

# Quispamsis United Church

October 29, 2023 - 22nd Sunday After Pentecost  
Reformation Sunday

**Liturgical Colour:** Green

**Presider:** Rev Ian Manson

**Director of Music:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Ruth Buckley

**Centering Reflection:** "About every five hundred years the Church feels compelled to hold a giant rummage sale. And... we are living in and through one of these five-hundred-year sales."

Phyllis A. Tickle

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## GATHERING TOGETHER

Opening Music (*Hymne - Gordon Young*) & Time of Prayer and Candle Lighting

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Lighting of Affirm Candle & Acknowledgment of Territories

Celebrations

Introit:

Sing Your Joy

VU 253

**Sing your joy, proclaim God's glory!**

**Rise and sing the morning has come!**

**Bless our God and praise all creation;**

**Song of the earth and light from heaven:**

**God is alive! O praise our God!**

**Call to Worship (Responsive):**

God invites us to renew and refresh ourselves in this place and at this time.

**God offers us the vision of life as it was meant to be, and encourages us to embrace it.**

God calls us be a reforming people who hear the gospel and bear witness to it in new and faithful ways.

**Let us ask God to touch our hearts and transform our lives anew this day. Let us worship God.**

**Prayer of Approach (Unison)**

**Gracious God, we ask your blessing on all those who serve you in these changing times.  
Fill your people with your wisdom, your power, your peace.  
Where there is fear, bestow strength and boldness.  
Where there is uncertainty, help new visions to arise.  
Where there is confusion, grant clarity.  
Where there is discouragement and fatigue, bring hope.  
Transform our hearts, minds and spirits  
so we may be reshaped and reformed in faithful and loving ways.**

**Opening Hymn:**

**Oh a Song Must Rise**

**MV 142**

***Refrain***

***Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend  
Oh a song must rise once again (again)  
Singing out God's praises and glory,  
the faithful voices blend,  
Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend.***

**From the mountains to the valleys,  
from the desert to the sea,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the voices of our leaders,  
the voice of you and me,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R**

**From poverty and riches,  
from the voice of young and old,  
a song must rise once again. (again)  
From the free and the imprisoned,  
the timid and the bold,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend. R**

**From ev'ry house of worship,  
in ev'ry faith and tongue,  
a song must rise once again.  
From the villages and cities  
a new song must be sung,  
a song must rise for the spirit to descend.**

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**Creator God, we are well aware that we do not always live as you intend us to live.  
We frequently forget to love you, love ourselves, and love our neighbour.  
We often cling to what is known and familiar,  
and struggle to tackle challenges that we know we have to face.  
Bless us anew with your Spirit,  
forgive our shortcomings,  
and guide our efforts to re-form ourselves in ways that are pleasing to you.**

*(Silent Contemplation)*

### **Words of Assurance**

#### **A Time for All Ages**

### **Prayer of Illumination (Unison)**

**O God, by your gifts of Word and Spirit, open our minds to greater understanding, our hearts to deeper love, and our wills to eager service, through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.**

**Reading:** Matthew 22: 34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet' " ?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

### **Sung Response to Scripture**

VU 956

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

**Jammers**

What a Friend

**Message**

“Continuing the Reformation”

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**Hymn:**

My Love Colours Outside the Lines

MV 138

**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.**

*Refrain*

*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.*

**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. R**

**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. R**

**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.**

## Life and Work of the Church

### Sharing of Gifts and Talents

**Offertory Dedication Hymn:** We Praise You, O God VU 218

**With voices united our praises we offer,  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

### Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

**Generous God, you continue to guide us on our way, and we are grateful for all your mercies. Bless our gifts and make them fruitful so that your grace and love will be shared fully and faithfully, here and around the world. Amen.**

**Jammers**            I Go To The Rock

### Sung Invocation to the Prayers of the People:

O God Hear our Prayer VU 948 (2X)  
**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer:  
When I call answer me.  
O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer:  
Come and listen to me.**

### Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

#### SENDING FORTH

**Closing Hymn:** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah VU 651

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.**

**Commissioning (Responsive):**

Let us go from here with love for God filling our hearts.

**Let us remember those who have gone before us, and shown us the way.**

Let us show love to each neighbour or stranger we meet in the week ahead.

**Let us do our part to bring justice and healing to the world.**

**Benediction**

**Choral Closing:**

**Go Now in Peace  
Go now in peace, go now in peace.  
May the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere  
You may go.**

VU 964 (2x)

**Closing Music**

March - B. Yarnold