

# Quispamsis United Church

May 1st, 2022 - Third Sunday of Easter

**Liturgical Colour:** White

**Presider:** Rev. Richard Bowley

**Musician:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Luke Murphy

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**Centering Passage:** *'No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.*

-Matthew 6:24

## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Welcome

### Acknowledgement of Territories

### Signs of Spring

### Celebrations & Announcements

### Dedicate a Service

Today's dedication is from the Alward Family and it is to celebrate a very special Birthday. Happy 13th Birthday to Ethan Alward. (April 30th)

### Lighting the Christ Candle

This candle is but a dim reflection of the light of Christ. It shines here to show us the strength of one flame, to inspire our imagination of Christ's light shining infinitely brighter before us. A light like that can change us, transform us. May that light shine within us and show us the way.

**Opening Music**    O, How I Love Jesus - American Melody arr. by Lloyd Larson

### 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 from the roads of your lives,

**on the way from where we were to where we think we are going.**

Come at the invitation of Christ himself,

**to find a new way, to find our true selves.**

Come and gather around the word that guides us,

**through our worship and our lives.**

## **Opening Prayer**

God of Transformation and New Life, in the resurrection of your son, you show us that the edges of this world of our very lives are beyond what we ever thought or imagined. Guide us to a deeper understanding of your word and the impact of your son on our lives so that we can reach our full potential in your grace. Encourage us. Inspire us. Empower us as we strive to follow in your way. We offer this and all our prayers in the name of your Risen Son, Jesus Christ. AMEN

## **Hymn:**

I can feel you near me God

MV 48

**I can feel you near me God I can feel you near  
Yes I know you're with me God I feel you here  
I can feel you near me God I can feel you near  
Yes I know you're with me God Heaven is here.**

### **Refrain:**

**And I'll jump for joy I'm singing Alleluia  
Jump for joy for you  
I will jump for joy I'm singing Alleluia  
Jump for joy for you.**

**I can feel you loving me yes I know you care  
God I know you're loving me always everywhere  
I can feel you loving me yes I know you care  
God I know you're loving me I know you're there. R**

## **LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

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

**God of the way, when you meet us on the road, we are changed. You see in us something that we didn't even know was there. You see in us something that we have ignored. You see in us a part of your kingdom and so you come to us, you call to us, you break into our lives. Forgive us those times where we have run from you, hidden from you, closed ourselves to your call. Forgive us when we have used the gifts that you have given us to work against the building up of the kingdom. Meet us on the road and guide us again on the way. We offer this and all our prayers in the name of the Risen Christ. AMEN**

### **Assurance of God's Love:**

God sees something in us. God knows something about us. Even when we feel too small, or like we have nothing to bring, even when we are afraid, God seeks us out and loves us to wholeness. Thanks be to God for such a love as this.

## Theme Conversation

### Prayer of Illumination (Unison):

**Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Reading: Acts 9:1-19a

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Message

Instruments of Christ & Forgiveness

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

Take my Life

VU 506

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

**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.**

**Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee;  
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.**

**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](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/ 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/ if you come for in-person worship, there is a plate as you enter the church where you can place your offering.

5/ mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

**Offertory Dedication Hymn:**

I'm Gonna Shout

MV 183 (new words) X2

**I'm gonna give, give, give of myself for Jesus, for Jesus.  
I'm gonna give, give, give of myself to serve the risen one!**

**For whatever life might throw my way**

**I'll serve you each and everyday!**

**With all I am and all I'll ever be!**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

**Bless all that we bring before you this day, O God. Whether it is gifts of our labour, gifts of our time, or the gift of our very selves. We offer it all to you, O God, and ask that you use them and us for the work of serving your people and building your kingdom of peace and hope. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ. AMEN**

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

VU 960

**Hymn:**

The Church's one foundation

VU 331 *QUC Recording*

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ the Lord.**

**We are his new creation by water and the word.**

**From heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be  
his living servant people, by his own death set free.**

**Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
one charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.**

**One holy name professing and at one table fed,  
to one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.**

**Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,  
we wait the consummation of peace forevermore:  
till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**We now on earth have union with God, the Three in One,  
and share through faith communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.**

**SENDING FORTH**

**Commissioning (Responsive):**

Go from this time of worship,

**led by the Spirit we will go to serve the world.**

Go, invited by Christ himself,

**on a journey just begun to offer who we are and what we bring.**

Go back to lives made new,  
**with a new destination, with a message of love to share.**

### **Benediction**

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

**Choral Closing:**            We Shall go out with Hope of Resurrection VU 586 (vs 1) *QUC Recording*  
                                      **We shall go out with hope of resurrection;**  
                                      **we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;**  
                                      **we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;**  
                                      **tales of a love that will not let us go.**  
                                      **We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;**  
                                      **we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed;**  
                                      **we'll weave a cloth of all the world united**  
                                      **within the vision of new life in Christ.**

**Closing Music**        March - Hewitt/Spong