

# Quispamsis United Church

May 29th, 2022 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Liturgical Colour:** White

**Presider:** Rev. Richard Bowley

**Musician:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Heather Haché

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**Centering Passage:** *'No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.*

-Luke 6:43-45

## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Welcome

### Acknowledgement of Territories

### Celebrations & Announcements

### Lighting the Christ Candle

We come this day seeking wholeness, seeking love, seeking truth. For all these things, we have followed this light, a light that shines before us, a light that shines within us. May it guide us through Word and worship to service in our world.

**Opening Music**                      Simple Gifts - arr. Cindy Berry

### 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):

From the many roads of our lives,

**we come together in this time.**

Seeking the same mind, yearning for the same love, striving for unity,

**we come together in Christ.**

We long for wholeness as we lift our prayers.

**We come together to worship!**

## **Opening Prayer**

God of all life, breath, and light, who gives these gifts in abundance to all of creation, hear us also as we seek guidance, wisdom, and truth. Encourage us as we approach Your Holy Word so that in the pages and amongst the words we might find ourselves, that we might find you, and in that discovery, may we draw closer to the kingdom that is always just around the corner. We offer this and all our prayers in the name of the one whom you exalted above all others, Jesus Christ.  
AMEN

## **Hymn:**

We are One

VU 402

**We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.**

**We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.**

**We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.**

**We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.**

**We are one as we feast,  
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;  
in the bread and the wine  
there's a sense of love divine.**

**We are one as we come,  
as we feed, we are fed;  
and we feel God's refreshing grace  
as we meet at table in this place.**

**We are one as we hear,  
as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive  
there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave,  
as we love, we are loved;  
and we seek justice in God's ways  
as we move together from this place.**

### **LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

#### **Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):**

**God of Community, of Family, of Connection, we come to you this day because we need these things. We need to be reminded of the importance of these things. You know as well as we do that there are times where we are not of the same mind, either as a community of faith or as a whole people of creation. You know as well as we do that often we strive towards our own ends, for our own benefit, rather than working towards the kingdom, for the benefit of all. Forgive us when we are selfish or self-centered. Forgive us when we put our wants above the needs of your people. Forgive us for forgetting that just as you worked through Christ, you long to work through us. For it is in his name that we offer this and all our prayers. AMEN**

#### **Assurance of God's Love:**

No matter how disparate or divided we are as a people, as a church, as an individual, God's love and embrace offers us a path to wholeness. We are never so far gone, that there is not a way back, never so lost that we cannot find our home in God's love. 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:**                      **Philippians 2:1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but

emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

Christ-like, But Holy Unique

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn:**

We Have This Ministry

VU 510 - QUC Recording

**We have this ministry, and we are not discouraged,  
It is by God's own power that we may live and serve  
Openly we share God's word, speaking truth as we believe  
Praying that the shadowed world may healing light receive.  
We have this ministry, O God receive our living.**

**O Christ the tree of life, our end and our beginning  
We grow to fullest flower when rooted in your love.  
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay, called to service by your grace  
Different cultures, different gifts, the young and old a place.  
We have this ministry, O God receive our giving.**

**The yoke of Christ is ours, the whole world is our parish  
We daily take the cross, the burden and the joy. Bearing hurts of  
those we serve, wounded, bruised and bowed with pain  
Holy Spirit, bread and wine, we die and rise again.  
We have this ministry, O God receive our loving.**

**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.



Hymn:

Christ Has No Body Now But Yours

MV 171

*Refrain*

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

**No hands but yours to heal a wounded world,  
No hands but yours to soothe all its suffering,  
No touch but yours to bind the broken hope of the people of God. R**

**No eyes but yours to see as Christ would see,  
To find the lost, to gaze with compassion,  
No eyes but yours to glimpse the holy place of the city of God. R**

**No feet but yours to journey with the poor,  
To walk this world with mercy and justice,  
Yours are the steps to build a lasting peace for the children of God. R**

**Through every gift, give back to those in need,  
As Christ was blessed, so now be a blessing,  
With every gift a benediction be to the people of God. R**

**SENDING FORTH**

**Commissioning (Responsive):**

In this time of worship, we have glimpsed what it means to serve.

**In the embrace of the Word, we have glimpsed our path to wholeness.**

We part, though we remain connected in Christ.

**From the Word we carry a love, a grace, and a truth to share.**

We go from this time of bonding and unity,

**to the many roads of the Spirit's urging.**

**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 (vs 1) *QUC Recording*  
**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 in Christ.**

**Closing Music**

Trumpet Recessional - D.F. Callender