

# Quispamsis United Church

*Lent: The Stones we Carry*

*March 14th, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Lent*

*President: Rev. Richard Bowley*

*Hymn Leader: John Hill*

*Reader: Bob Crowley*

---

**Centering Passage:** *Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.*

*Psalm 41:1*

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of Territories**

**Celebrations & Announcements**

## GATHERING TOGETHER

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

The light of Christ reveals who we are, but also the truth of the world around us. May this revealing light show us those things that we have been blind to - whether through intention or ignorance - and guide us to wholeness as a people, as creation.

**Prelude**

Sweet Hour of Prayer - Bradbury/Ritter

**Greeting (Responsive):**

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

**And also with you.**

**Call to Worship (Responsive):**

We enter this time and this space seeking God's revealing power,

**to reveal who we are and what we can do.**

To show us the brokenness in the world not to shame us,

**but to drive us to help and healing.**

We come to be made open.

**We long for God to open our eyes so that we can truly see;**

**to open our ears so we can truly hear;**

**to open our hearts so we can truly love.**

In God's love we gather.

**In God's Love we worship.**

## Opening Prayer

Uniting Spirit, move in and through your people this day. Remind us that wholeness is not something we find on our own, but something we find as a community, as a world. Speak through the word this day, and remind us of those times where we have been blind to the suffering and struggles of our neighbours in this world. Show us our footsteps that have led us to this place, and those times where we have stepped on or over your children in need.

Hymn: Faith of our Fathers

VU 580 (Verses 1, 2, & 4)

- 1 **Faith of our fathers, living still  
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy,  
whene'er we hear that glorious word:  
faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to you till death.**
  
- 2 **Faith of our mothers, daring faith,  
your work for Christ is love revealed,  
spreading God's word from pole to pole,  
making love known and freedom real:  
faith of our mothers, holy faith,  
we will be true to you till death.**
  
- 4 **Faith born of God, O call us yet;  
bind us with all who follow you,  
sharing the struggle of your cross  
until the world is made anew.  
Faith born of God, O living faith,  
we will be true to you till death.**

## Theme Conversation

### Stone Liturgy (Responsive):

God, Help us to reach for one another

**when we are tempted to focus only on ourselves and our needs.**

Give us the forethought to understand that when we see only our own needs and wants, we miss opportunities to support and care for our kindred in this world.

**Give us the courage to confess the personal acts of self-centeredness that unjustly separate us from each other and from you...**

*(silent reflection)*

Forgive us for the times where we have stepped over or on your children - our kindred - in service to our own needs and wants.

**When we are tempted to be insular either as an individual or as a community. May we search for and cling to your love and be encouraged and inspired to share it with all. Amen.**

**Today's Scripture:** Luke 16:19-31

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." '

This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Sung Response:** VU 956

**Your word is a lamp to my feet,  
and a light unto my path.**

**Anthem** Lord, Teach Us to Pray - Joe Wise

**Message** To Love and Serve Others

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**Hymn:** My Love Colours Outside the Lines MV 138

1. **My love colours outside the lines,  
exploring paths that few could ever find;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before,  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**
  
2. **My Lord colours outside the lines,  
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.  
We'll never walk on water  
if we're not prepared to drown,  
body and soul need a soaking  
from time to time.  
And we'll never move the grave-stones  
if we're not prepared to die,  
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.**
  
- 3 **My soul longs to colour outside the lines,  
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries  
where I've never been before,  
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.**

**Moderator's PIE Day Invitation - <https://youtu.be/dX-w46NSfH0>**

### **How Can I Give?**

#### **HOW CAN I GIVE TO MY CHURCH WHEN THE CHURCH IS CLOSED?**

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](http://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/ 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.

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

**Offertory Dedication Hymn:** In Gratitude and Humble Trust VU 544  
In gratitude and humble Trust we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

Receive, O God, the fruits of our labour. Receive our time, talent and treasure. Bless and use them and us to ensure that none of your children - our kindred - are forgotten. Open our eyes to the world, and work through us to bring and be a blessing. We ask this and all things in the strong name of our Companion Christ. AMEN

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others & Lord's Prayer**

### SENDING FORTH

**Hymn:** Though Ancient Walls VU 691 (vs 1, 2, & 5)

- 1** Though ancient walls may still stand proud  
and racial strife be fact,  
though boundaries may be lines of hate,  
proclaim God's saving act!  
Walls that divide are broken down;  
Christ is our unity!  
Chains that enslave are thrown aside;  
Christ is our liberty!
  
- 2** When vested power stands firm entrenched  
and breaks another's back,  
when waste and want live side by side,  
it's Gospel that we lack. R
  
- 5** This broken world seeks lasting health  
and vital unity.  
God's people by God's Word renewed,  
cast off all slavery! R

### **Commissioning (Responsive):**

Walk from this place, and go to where God is already at work.

**Open to seeing the struggles, we long to be a part of the change.**

Be the hands of Christ, reaching out to those that much of society has forgotten.

**We go to embrace, to heal, to share the love that we have been shown.**

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, share the gifts that you have been given.

**Yearning for wholeness, we go to lift us those who have been brought low by oppression, prejudice, and apathy.**

### **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:** We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection VU 586 (Verse 1)

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection;**

**we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;**

**we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;**

**tales of a love that will not let us go.**

**We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;**

**we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;**

**we'll weave a cloth of all the world united**

**within the vision of new life who sets us free.**

**Postlude** Trumpet Tune in F - Roy Brunner