

PARKMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

Baptism of Jesus



**“You are my beloved child,
in whom I am well pleased.”**

Reflection: “Who Are You, Really?”

Rev. Joe Gaspar, Rev. Heather Power



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

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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: “Good King Wenceslas” *arr. Larry Shackley*

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: Come people of God, come and stand at the water's edge.

All: We come to watch, to listen.

One: Come people of God, wade into the waters of baptism.

All: We come to be immersed in God's love,

One: to hear the words meant for us—

All: “...you are my beloved child, in whom I am well pleased”.

One: We gather as a community of God’s beloved,

All: **We gather in gratitude. Amen.**

★ **Introit:** “Let Us Build a House”

♪ MV #1

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: **Generous Creator,
In the stories of your ancient people,
May we hear our story.**

**By the Spirit of Love and Wisdom
 May our ears listen,
 May our minds know,
 May our wills surrender,
 May our hearts break open,
 That like Jesus, we may become
 Love in the flesh. Amen.**

★ **Children’s Song:** “I Am a Child of God” 🎵 MV #157

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.

 **Scripture** — Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NT page 60)

Acclamation

One: This is the Good News of Jesus.

All: **Thanks be for this grace.**

Questions for Reflection:

- * What does it mean to you to be a child of God?
- * Who are you? In what ways do you define yourself by what you do? How does faith inform your identity?

Luke—Three gospels* (good news) in the New Testament offer similar portraits of the life of Jesus; Luke is the third of them. Its author, traditionally Luke the physician who accompanied Paul on some of his missionary journeys, draws on three sources: Mark (via Matthew), a collection of sayings (known as Q for *Quelle*, German for *source*) and his own source. It is a gospel that emphasizes God's love for the poor, the disadvantaged, minorities, outcasts, sinners and lepers.

Women play a more prominent part than in the other gospels. Luke never uses Semitic words; this is one argument for thinking that he wrote primarily for Gentiles.

‡ The stories of Jesus—Mark and Matthew being the others.
Chris Haslam <http://montreal.anglican.org/comments/atksgm.shtml?>

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22— Luke gives a much briefer account of Jesus' baptism than the other gospels. It seems little more than an ending to his narrative about the ministry of John the Baptist. The essential details are the same, however. Luke records the actual baptism, the descent of the Spirit as a dove, and the divine blessing.

Adapted: John Shearman- <http://seemslikegod.org/lectionary/>

Ministry of Music: “Love on My Heart from Heaven Fell”

by Clive Carey
(soloist, Hannah Crawford)

Reflection—Who Are You, Really?

(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:** “I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry” 🎵 VU #644

RESPONDING

Offering – invitation

Offertory: “Chaconne” *by Auguste Durand*

★ **Dedication:** “Christ Has No Body Now but Yours” 🎵 MV #171

**Christ has no body now but yours,
no hand but yours.
Here on this earth, yours is the work,
to serve with the joy of compassion.**

★ **Offering Prayer**

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer Paraphrase

All: **Radiant One: your Name shines within us,
outside us – even darkness shines in you.
Create your reign now,
that your one desire acts with ours,
as in all light so in all things.
Grant what we need each day in bread & insight.
Forgive our hidden past, our secret shames,
as we forgive what others hide.
Keep us from forgetfulness,
the temptation of false appearances
and free us to walk your path with light and joy.
For from you arises every vision;
to you returns the birthing glory and light of the
cosmos. Amen.**

James Ravenscroft

RETURNING

★ **Hymn:** “I Am the Light of the World” 🎵 VU #87

★ **Commissioning and Blessing**

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

**Alle, alle, alleluia!
Alle, alle, allelu, alle, alleluia!**

Postlude: “Toccata” *by Robert Thygerson*



It is with great sadness that we share the passing of our Parkminster friend, Iso McGregor, cherished wife of Parkminster friend, Colin McGregor. Iso passed away suddenly, Wednesday, January 9th. Iso was very active in the life of Parkminster; she will be remembered for her dedication to the Christian Education programs as well as her great passion for the environment. She will be greatly missed. We hold Colin and his family in our thoughts and prayers.



The flowers in the sanctuary have been placed by Kay Freeland's family for the congregation. Kay's service was held on Monday, January 7th, Rev. Joe Gaspar officiated.

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

Greeters:.....Anne & Doug Stephens
Ushers:Wendy & Terry Ridgway, and
Paul Schertzberg, Rob MacQueen
Lay Reader:Sue MacQueen
Sunday Activity Leaders:....Rob Vanderlinden, Franceen Wagner,
and Rev. Heather Power
Soloist:Hannah Crawford
Counters:.....John & Susan Bain
A/V Coordinator:.....Sandy Quehl
A/V Operators:Colleen & Dana Usaty
Chancel Arrangement:Chancel Committee
Coffee Hour:.....Wendy Ridgway
Coffee Hour Desserts:.....Karen Schertzberg, Isobel Field

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

Upcoming Services: A Note from Rev. Joe

Happy New Year! Starting last Sunday and continuing January 20 and 27, I will be focusing on the story of the Magi and what they have to say to us about wisdom. January 6 it was "Wisdom and Awe" followed by "Wisdom and Fear" and then "Wisdom and Change".

Take a look at this video:

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QyVZrV3d3o>)

on the role of awe in connecting us to a larger sense of self.

This Week Let Us Pray For

World Council of Churches: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Western Ontario Waterways: Ebenezer United Church, Campbellville

“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 on the table in the Upper Hall.

House Group #7 Meeting Today: This group will meet in the Family Room after church today to assign worship service duties for the month of February. Please come with your talents and your calendars!

Rev. Heather is Back! Heather is delighted to be back at Parkminster and would like to thank the congregation for their cards, emails and well wishes. Heather will be taking Thursdays as her day off for the next couple of months as she continues with her vision therapy program for her ongoing post-concussion recovery. While Heather has returned to us full-time some of her duties have been modified for the next few months per her doctor's orders. She looks forward to reconnecting with you all.

Offering Envelopes Are Ready! 2019 Offering Envelopes and PAR Letters are available for pick up in the Upper Hall.

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.

