

Quispamsis United Church

January 9th, 2022 - First Sunday After Epiphany

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Musician: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Marilyn Robertson

Centering Passage: *You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart. The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.*

-Psalm 104:14-16

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle, a light that shines in our lives, guiding us, inspiring us, revealing who we truly are. We will follow this light into worship and beyond.

Opening Music

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light - 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):

We continue our journey into this new year,

and our path leads back to this time, and to the space that we create together.

Here, we see wonders.

Here, we deepen our faith.

Let us be open to what God is revealing to us.

Let us share what God is revealing in us.

Let us worship together.

Opening Prayer

Holy God, you rejoice with us when we celebrate our relationships. In a time where maintaining these relationships can be difficult, we pray that you encourage and inspire us to reach out, to make connections, and remind those that we love, just how important they are to us. When Jesus turned water into wine, he honoured his hosts. Teach us to honour our relationships as Christ did, to do what we can to support and care for each other. It is in his name that we pray this day. AMEN

Hymn: Will you come and see the light VU 96 (Vs 1, 2 & 5)

1 Will you come and see the light from the stable door?

It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.

It will be your guiding star,

it will show you who you are;

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

2 Will you step into the light that can free the slave?

It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.

By the pyramids of greed

there's a longing to be freed;

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

5 Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?

In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,

and the darkness all about

is too dim to put it out:

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Theme Conversation

Revealing Christ

Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness (Responsive):

Embracing God,

Jesus shows us the ways that we fall short. He also provides a way out of the holes we dig ourselves into. Forgive our sins and embrace us in our brokenness. Show us how to make better choices, be better friends, parents, kids, partners, and coworkers. Let Christ's light shine through us, We offer this in all our prayers in Jesus name. AMEN

Through Christ, God's forgiveness is complete, and we are reaffirmed as created in God's image. Walk free of guilt and shame. All of us are made new. Thanks be to God. AMEN

Reaffirmation of Faith (Unison):

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God.

Reading: John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Anthem My God is Real Raise the Roof! CD

Message Making a First Impression

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: Take my Life and Let it Be VU 506 (Vs 1, 2 & 5)

- 1 Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, all for thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

- 2 Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.**

- 5 Take my love: and I will pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.**

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: For the Gift of Creation VU 538

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Loving Lord, you provide for all our needs, both the important ones and the ones we may take for granted. May we never doubt that each act of kindness is blessed with your grace and received with thanksgiving. Pour your blessings upon all our offerings, and all those who give them, that we may be joined to one another in love. This we pray in the name of Christ our brother. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

Love Divine

VU 333

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

The worship has ended.

Now service begins.

Go into the world, and see the wonders of God's hands.

We will go and share our faith with other seekers.

Benediction

Now go inspired by God, partnered with Christ, and guided by the Holy Spirit, to love a world that God so loves.

Choral Closing:

Behold, Behold

MV 115

**Behold! Behold! I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold! Behold! I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way!**

Closing Music

The Star Proclaims the King is Here - J.C. Bach