

PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

April 8, 2018
Second Sunday of Easter



Rev. Heather Power



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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: "You Raise Me Up" *by Josh Groban*
(Tracie Klaehn, flute)

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: We have seen, and we have heard:

All: Christ is risen!

One: The cross and tomb are empty.

All: Christ is risen!

One: Walk in the light of his love.

All: Christ is risen!

One: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

All: Christ is risen!

One: Come, let us worship!

Love lives and we are Easter people!

★ Introit:

“Sing Your Joy”

♪ VU #253

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
neighbour 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

**All: Compassionate One,
breathe your Holy Spirit on us
that we may see the peace
and be filled with the joy
of this Easter season.**

**Open our hearts and minds to these words;
Embolden us to speak with forgiveness and
love, so that we can be your agents of
reconciliation in a broken and troubled world.
Amen.**

★ Children's Song: "I Am a Child of God" 🎵 MV#157
(vss. 1 & 2)

Story Time with Tracie Klaehn and friends

★ Children's Song: "I Am a Child of God" 🎵 MV#157
(vss. 3-5)

Following the story time, children and youth will leave during the hymn 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—John 20: 19-31

Acclamation

One: This is the good news of Jesus.

All: Thanks be for this grace.

John 20: 19-31— The disciples are afraid when Jesus returns to them. They are hiding; trying to discern what steps to take next. They are worried that they may be arrested and crucified next. Into this fear, Jesus appears. He greets them with the admonition to not be afraid, and for peace to be with them.

We do not know where Thomas was, but he missed this encounter and does not believe until he can see for himself. Christians today can take comfort from Thomas – it is okay for us to hesitate and wonder. We come to belief in different ways. The root of the Latin credo (I believe) is cor (heart). Belief is more than intellectual assent; a person who believes gives one's whole self to something. Thomas did just that. When Jesus appears, he offers his peace again. "Peace be with you" is the gift given by Christ in places of anxiety and fear. Thomas' words "My Lord and my God" are a confession of faith. John says that he has written this gospel so that others may come to believe. Telling the story in many ways brings the gospel message to others.

Grace abounds in all of the lectionary readings for this week. Christ breaks into places where we are fearful and anxious and offers his peace. In that peace, we find forgiveness and an invitation to be in community. We see the love of Christ come to life in the ways we offer forgiveness and acceptance to others.

Adapted from: <https://www.seasonsonline.ca/files/apr8-18-fusion.pdf>

Questions for Reflection

- Reflect on Jesus' words: "Peace be with you."
- How would it be if we began every encounter with one another with these words?
- If seeking peace for those we meet were our best desire, how would relationships change?
- What does it mean to tell the untold stories of our faith?

Ministry of Music "Locus Iste" Voices United Choir
(They are blessed who wait upon the Lord)

Reflection

- ★ Hymn: "My Love Colours Outside the Lines" 🎵 MV #138

RESPONDING

Moment for Mission – Jim Bowman

Offering – invitation

Offertory "You and I Can" *by the Gardener Sisters*
(Kathleen Vanderlinden, soloist)

- ★ 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**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer – Paraphrase+

Jim Cotter © 1988 VU #916

**All: 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 things!
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 of the power that is
love, now and forever. Amen.**

RETURNING

- ★ **Hymn:** “We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection” ♪ VU #586
- ★ **Commissioning and Blessing**
- ★ **Sung Blessing** “Halle, Halle, Halle” ♪ VU #958 (sung 2x)

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

Postlude

“Sonatina”

by W.A. Mozart
(Tracie Klaehn, flute)

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

- Ushers:**Marg & Frank Parkinson; Susan & John Bain
Greeters:.....Sheila Hooisma & Jermaine Browne
Lay Reader:Liz Forde
Guest Musicians:.....Tracie Klaehn; Kathleen Vanderlinden
Sunday Morning Activities: Lynn Harper; Wendy Rudd; Joscelyn Alexander
Story Time:.....Tracie Klaehn & friends
A/V Coordinator:.....Sandra Quehl
A/V Operator:Rob Vanderlinden
Counters:.....Susan & John Bain
Chancel Arrangements:Virginia McQuay
Coffee Hour Hosts:Liz & Bob Forde
Coffee Hour Dessert:.....Marg Parkinson
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- 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)
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Our thoughts and prayers are with Parkminster charter member, Shirley Ankenman and her family as they mourn the loss of Shirley's husband and Parkminster charter member, Wayne Ankenman. Wayne passed away March 28 in his 88th year. Wayne will be missed by his many Parkminster friends.
