

Quispamsis United Church

July 17th, 2022 - Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Musician: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Barb McBean

Though scripture and music will change from week to week, the order of service will remain the same for the most part from June 19th - July 17th

All Prayers for this service have been adapted from various parts of the First Letter of Peter

Centering Passage: *But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'*

-Matthew 20:25-28

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle

This light is not new. It has been shining since the dawn of creation. And yet everyday it burns bright and new in our hearts and in our lives. It is the light of Christ, the light of God's grace and love that has drawn us into this time of worship, and guides us through our lives. Let us follow and embody this light.

Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Opening Music Great Is Thy Faithfulness- arr. Stewart Landon

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):

The Apostle Peter greets us, the people of God in this community.

In the name of God. In the name of Christ. In the name of the Spirit.

He greets us to share his experience of Christ, and a way that we might follow.

We have come to listen, to learn, to follow.

Let us worship God together.

Opening Prayer

God of all Creation, thank You for the life and ministry of Peter and all your apostles and prophets who penned the Scriptures for our learning. As we study and reflect on Your Word, we pray that You would give us a teachable spirit and a desire to learn the truth of the gospel of Christ. Guide us into all truth, equip us with discernment, prevent us from being self-serving in our interpretation, and we pray that we may grow in grace and in knowledge of our companion on the way, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Hymn:

All Creatures Of Our God And King

VU 217

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the wind aloft,
sing praises hallelujah!**

**O rising morn, in praise rejoice
O lights of evening, find a voice,
sing praises! sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Earth ever fertile, day by day
brings forth rich blessings on our way:
sing praises hallelujah!**

**The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show:
sing praises! sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And everyone of tender heart
forgiving others, take your part:
sing praises hallelujah!
All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and yield up all your care:
sing praises! sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let all things our creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness,
sing praises hallelujah!
Praise God eternal praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
sing praises! sing praises!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer for Reconciliation (Responsive):

Risen Lord Jesus, what is it that keeps us from recognizing you?

When we are so full of ourselves, it is all too easy to block you right out of our lives.

Maybe it's the way we interpret Scripture that obscures the signs pointing to you.

Perhaps we are guilty of being slow of heart when we don't recognise you in our neighbour, or in the guise of the poor or the dispossessed.

Our eyes and ears have become so crammed with the sights and sounds of living that we simply fail to see you or to recognize your voice.

Risen Lord Jesus, help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of your presence with us. Fill us with the joy of knowing your continuing presence, so that, like those travellers on the road to Emmaus, we too, hasten to share this great good news with others. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love:

We know that we have been born anew through the living and enduring word of God. In this we recognize God's great love for the world revealed in the death and resurrection of Jesus who came into the world not to condemn it but to save it.

Thanks be to God!

Theme Conversation

Prayer of Illumination (Unison):

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reading: 1 Peter 5:1-14

Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for ‘God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written this short letter to encourage you, and to testify that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it. Your sister church in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark. Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message Be Alert. Stand Fast.

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Hymn: Three Things I Promise MV 176

**Three things I promise, Holy God,
in age and youth, in life and death:
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and to listen for the Spirit’s breath.**

**Your love unfolded time and space,
and life, and all that life became,
and so, with thankful heart and voice,
through good and ill, I bless your Name.**

**I follow, serve, and cling to Christ
amid our culture's tides and trends,
for here your Name is most revealed:
Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.**

**Enlivened as the Spirit moves
to cleanse, awaken, and renew,
I pray that justice, peace and truth,
may seed and grow in all I do.**

**If I should live when vigour fades,
and family and friends are gone,
three acts of loving faith remain
when days are slow, and working is done.**

**Revive and guide me, Living God,
as day by day, until my death,
I bless your Name, and cling to Christ,
and listen for the Spirit's breath.**

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: Grant Us, God, The Grace VU 540
**Grant us God the grace of giving
with a spirit large and free.
That ourselves and all our living,
we may offer faithfully.**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Receive these gifts this morning, O God, author of every good gift. Out of the bounty of our hearts, we respond with faithful generosity and love. May these gifts become blessings for others as they have been blessings for us. AMEN.

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Walk With Me VU 649 - QUC Recording
Refrain:
**Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build land that God has planned
where love shines through.**

**When Moses heard the call of God he said, "Lord don't send me."
But God told Moses, "You're the one to set my people free." R**

**Now Peter was a most unlikely man to lead the flock;
But Jesus new his holiness and he became the rock. R**

**Young Mary Magdalene was sure her life could be much more,
And by her faith she dared to let God's love unlock the door. R**

**And when you share your faith with me and work for life need new,
The witness of your faithfulness calls me to walk with you. R**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

May grace and peace be ours in abundance,

in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

May we be thankful for simple things,

for friendship, for health, for daily bread, for good news.

May we rise above the corruption of power
and become participants in the divine nature.

May we go from this place
to pursue goodness, wisdom, holiness and love.

Benediction

Go now with the love of God in your hearts, the peace of Christ in your hands, and with the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the Good News you have heard this day.

Choral Closing: Teach Me, God, To Wonder (vs 4 & refrain) VU 299

**Teach me God to know you,
hear you when you speak,
See you in my neighbour
when we meet.**

**Praise to you be given,
love for you be lived,
Life be celebrated,
joy you give.**

Closing Music Trumpet Tune in G - John S. Dixon