

PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

September 16, 2018

Reflection – “Practicing Together”



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



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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: “Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It”
arr. by Mark Hayes

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: Now is the time of our gathering;

All: God has gathered us here.

One: Now is the time of reflection;

All: God's Word will gently come home to us.

One: Now is the time of joyful praise;

All: we will not hold back our singing.

One: Now is the time for giving thanks;

All: our hearts overflow as we remember our
Generous Creator.

One: Now is the time to recall and then release our
anxieties;

All: **God's peace will be our peace.**
Let us worship God.

Adapted-Rev. David Sparks

★ **Introit:** "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" 🎵 VU #210



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:

EXPLORING

Prayer of Preparation

All: **O God of sacred stories, through the witness of scripture you nurture our imaginations, touch our hearts, increase our awareness, and challenge our assumptions. Bless our hearing of your word this day. Speak to each of us; speak to all of us. By the power of your Spirit may we be hearers and doers of your word. Amen.**

★ **Children’s Song:** “We Give Our Thanks” 🎵 MV #187

Story Time

Following the story time, children and youth will leave for Sunday School 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.

★ **Children’s Song:** “We Give Our Thanks” 🎵 MV #187

📖 **Scripture—Romans 12: 1-18**

Acclamation

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be for this witness of God’s grace.**

Romans 12: 1-18 – The words of Romans 12 call us to a transformed vision of ourselves and the world. Let your embodiment be holy. Don’t be conformed to the world in its violence and competition; be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Transformed vision enables us to discover our vocation and help others find their place in the body of Christ. In the spirit of Philippians, we need to embrace the mind of Christ, seeing all creatures as God’s beloved children. We are interconnected, and joined with one another. We create each other, shaping each other’s experience by our actions. ... Our holy embodiment reflects our participation in the body of Christ. The body of Christ is a laboratory of spiritual gifts. Everyone has a necessary part to play in the well-being of the whole. Our gifts within the body evolve as the body itself evolves. Like the body, we have many gifts, each appropriate to our particular time and place.

Bruce Epperly: The Adventurous Lectionary, August 22, 2014

Questions for Reflection

- Who has helped you to find your “place in the body of Christ”?
- When have you felt most interconnected in your life?

Ministry of Music: “Spirit Sing”

Reflection—“*Practicing Together*”

★ **Hymn:** “Put Peace into Each Other’s Hands” 🎵 MV #173

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory: “I Feel the Spirit” *arr. by Don Besig*
(duet: Hannah Crawford & Xander Bechard)

★ **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:** “Let Us Build a House” ♪ MV #1

★ **Commissioning and Blessing**

★ **Sung Alleluia** “Alleluia” ♪ MV #52

Alle, alle, alleluia!

Alle, alle, allelu, alle, alleluia!

Postlude: “Gavotte in D” *by J.S. Bach*

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

Greeters:..... Amanda Kalbfleisch & Cedric Charette & Amelia
Ushers:..... Ruth Russell, Gary McLellan, Joe & Jenny Sheldon
Lay Reader: Richard Jackson
A/V Coordinator: Sandy Quehl
A/V Operators:..... Heather Watts & Sandy Quehl
Chancel Arrangement: Cindy Demsey
Coffee Hour Hosts: Mary & Jack Reynolds

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)



This Week Let Us Pray For
Hamilton Conference Monthly Prayer Cycle:

Alma United Church, Burlington

World Council of Churches Focus:

Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay

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HELPFUL INFORMATION

“What’s UP at Parkminster!”:

For a detailed listing of events, activities & notices, please refer to the “What’s UP” email sent out every Friday.

- If you have an announcement you’d like to include, please email the office with a brief message. Deadline is Thursday at 10:00am.
- To receive “What’s UP” please contact the office. A limited number of hardcopies are also available in the Upper Hall.

Community Events: Local events are posted on the bulletin board beside the Family Room.

Posters: To maintain a clear sight line for the office administrator and to keep our glass clean, please refrain from taping posters to the main entry doors. Bulletin boards &/or “What’s UP” are great ways to advertise!

Defibrillator: A defibrillator is located on the wall at the top of the basement stairs.

Wheelchair: A wheelchair is stored in the penthouse. Please return it after each use.

First Aid Supplies: A container of supplies is located on the top of the coat rack across from the office.