

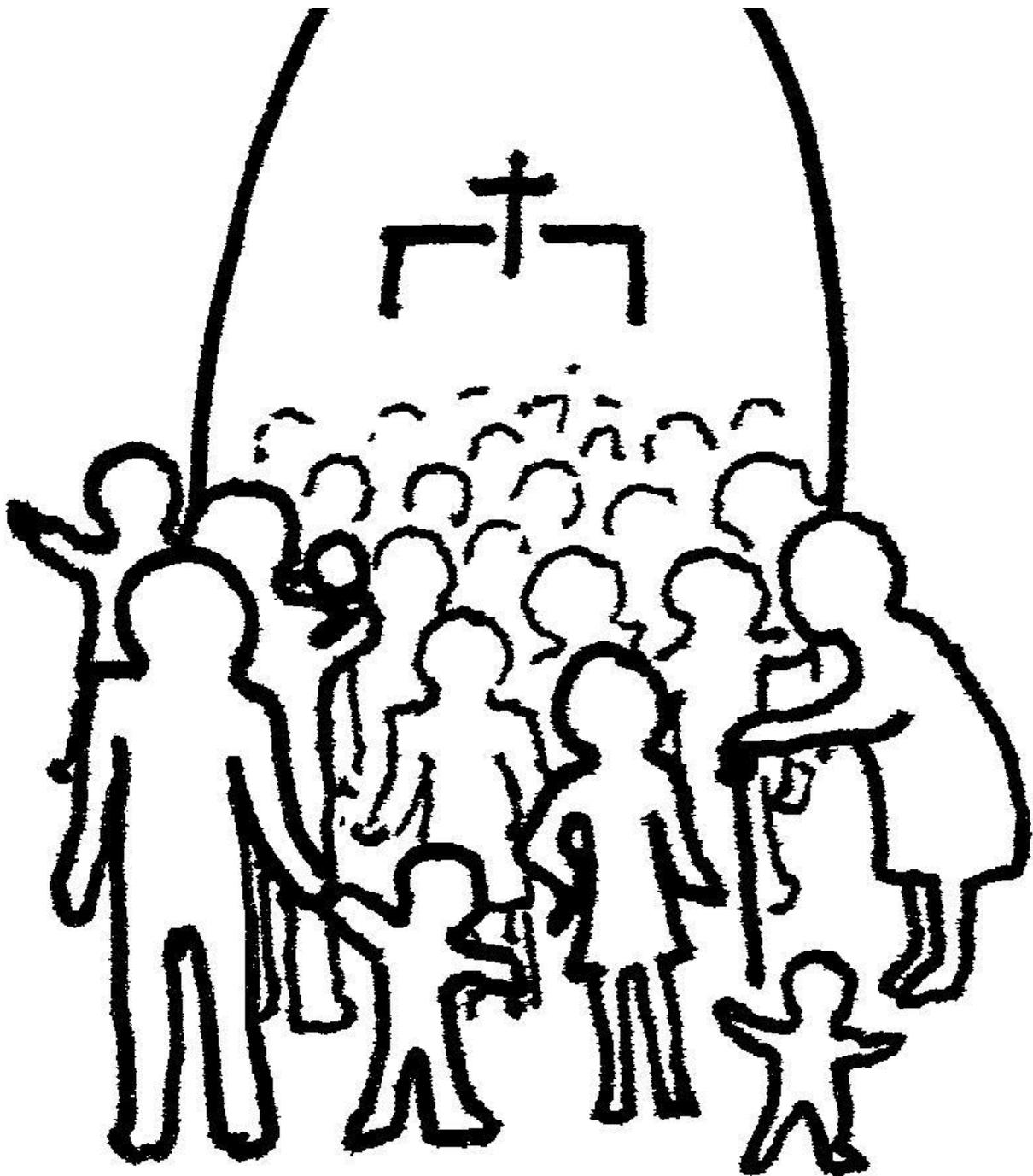
PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

RALLY SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

Rev. Joe Gaspar, Rev. Heather Power, Rev. Fred Monteith

WELCOME BACK!





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

~ RALLY SUNDAY ~

September 9, 2018

Rev. Joe Gaspar - Rev. Heather Power - Rev. Fred Monteith

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: “My Feet are on the Rock” by I Am They
 (The Band)

Welcome

Statement of Welcome

One: In gratitude and with respect we begin by recognizing the First Nations 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 and Concerns

Call into Community

One: Friends, welcome to this time and place set aside for worship, set aside that we might remember whom and whose we are.

All: We come to celebrate God's presence,

One: and God's love expressed through Jesus the Christ and the Spirit's power.

All: We come to remember the way of Jesus,

One: and the life we are called to live.

**All: We come as a pilgrim people
searching for ways to live out our faith.**

One: We come, a community of seekers,
in joining together we find the strength to carry on
our journey.

All: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

★ **Introit:** "As the Deer Pants for the Water" 🎵 VU #766

Passing of the Peace

One: God is the source of peace within us.

All: In humility and surrender let us claim it.

One: Jesus is the way of peace among us.

All: With courage and faith let us live it.

One: The Holy Spirit is the unity of peace between us.

All: With generosity and joy let us share it.

One: May the peace of Jesus, the Christ be with you...

All: And also with you.



Adapted—Rex A. Hunt

www.rexaehuntprogressive.com/liturgy_collection/year_b_liturgy_collection/year_b_pentecostafter/pentecostb2452015.htmlOne:

Welcoming Choral Scholars— Xander Bechard & Hannah Crawford

Introductions—Neil Murray

Prayer

One: Let us pray, Holy One,
you are the Singer and the Song,
the Source of all harmony.
We give thanks for the presence
of these musicians amongst us,
Hannah and Xander,
who will offer their gifts in our time together.

**All: God of beginnings and new adventures:
Bless Xander and Hannah during this time
as we support them with our prayers and
encouragement.
May this shared time be one
rich with growth, learning, joy and friendship.**

**One: May the Holy One bless us
and this time of sharing and learning
that we might know the joy of living in God's
presence.**

EXPLORING

Prayer of Preparation

**All: Holy One, when we are hungry
You feed our bodies by the gifts of the earth.
Holy One, our souls hunger as well,
may the stories of our faith
and the inspiration of the Spirit feed us as well.
Amen.**

★ Children's Song: "And on This Path" 🎵 MV #8

Story Time

Following the story time, children and youth will leave for Rally Sunday activities!

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.

Congregational Covenant of Learning

One: As a community of faith we celebrate the rich heritage of our Christian faith and we take seriously the spiritual quest of believers, questioners and questioning believers. On Rally Sunday we celebrate the beginning of another year filled with opportunities for learning together and we renew our commitment to be learners and mentors and teachers to one another.

Will you bring your questions and your doubts, your sadness and your joy, your energy and your playfulness to this journey of learning?

All: We will, by the grace of God and the care of one another.

One: Will you share, as you are able, the places and ways in which you have heard and seen the love of God in your life and in the world?

All: We will, with the help of God and one another.

One: Will you be open to new and different points of view and experience, and fresh expressions of the holy?

All: We will, by the grace of God and the encouragement of one another.

One: Will you seek to live your lives and our life together in ways that are faithful to God's dream of peace through justice in all creation?

All: We will, might it be so. Amen.

★ **Children's Song:** "And on This Path" 🎵 MV #8

📖 **Scripture—Jeremiah 18: 1-6**

Acclamation

One: This is the witness of Israel.

All: Thanks be for this testimony of faith.

Jeremiah—Jeremiah was either born or began his ministry in 627 BC. During his life, Babylonia succeeded Assyria as the dominant power in the Middle East. He was a witness to the return to worship of the Hebrew God (instituted by the Judean king Josiah), and then (after Josiah's death in battle in 609), the return of many of the people to other religions. When Babylon captured Jerusalem in 587, Jeremiah emigrated to Egypt. God called him to be a prophet to Judah and surrounding nations, in the midst of political and religious crisis.

Chris Haslam

www.montreal.anglican.org/comments/cpr28m.shtml

Jeremiah 18: 1-16—The metaphor of God as the potter and humanity as clay has been individualized in our time. As a prophetic oracle, however, it referred to God's judgment against Israel for forsaking their moral covenant with God that assured their safety. This was the prophetic interpretation of events at a time when the Babylonians threatened to destroy Israel.

John Shearman

<http://lectionary.seemslikegod.org/archives/year-c-season-after-pentecost-proper-18-ordinary-23/>

Questions for Reflection

- Which forces are most influential in shaping your life?
- What role does faith/spirituality play?

Ministry of Music: “The Breakup Song” by Francesca Battistelli
(The Band)

Reflection—“*Spiritual Practices-Why Bother?*”

(My reflections often contain material from other sources that are awkward to acknowledge when speaking. Please pick up a copy of the sermon or check the website if you would like more information.)

★ **Hymn:** “Seek Ye First the Kingdom” 🎵 VU #356

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory: “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”
arr by. Larry Shackley

★ **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-Paraphrase

**God within us, God beyond us, God among us,
 May the Mystery always be named and
 known among all peoples and in all times.
 May creation give way
 to the rule of love and the power of life.
 Satisfy our hunger, and grant us a
 hunger to see the whole world fed.
 Restore us to right relationship with You,
 with creation, with others, with ourselves.
 Strengthen us to reject all
 that would lead us away from You,
 Come to us when we choose death over life.
 Give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
 For in your love we find the only power,
 the only home, the only honour we will ever need,
 in this life and the life to come.
Amen.**

Adapted from paraphrases found in the New Zealand Prayer Book (1989) and one by Sarah-Dylan Breuer found at http://www.theworshipwell.org/pdf/Lords_Prayer_Paraphrase.pdf

RETURNING

★ **Hymn:** "Deep in Our Hearts"  MV #154

★ Commissioning and Blessing

★ Sung Alleluia

“Alleluia”

♪ MV #52

Alle, alle, alleluia!

Alle, alle, allelu, alle, alleluia!

Postlude:

“Have It All”

by Jason Mraz
(The Band)



It is with deep sadness that we share the recent passing of Parkminster member Jean Owens, beloved mother to Parkminster member, Mary Mueller and mother-in-law to Scott Mueller. Jean passed away August 29th at the age of 97. As a caring congregation we extend our love and

most heartfelt sympathies to Mary & Scott, their children, extended family 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. Jean will be dearly missed by her Parkminster friends.

Visitation will be held at the W. John Thomas Funeral Home, 244 Victoria St. E., Alliston, from 7–9pm on Friday, September 28th. A memorial service will be held at St. John's United Church, 56 Victoria St. E., Alliston at 11am on Saturday, September 29th followed by a reception in the Church Hall.

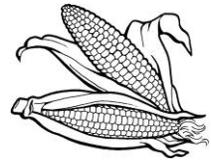
Thank you to everyone who has offered their gift of time to volunteer in various ways this Sunday:

Greeters: Ken & Mary Willsie
Ushers: Doris Heselwood, Andree Gerard,
 Janet Scheuring, Pat Smith
Candle Lighters: Xander Pease
Lay Reader: Loren Calder
The Band: Catriona Teves, Colleen Usaty,
 Lee McWebb, John Watson, Jeff Stacey,
 Jamie Hofman, Angie & Neil Murray
A/V Coordinator: Sandy Quehl
A/V Operator: Terry Ridgway
Chancel Arrangement: Cindy Demsey

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



EVERYONE IS INVITED!



***Join us after worship for hot dogs & corn on the cob
in the fellowship hall!***

**Young families and kids can also have a great time outside –
pony rides, games and more!**

Join your friends for this great “welcome back” tradition!

There is a free-will offering to cover food costs.

*Hosted by your Christian Education, Membership & Pastoral Care
Committees*



“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 --**submission deadline--10am, Thursday**

PLAYGROUP HELPERS NEEDED

Would you consider volunteering on a Monday morning once a month for the Monday Morning Playgroup supporting caregivers and their young children? If so, please contact Liz Forde eforde@sentex.ca or 519-576-1233. The first playgroup begins Sept. 10th so don't delay. We'd love to hear from you!

A/V EQUIPMENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to learn how to operate the A/V Equipment in the Sanctuary. You don't need to be a full on “techie” because full training will be provided, but a familiarity with PowerPoint would definitely be an asset. Please contact Sandy Quehl if you are interested in helping out. quewat1@outlook.com

FALL DRIVE FOR FOOD BANK

Along with the community, Parkminster will once again be collecting financial donations and non-perishable food items for the Food Bank of Waterloo Region. Together we feed more than 32,000 people each year. Financial donations allow the Food Bank the flexibility to purchase the food most urgently needed. *For financial donations, please mark your envelope “Food Bank”.* Donation boxes will be placed in the narthex until Thanksgiving. Thank you from your Outreach Committee