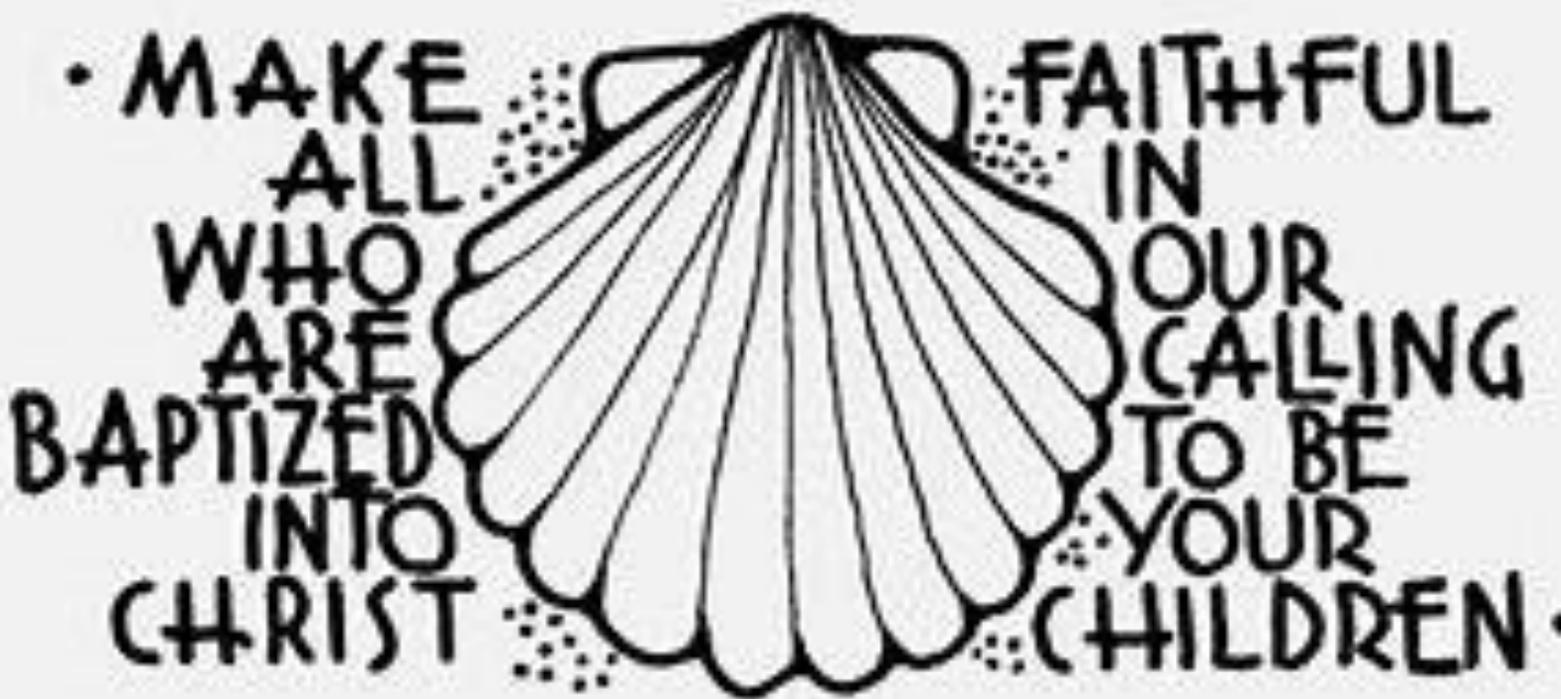


PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2018

BAPTISM



Reflection: "Amazed"

Rev. Fred Monteith



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

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Baptism

Reflection: “Amazed”

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: “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

arr. Matt Hyzer

Welcome/Joys and Concerns

Call into Community/Statement of Welcome

One: Today we celebrate with joy a new chapter in the life of this community—the baptism of a child.

All: **We join with each other united by Holy Mystery who is Holy Love who reaches out to all creation, drawing us together in relationships of love, justice and compassion.**

One: For this reason we begin worship today by remembering that our relationship with the First Peoples has seldom been healing and empowering. In working to heal that relationship, we recognize with gratitude and respect the traditional land of the people upon which 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.

One: Together we are the body of Christ, together we are called to worship.

★ **Introit:** “I Have Called You by Your Name” 🎵 MV #161

CELEBRATING

Sacrament of Baptism

Statement of Purpose

One: Dear friends in Christ, we come now to celebrate God’s gift of grace given to us in the sacrament of baptism which proclaims and celebrates the grace of Holy Mystery who is Holy Love.

By water and the Spirit, we are called, claimed, and commissioned: we are called God’s own, welcomed as children of God; we are claimed by Christ, united with Christ, united with one another and the Christian community of every time and place; we are commissioned to Christ’s ministry of love peace and through justice, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit for the work of Christ’s Body in the world.

Presentation of Candidate

One: I invite the family and God-Parent to come forward when you hear the name of your child.

On behalf of Parkminster United Church I present the following candidate for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism:

Arienh Kadence Alexander
daughter of Joscelyn and Christopher Alexander.

Profession of Faith and Promises

One: Do you believe in God, Source of love;
in Jesus the Christ, love incarnate;
and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

I do, by the grace of God.

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God and the path
walked by Jesus, will you turn from the forces of evil,
and renounce their power?
Will you seek justice and witness to God's love for all
creation?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this
congregation to share in the life, work, and ministry
of Jesus Christ?

I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you Christopher and Joscelyn and you Johanna
pray for Arienh, encourage her by your words and
actions, and walk with her in the way of Jesus?

I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you Geoff and Kate as sponsors of Arienh,
guide and encourage her by word and action,
supporting her in prayer and with love to follow the
way of Jesus the Christ?

We will, God being our helper.

Congregational Commitment

One: Let us pledge to our baptismal family our support
and care.

**All: As a baptized and baptizing people,
we commit ourselves to support and uphold you
within the community of faith.**

One: May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.

All: Amen.

Affirmation of Faith – New Creed

**All: We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect
in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and
resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Pouring of Water

One: Blessed are you, O God, Web of Life in whom we live and move and have our being; Creator of heaven and earth, Keeper of sky and sea. At the beginning, your Spirit was at work, brooding over the waters of creation's birth. Again and again you have shown your grace to us through water: cleansing the earth at the flood, parting for the exodus at the Red Sea, Flowing from the rock in the wilderness.

All: Blessed are you, O Holy Mystery.

One: In the fullness of time, you gave us Jesus: nurtured in the waters of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the River Jordan, giver of living water, wellspring of abundant life.

All: Blessed are you, O Source of Love.

One: Therefore, eternal and present One, we thank you for the water with which you bless us. We pray that those who are baptized, into the Body of Christ, may live in your grace.

Pour out, your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water, that this font may become your womb of new birth, our font of blessing and source of grace.

All: Blessed are you, O God. Amen.

Act of Baptism

One: I baptize you,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blessing

One: May the blessing of the one God,
Mother of us all,
be with you today and always. Amen.

Laying On of Hands

One: Arienh may the Holy Spirit, Love's power,
guide you, inspire you, and work within you,
all the days of your life.

All: Amen.

Anointing

One: Arienh, child of God from this day forward you bear the sign of Jesus the Christ.

Lighting of a Candle
(presented by Geoff and Kate Pease)

One: Christopher and Joscelyn, the light of Christ shine all the days of your life.
Light this candle each year as a remembrance and share the meaning of this day with your child.

Presentation of Certificate and Gift

Declaration and Congregational Welcome

One: Into the household of faith,
we welcome you with joy and thanksgiving.

**All: We are members of the Body of Christ.
We are inheritors of God's promise.
In the name of Christ, we welcome you.**

Final Blessing

**All: The grace of Christ attend you,
the love of God surround you,
the Holy Spirit keep you.
Amen.**

★ **Hymn:** "Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New"
♪ MV #115 (sung 3x)

Following the Baptism, children and youth will leave 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.

EXPLORING

Prayer of Preparation

All: Holy One, may we approach
the stories of our faith and
the stirrings of our souls
open to being surprised.
Lead us into love in ways
we can't yet imagine.
Amen.

 **Scripture— Luke 2: 41-52**

Acclamation

One: This is the good news of Jesus.

All: Thanks be for this grace.

Question for Reflection

- When have you been amazed by or not understood a child in your life?
- How would you know if someone in your life was growing in stature?

Ministry of Music “Mary, Did You Know?”
(soloist, Colleen Usaty)

Reflection: “Amazed” *Rev. Fred Monteith*

★ **Hymn:** “Who Is My Mother”  MV #178

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory: “The First Nowell” *arr. Matt Hyzer*

★ **Dedication:** “All Poor Ones and Humble” 🎵 VU #68

**Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;
our service he ne'er can despise;
whose love still is able to show us that stable,
where softly in manger he lies.**

★ **Offering Prayer**

Prayers of the People

RETURNING

★ **Hymn:** “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” 🎵 VU #644

★ **Commissioning and Blessing**

★ **Sung Alleluia** “Hallelujah” 🎵 MV #32

**Halle, hallelujah, halle, hallelu,
halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah!**

Postlude: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

by John Leavitt



The flowers in the sanctuary are placed by Isobel Field and family in loving memory of her husband Jim, who passed away on December 30, 2000.

This Week Let Us Pray For

World Council of Churches:
Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine

Faith Community Focus:
Grace United Church, Dunnville

At this time we extend our deepest sympathies to both the Freeland family and Stacey family on their recent losses of loved ones. May these families feel the comfort of our prayers as we hold them in the light during this difficult time.

* * *

Kay Freeland, Parkminster's oldest charter member, passed away on December 25, 2018 at the age of 99. Kay was a very active member of the Parkminster UCW and developed many cherished friendships.

Visitation: 12:15-12:45pm on Monday, January 7, 2019 at the Henry Walser Funeral Home.

Memorial Service: in the Walser Chapel on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 1:00pm. Reception to follow. A private interment at Memory Gardens Cemetery has taken place.

* * *

Audrey Stacey, beloved mother of Parkminster member Jeff Stacey (Jean), passed away at the age of 89 on December 26, 2018.

Visitation: at the Lockhart Funeral Home, 109 Montreal St., Mitchell on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 from 2-4 and 6-8 pm

Funeral Service: in the Lockhart Chapel held on Thursday, January 3rd, 11:00am with Rev. Tom Dunbar officiating.

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

- Greeter:**.....Pat Smith
- Ushers:**Jean & Jack Wilson, Wendy & John Watson
- Lay Reader:**Isobel Field
- Candle Lighter:**John Watson
- Soloist:**Colleen Usaty
- The Band:**Catriona Teves, Lee McWebb,
.....John Watson, Jeff Stacey, Matt Watson
- Counters:**.....Marilyn Hill & Bud Adams
- A/V Coordinator:**.....Sandy Quehl
- A/V Operators:**Heather Watts & Sandy Quehl
- Chancel Arrangement:**Chancel Committee
- Coffee Hour:**.....Delores Benedik, Darlene Basse

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)

“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 10:00a.m.

To receive “What’s UP” please contact the office.

A limited number of hardcopies are available in the Upper Hall.

MINISTER COVERAGE:

Rev. Joe is currently on holidays and will return January 2, 2019. In his absence,
please contact Rev. Fred Monteith ext. 22.

OFFICE HOURS:

Dec. 31 – office open 10am - 3pm to receive year-end offerings

January 1 – closed New Year’s Day

January 2 – regular office hours resume (10am – 3pm)

HELPFUL INFORMATION

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!

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

Lost and Found: Misplaced something? Items that are discovered at church
throughout the week are placed in the Lost and Found box across from the office. Feel
free to have a look!

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

Wheelchair: A wheelchair is stored in the custodian’s storage room (aka 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.