

# Quispamsis United Church

September 4th, 2022 - Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Liturgical Colour:** Green

**Presider:** Rev. Richard Bowley

**Director of Music:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Barb McBean

*\*Though scripture and music will change from week to week, the order of service will remain the same for the most part from August 14th - September 4th\**

*\*All Prayers for this service have been adapted from various parts of the Book of Ruth\**

**Centering Passage:** *And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'*

-Luke 1:46-55

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## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle to symbolize the light of Christ that burns within us. We cannot be parted from that light because it is a part of us. It is our guide on the way. It is our hope when the world around us grows dark. Let us follow this light on a journey through word and worship.

### Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

### Acknowledgement of Territories

### Dedicate A Service

Today's Service is being dedicated by Marilyn & Don Robertson who are celebrating their 51st Anniversary TODAY!

### Celebrations & Announcements

**Opening Music**     Prelude on “Nicaea” - Lani Smith

**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):**

Here in this place, there are no foreigners, no come-from-aways, no strangers

**for all are welcome in this holy space, this sacred time.**

Here in this worship, in this community, there is only acceptance,

**for love is the language of faith.**

Here in our lives, there are no divisions,

**for God dwells in each of us.**

Come, let us worship in unity and love.

**Opening Prayer**

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of family, whether it is family by blood or by deed, by faith or by circumstance. You bless our lives with those who support and encourage us. You call on us to offer that same strength to others. Be with us this day as we hear the story of your daughter, Ruth. In her we see examples of how to care for one another. In her, we see ourselves. Open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to what you can teach us through her story. We offer this prayer in the name of Christ, our companion on the way. AMEN

**Hymn:**

Great is thy Faithfulness

VU 288

**Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;**

**There is no shadow of turning with thee;**

**Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;**

**As thou hast been thou forever wilt be. R**

**Refrain**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see.**

**All I have needed thy hand hath provided**

**Great is thy faithfulness, ever to me.**

**Summer and winter and springtime and harvest**

**Sun moon and stars in the courses above**

**Join with all nature in manifold witness**

**To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. R**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow  
Wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. R**

### **LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

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

**God of compassion, of community, of connection, we come to you because our lives are filled with broken relationships. We admit that there are times when we could have offered love, but didn't because we were afraid that it would hurt too much. We could have mended bridges of trust, but didn't because we got used to holding a grudge. We could have given of ourselves to lift up another who has fallen, but didn't because we were afraid it would cost too much. Forgive us for holding back. Forgive us the pain we have caused, or allowed because of our action or inaction. Forgive us, yes, but redirect us so that we might respond as Ruth did, with love and without fear. Work in us, and remind us of the boundless nature of love and grace. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of Christ, our guide. AMEN**

#### **Assurance of God's Love (Responsive)::**

Ruth shows us the power of love. She would not - could not - leave Naomi. God's love for us is even stronger, and God clings to us when we might lose our way.

**Thanks be to God for such a love as this.**

#### **Theme Conversation**

#### **Illumination Verse:**

There is Room for All (X2)

MV 62

**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;  
there is room for all sheltered in God's love.**

**And I rejoice and sing, "My Refuge and my rock, in whom I trust."**

**There is room for all, there is room for all.**

#### **Reading: Ruth 4:1-22**

No sooner had Boaz gone up to the gate and sat down there than the next-of-kin, of whom Boaz had spoken, came passing by. So, Boaz said, 'Come over, friend; sit down here.' And he went over and sat down. Then Boaz took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, 'Sit down here'; so they sat down. He then said to the next-of-kin, 'Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our kinsman Elimelech. So, I thought I would tell you of it, and say: Buy it in the presence of those sitting here, and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not, tell me, so that I may know; for there is no one prior to you to redeem it, and I come after you.' So, he said, 'I will redeem it.' Then Boaz said, 'The day you acquire the field from the hand of Naomi, you are also acquiring Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead man, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance.' At

this, the next-of-kin said, 'I cannot redeem it for myself without damaging my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.'

Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, one party took off a sandal and gave it to the other; this was the manner of attesting in Israel. So, when the next-of-kin said to Boaz, 'Acquire it for yourself', he took off his sandal. Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, 'Today you are witnesses that I have acquired from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, to be my wife, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance, in order that the name of the dead may not be cut off from his kindred and from the gate of his native place; today you are witnesses.' Then all the people who were at the gate, along with the elders, said, 'We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you produce children in Ephrathah and bestow a name in Bethlehem; and, through the children that the Lord will give you by this young woman, may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.'

So, Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, 'Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.' Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighbourhood gave him a name, saying, 'A son has been born to Naomi.' They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Now these are the descendants of Perez: Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron of Ram, Ram of Amminadab, Amminadab of Nahshon, Nahshon of Salmon, Salmon of Boaz, Boaz of Obed, Obed of Jesse, and Jesse of David.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

Bounty: From Famine to Abundance

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

**Hymn:**

It's A Song of Praise

MV 30

**It's a song of praise to the Maker  
The thrush sings high in the tree  
It's a song of praise to the Maker  
The grey whale sings in the sea. R**

**Refrain:**  
**And by the Spirit You and I**  
**Can join our voice to the holy cry**  
**And sing, sing, sing To the Maker too.**

**It's a call of Life to the Giver**  
**The waves and waterfalls roar**  
**It's a call of Life to the Giver**  
**When high tides break on the shore. R**

**It's a hymn of love to the Lover**  
**The bumblebees sing along**  
**It's a hymn of love to the Lover**  
**The summer breeze joins the song. R**

**It's a chorus of all creation**  
**It's sung by all living things**  
**It's the chorus of all creation**  
**A song the universe sings. 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](mailto: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/ 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:**

We Give You But Your Own  
**We give you but your own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone,  
we give it gratefully**

VU 542

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

**We offer to you, O God, all that we are. We offer our heart; fill it with your love. We offer our arms; embrace a world in need of healing. We offer our gifts; use them to build your kingdom. Bless all that we are and all that we bring. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of our brother and companion on the way, Jesus Christ. AMEN**

**Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:**

Let All Things Now Living  
**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God our creator triumphantly raise.  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished  
As forward we travel from light into light.**

VU 242

**By law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a Song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"**

**SENDING FORTH**

**Commissioning & Benediction (Responsive):**

Though we part ways, we carry with us a call to embrace a world in need.

**We will walk this road with those whom God sends our way.**

**Their pain will be our pain;**

**their joy, our joy.**

As you have been blessed, go now and be a blessing to others.

**We live and serve in devotion to God,  
in partnership with Christ,  
inspired by the Holy Spirit.**

Go now in peace.

**Choral Closing:**

Wherever You May Go (vs 2)

MV 216

**Refrain:**

**Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
And your people shall be my people too.**

**Wherever you may go, I will follow:  
For I will be faithful, loyal and true.**

**From beginning to the end  
I will always be your friend,  
When you need me, I'll be there,  
You can trust my faithful care. R**

**Closing Music**

Trumpet Tune in G - John S. Dixon