

Quispamsis United Church

October 9th, 2022 - Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Director of Music: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Diane Tonge

Centering Passage: *'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil.*

-Matt 5:17

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle:

We light this candle as a reminder of the ways that Christ, the Word of God made flesh, guides us through our lives. As the light scatters the darkness, the word opens us up to new paths and new hopes. May we find our way together in the light of Christ this day.

Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Opening Music We Praise Thee, O God - Healey Willan

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)

Come on this day set aside for worship and praise.

We come with grateful hearts, yet anxious minds.

Come to remember and be still. For it is in these sacred, gratitude-filled moments that we find answers.

We come longing for wisdom and peace to fill our spirits.

As we worship God together, let us be open to receiving all the gifts of God. Let us be ready to respond to God's calls to service.

Let us lift our hearts in praise!

Opening Prayer

Holy Creator, you spoke everything into being, and infused it with your Holy breath. You set your people on a journey through this world, and have broken into our lives to give us wisdom and a way that we might travel together to your embrace. As we prepare ourselves to hear your word, open our hearts to be transformed by your presence. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ, our teacher and our guide. AMEN

Hymn:

Come you Thankful People Come
**Come, you thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest-home!
All is safely gathered in,
safe before the storms begin;
God, our maker, does provide
for our needs to be supplied:
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest-home!**

VU 516

**All the world is God's own field,
harvests for God's praise to yield;
wheat and weeds together sown,
here for joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear:
Harvest-giver, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For our God, one day, shall come,
and shall take this harvest home,
from the field shall in that day
all offences purge away;
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the weeds to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.**

**Even so, God, quickly come
to your final harvest-home!
Gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin;
there for ever purified,
in your presence to abide:
come, with all your angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home.**

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Generous God, there is so much in our lives for which we can give thanks, but we often forget. There is abundance in our lives, but we end up noticing what we don't have. There are opportunities all around us to be your priestly people, yet we let those moments pass without acting. Open our hearts to your grace and your presence which calls us to see and respond in new ways. We offer this and all our prayers in the name of Christ, our light and our way. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

If our scriptures tell us anything about God, it is that God never gives up on us, and continuously reaches into our lives and offers us new ways from brokenness to wholeness. Thanks be to God for such a love as this!

Theme Conversation

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Guide us, O Great Shepherd, through your Word as you guide us through life. Give us the insight to see ourselves in the story, but also the wisdom to know how to grow from the story. Inspire us. Encourage us. Empower us. This we pray in the name of Christ, our teacher. AMEN

Reading: Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.'

So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him.

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

**May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. 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/ 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:

For all Your Goodness
**For all your goodness God,
we give you thanks,
Thanks for the food we eat
and for the friends we meet,
And each new day we greet,
we give you thanks.**

VU 549

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

You, O God, gift us with every moment and invite us to live fully into them. We are blessed by what you have given us and so we give back what is already yours. Bless us and these gifts for the building up of the Kingdom of Love and Peace. This we ask in the strong name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

In you there is a Refuge

MV 84

**In you there is a refuge, in you we find our peace.
When all we know is chaos may our trust in you increase.
In you there is a silence, in you our minds are clear.
When all we hear is discord may your quiet draw us near.**

**In you there is a vision, in you we learn to dream.
When all we see is desert may you be our living stream.
In you there is a future, in you we find our way.
When Hope Has shed its brightness may you show us a new day.**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive)

God is faithful and God is good. Surrounded by the love and care of God let us go now,

**We go with thanksgiving ringing in our hearts,
We go with thanksgiving rising to our lips,
We go with thanksgiving flowing from us to the world!**

Benediction

Go now with the love of God in your heart, 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. 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

Now Thank We All Our God - Georg Friedrich Kaufmann