

Quispamsis United Church

August 28th, 2022 - Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Rev. Audrey Lounder

Musician: Darlene Friars

Reader: Ethan Alward

Though scripture and music will change from week to week, the order of service will remain the same for the most part from August 14th - September 4th

All Prayers for this service have been adapted from various parts of the Book of Ruth

Centering Passage: *'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.*

-Matthew 7:7-8

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle to symbolize the light of Christ that burns within us. We cannot be parted from that light because it is a part of us. It is our guide on the way. It is our hope when the world around us grows dark. Let us follow this light on a journey through word and worship.

Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Opening Music

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive):

Here in this place, there are no foreigners, no come-from-aways, no strangers
for all are welcome in this holy space, this sacred time.

Here in this worship, in this community, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.

Here in our lives, there are no divisions,

for God dwells in each of us.

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of family, whether it is family by blood or by deed, by faith or by circumstance. You bless our lives with those who support and encourage us. You call on us to offer that same strength to others. Be with us this day as we hear the story of your daughter, Ruth. In her we see examples of how to care for one another. In her, we see ourselves. Open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to what you can teach us through her story. We offer this prayer in the name of Christ, our companion on the way. AMEN

Hymn:

Morning Has Broken

VU 409

**Morning has broken like the first morning,
Black bird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning.
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, Praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation Of the newday!**

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):

God of compassion, of community, of connection, we come to you because our lives are filled with broken relationships. We admit that there are times when we could have offered love, but didn't because we were afraid that it would hurt too much. We could have mended bridges of trust, but didn't because we got used to holding a grudge. We could have given of ourselves to lift up another who has fallen, but didn't because we were afraid it would cost too much. Forgive us for holding back. Forgive us the pain we have caused, or allowed because of our action or inaction. Forgive us, yes, but redirect us so that we might respond as Ruth did, with love and without fear. Work in us, and remind us of the boundless nature of love and grace. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ, our guide. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love (Responsive):

Ruth shows us the power of love. She would not - could not - leave Naomi. God's love for us is even stronger, and God clings to us when we might lose our way.

Thanks be to God for such a love as this.

Theme Conversation

Illumination Verse:

There is Room for All (X2)

MV 62

**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;
there is room for all sheltered in God's love.**

And I rejoice and sing, "My Refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."

There is room for all, there is room for all.

Reading: Ruth 3:1-18

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, 'My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing-floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing-floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.' She said to her, 'All that you tell me I will do.'

So, she went down to the threshing-floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her. When Boaz had eaten and drunk, and he was in a contented mood, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came quietly and uncovered his feet, and lay down. At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and there, lying at his feet, was a woman! He said, 'Who are you?' And she answered, 'I am Ruth, your servant; spread your cloak over your servant, for you are next-of-kin.' He said, 'May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter; this last instance of your loyalty is better than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, do not be afraid; I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman. But now, though it is true that I am a near kinsman, there is another kinsman more closely related than I. Remain this night, and in the morning, if he will act as next-of-kin for you, good; let him do so. If he is not willing to act as next-of-kin for you, then, as the Lord lives, I will act as next-of-kin for you. Lie down until the morning.'

So, she lay at his feet until morning, but got up before one person could recognize another; for he said, 'It must not be known that the woman came to the threshing-floor.' Then he said, 'Bring the cloak you are wearing and hold it out.' So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley, and put it on her back; then he went into the city. She came to her mother-in-law, who said, 'How did things go with you, my daughter?' Then she told her all that the man had done for her, saying, 'He gave me these six measures of barley, for he said, "Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed."' She replied, 'Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest, but will settle the matter today.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message Boldly Go: Daring to Act in God's Grace

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

For the Fruit of All Creation

VU 227

**For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.**

**For these gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.**

**For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done.**

**In the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done.**

**In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

How Can I Give?

1/ If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to QUC by sending the funds to QUC@nb.aibn.com. Do not forget to send a separate email with the answer to your security question.

2/ Go to www.CanadaHelps.org and search for Quispamsis United Church. You can give to the church by using your credit card. The address says Gondola Point, do not worry, that is us.

3/ Mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

4/ You can sign up for a pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can cancel this at any time. Contact Brion Crossman at 849-6003 for details.

5/ if you come for in-person worship, there is a plate as you enter the church where you can place your offering.

6/ As we consider the greater work of the United Church consider giving to Mission and Service Fund through your regular offering or at <https://united-church.ca>

Offertory Dedication Hymn: We Give You But Your Own VU 542
**We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

We offer to you, O God, all that we are. We offer our heart; fill it with your love. We offer our arms; embrace a world in need of healing. We offer our gifts; use them to build your kingdom. Bless all that we are and all that we bring. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of our brother and companion on the way, Jesus Christ. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands MV 173

**Put peace into each other's hands, and like a treasure hold it,
Protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.**

**Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectation,
Be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.**

**Put peace into each other's hands like bread we break for sharing,
Look people warmly in the eye, our life in meant for caring.**

**Give thanks for strong yet tender hands held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out, the heights of love expressing.**

**Reach out in friendship, stay with faith in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands, the peace that sought and found you.**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning & Benediction (Responsive):

Though we part ways, we carry with us a call to embrace a world in need.

We will walk this road with those whom God sends our way.

Their pain will be our pain;

their joy, our joy.

As you have been blessed, go now and be a blessing to others.

We live and serve in devotion to God,

in partnership with Christ,

inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Go now in peace.

Choral Closing:

Wherever You May Go (vs 2)

MV 216

Refrain:

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,
And your people shall be my people too.**

**Wherever you may go, I will follow:
For I will be faithful, loyal and true.**

**From beginning to the end
I will always be your friend,
When you need me, I'll be there,
You can trust my faithful care. R**

Closing Music