

PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Indigenous Sunday

Special Guest Mary Anne Caibaiosai





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

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Special Guest Mary Anne Caibaiosai

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: “Sometimes a Light Surprises” *arr. by Larry Shackley*

Welcome – *Maedith Radlein*

Statement of Welcome

One: Today we begin by remembering our relationship with the First Peoples, a relationship which has seldom been healing and empowering. With gratitude and respect, we recognize now the people 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 rarely 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 & Concerns

Call into Community

All: We gather to share in God's dream of abundant life for all.
 We gather to receive and give gifts of deep emotion, deep wisdom, and deep love.
 With gratitude we gather as a community to praise God, to seek transformation, and to celebrate the power of the Spirit who is always moving.

★ **Hymn:** “River Running in You and Me”  MV #163
(vss. 4 - 7)

**I stand on the edge, lookin’ down,
too scared to swim, afraid I’ll drown –
give me the courage to journey on,
River run deep, river run free.**

**Journey on far from my home,
river break this heart of stone;
teach me to love, make me your own,
River run deep, river run free.**

**Hold me close on the day I die,
bear me up when my soul is tired,
carry me home on the rising tide,
River run deep, river run free.**

**River singin’ in you and me,
Spirit of life – deep mystery,
catch us up in your melody,
River run deep, river run free.**

Readings:

United Church 1986 Apology to First Nations peoples – responsive reading

One: Long before my people journeyed to this land your people were here, and you received from your Elders an understanding of creation and of the Mystery that surrounds us all that was deep, and rich, and to be treasured.

All: We did not hear you when you shared your vision.

One: In our zeal to tell you of the good news of Jesus Christ we were closed to the value of your spirituality.

All: We confused Western ways and culture with the depth and breadth and length and height of the gospel of Christ. We imposed our civilization as a condition of accepting the gospel. We tried to make you be like us and in so doing we helped to destroy the vision that made you what you were.

One: As a result, you, and we, are poorer and the image of the creator in us is twisted, blurred, and we are not what we are meant by God to be.

All: We ask you to forgive us and to walk together with us in the Spirit of Christ so that our peoples may be blessed and God's creation healed.

★Hymn: "Like a Healing Stream" 🎵 MV #144

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
 Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,
 God is trickling through our lives as in a dream
 unfolding,
 Promising revival and rebirth...
 like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
 Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
 God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
 Yearning for an end to want and need...
 like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with restless current,
 Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
 God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
 Calling for an end to hate and war...
 Like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
 Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
 God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow:

**God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea, like a river strong, like a gentle rain,
like a healing stream.**

Psalm 23

Response One: This is the witness of Israel.

All: Thanks be for this testimony of faith.

Ministry of Music: “She Comes Sailing On the Wind”
by Gordon Light (soloist, Angie Murray)

Reflection

One: God is working to call us into right relationships with one another.

All: Sometimes that’s hard because it means giving up cherished things, cherished notions about our history and our relationships and our privilege.

One: It can mean challenging our understanding about what Christianity means. Our history of being Christian colonizers and the impact of that way of being and belief has caused many of us to reflect on what the basis of Christianity is.

All: Christianity became about right belief, about whether one assented intellectually to certain ideas. But when we see that the essence of Christianity is about right relationship that can change how we relate to one another.

One: What does this mean in terms of being an ally of First Nations peoples?

All: It begins with listening.

Introduction for Mary Anne Caibaiosai *Maedith Radlein*

Prayer of Preparation

All: Creator, help us to hear the power in
Mary Anne's words, to heal and to bring us
together with the whole of creation.
More than hearing, help us to listen that we may
bring her wisdom into our lives.
Amen.

Question for Reflection - As I listen, what do I hear Mary Anne saying to me?

Guest Speaker – Mary Anne Caibaio Sai

RESPONDING

★ **Hymn:** "Like a River of Tears" ♪ MV #98
(vss. 1 & 2)

Like a river of tears your love pours upon us;
like a sunshine of blessing your grace will sustain
us;
like a star-studded sky your spirit shines o'er us,
renewing our spirits with courage and faith.

Like a bird in free flight by windows around us;
like a wind in the forest that breathes life among us;
like a phoenix that rising from ashes around us,
renewing our spirits with vision and grace.

★ **Offering 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 (All)

We are grateful for all that sustains us, and we return thanks.

We are grateful for spirit life that is nurtured by our faith,

for the living water that comes as gift and wells up in us, drawing us into the holy.

We give thanks.

Our gifts express our gratitude and work to make fuller life possible for others.

They carry our thanks.

Amen.

RETURNING TO THE WORLD

(All)

The way forward is a gift offered time and again.

Invitations to relationship have been met with the foundations of prejudice:

disinterest

denial

defensiveness

distrust

We can seek a good mind together.

It is time.*

*Taken from Lifting Hearts Off the Ground, by Lyla June Johnston and Joy De Vito. This is a book of poetic reflections on the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Each article in the Declaration is approached twice, once each by an indigenous poet and a settler poet.

Prayers of the People

★ Hymn: “Like a River of Tears” ♪ MV #98
(vss. 3 & 4)

Like a pillar of cloud you promise to guide us;
like a bright fiery bush you come to speak to us;
like a calm cooling breeze that your spirit breathes in us, renewing our spirits with loving embrace.

**Like a lover's caress your spirit revives us;
like a song of the soul you come to be with us;
like a prayer of the heart you heal and restore us,
renewing our spirits, the future to face.**

Blessing (All)

**When superiority is silenced,
beauty is seen.**

**Movement, risk,
relationship, love.**

**In communion:
movement**

**In vulnerability:
risk.**

**In hearing:
relationship**

**In sharing:
love**

**Let us be who
we were created to be.***

*Taken from *Lifting Hearts Off the Ground*, by Lyla June Johnston and Joy De Vito.

★ Sung Blessing “The Peace of the Earth”

Traditional Guatemalan, arr. John Bell

**The peace of the earth be with you,
the peace of the heavens too;
the peace of the rivers be with you,
the peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.**

Postlude: “Gavotte in G Minor” *by Jean-Philippe Rameau*

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

- Ushers/Greeters:** Jenny & Joe Sheldon; Katie Lefler
- Candle Lighter:** Katie Lefler
- Lay Reader:** Barb Pryor
- Worship Facilitator:**..... Maedith Radlein
- Soloist:** Angie Murray
- A/V Coordinator:**..... Sandra Quehl
- Chancel Arrangement:** Chancel Committee
- Juice Hour Servers/Dessert:** ... Virginia McQuay & Robert Hudgins

- The Ministry of Parkminster:** All of us
- Ministers:**..... Rev. Heather Power (ext. 22) and
..... Rev. Joe Gaspar (ext. 23)
- Music Director:** Neil Murray (ext. 25)
- Office Administrator:**..... Melanie Chisholm (ext. 21)
- Custodian:**..... Allen Switzer (ext. 26)

“WHAT’S UP at PARKMINSTER!”



For a full listing, please refer to the “What’s UP” email sent out every Friday. If you would like to receive the “What’s UP” email or place an announcement, please contact the church office at parkuc@golden.net **Deadline for submission is 10am, Thursdays.**

URGENT! SUMMER WORSHIP HELP NEEDED

We really could use your help! Because of vacation schedules, House Groups are not operating during the summer. Volunteers are needed during July and August for greeting, ushering, as lay readers and for juice hour. **Sign-up sheet is in the Upper Hall.** Your help is greatly appreciated.

JULY OFFICE COVERAGE

Melanie will be on holidays July 3 – 6 during which time Barb Monteith will be covering the office (thank you Barb!). Office hours will vary during this week, so please call or email the church office should you need to contact Barb. Normal office hours will resume when Melanie returns on Tuesday, July 10th.

USE OF THUMB TACKS IN THE GYM

A reminder that the use of thumb tacks in the gym is not permitted. Thumb tacks can easily fall on the floor posing a safety hazard. Please also turn the portable bulletin boards inward after use, i.e., facing the chairs. When balls etc. hit them, even staples will fall out & they can also be a hazard. Thanks for your vigilance.