community Church

PHOTO DIRECTORY REMINDER

Our next five days of photo directory picture-taking begin on Tuesday, April 3 through to Saturday, April 7. Please arrive ten minutes before your scheduled time. A host will greet you as you arrive and a ‘sitting form’ will be completed. Photos are taken in the Family Room, and then you view the photos on their computer and choose the one you want for the directory. That is the 8 x 10 that you will also receive free of charge. Families can purchase other portraits at this time if you wish. IPC accepts cash, cheques or credit and debit cards. So, it’s all done in this one appointment...takes about 30 minutes. If you have questions, or have to cancel at the last minute, please call Mary Reynolds at 519-501-4355 or 519-886-0474, or email Amanda Kalbfleisch at amanda.kalbfleisch@gmail.com.