

Quispamsis United Church

October 24th, 2021 - Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

President: Rev. Richard Bowley

Musician: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Bob Crowley

Centering Passage: *Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgement.'*

John 7:24

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbol of the light of Christ that shines in our lives. It reveals the path before us, but it also shows us who we can be when we allow that light to shine within us.

Opening Music It Is Well With My Soul - Philip Bliss

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):

We come before God in humble prayer.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit in me.

We come seeking assurance of God's presence.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

We come seeking healing and restoration.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

We come seeking shelter and safety.

Deliver me, O God, O God of salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud your deliverance.

We come now in worship for all that God has done and continues to do.

-adapted from Psalm 51:10-14

Opening Prayer

You, O God, are the Great Shepherd of our lives. We turn to you for guidance, for wisdom, for protection, for the very air we breathe. Enter into this time we pray, and guide us through your word. Reveal to us those gifts and abilities that we have, that you have known of all along. Work in and through us. We offer this and all our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our companion on the way. AMEN

Hymn: God, We Praise you for the morning VU 415

1 God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.

2 God, we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.

3 God, we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.

4 God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.

5 God, we praise you for the Saviour,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

6 Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days!

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

We know that we don't see the world in the way that you do, O God. We know that we don't see each other the way that you do. We often rely on, "what you see is what you get," never looking past the surface. We rely on what "looks" strong, on what "looks" great, rarely tapping the depths of inner strength and inner greatness of those around us. We want to see the way that you see, O God, to see with your eyes the wonders of creation, and the gifts of your people. Forgive us for ignoring so much of what you have to show us. Forgive us for seeing only what we want to see. Inspire us to open our hearts to your word and your world. We pray in the name of the one who knows us best, Jesus Christ. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

In coming to God with all our brokenness we find opportunity for wholeness. In offering up our faults and wounds to God, we find hope for healing. God sees something in us, and little by little draws that out, but first we need to allow our true selves to surface. Let us open ourselves to God's unconditional love. Amen

Theme Conversation

What does God see?

Sung Prayer of Illumination

Listen God is Calling

MV 97

**Listen, listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness,
comfort, and joy.**

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made

him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.'

Message

The Choosing and the Chosen

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

Are you a Shepherd

MV 126

- 1 Are you a shepherd, good shepherd who leads us
safely through danger, while calming our fears?
Are you a father who shelters and feeds us,
shares in our laughter and wipes away tears?**

Refrain

**Yes, you are shepherd, parent and teacher,
but you are greater than all that we know.
Holy and living, loving and giving,
God, you are with us wherever we go.**

- 2 Are you a mother, good mother who bears us,
comforts, protects us and helps us to rest?
Are you a teacher who daily prepares us,
challenging students to offer their best? R**
- 3 Great, gentle shepherd, forever beside us,
lead all you children in paths that are right.
Great, loving parent, wise teacher, you guide us.
We want to love you and bring you delight. R**

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/ 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: Grant us God 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):

You, O God, know our gifts better than we do. And so, we offer our whole selves to you as we strive to be shepherd, caretakers, stewards of this gift of creation. Bless us and what we do in this time and place and beyond as we build your kingdom together. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ our Lord. AMEN

Prayers for Ourselves and Others & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision VU 642

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.**
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.**
- 3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.**
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

Samuel left his fear and anointed David,

David left his fears and led God's people.

God's people left their fears, and did amazing things.

**We leave this worship, empowered to leave behind our fear and live into the blessing
God has given us.**

Benediction

Now go with the love of God in your hearts, the Peace of Christ in your hand, and the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the good news you've heard this day. AMEN

Choral Closing: Peace be with you MV 215
**Peace be with you, peace forever,
peace be with you my friends.
Till we meet again, may God be with you.
Peace, peace, peace.**

Closing Music Shout to the North - Martin Smith