

# Quispamsis United Church

October 2nd, 2022 - Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Liturgical Colour: Green**

**Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley**

**Director of Music: Stephen Alexander**

**Reader: Sherry Kiervin**

**Centering Passage:** Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

-Matthew 2:13-15

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## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Lighting the Christ Candle

Often, we need help finding our way. We light this candle, a symbol of Christ's own light in our lives, so that the path of our faith and our lives may be illuminated. May this flame part the darkness that so often obscures our way.

### Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Opening Music    Panic Angelicus - César Franck

### 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):

The presence of the Holy be your guide.

**May it move with you as well.**

Lift hearts that have been drowned by anger and fears.

**We lift them up to the Shepherd of our way.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**Hymn:**

Your Hand O God has Guided

VU 274

Your hand, O God, has guided your flock from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written, full clear, on every page.  
Our forebears owned your goodness, and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness: one church, one faith, one Lord.

Your heralds brought glad tidings to greatest as to least;  
they bade them rise, and hasten to share the heavenly feast.  
And this was all their teaching, in every deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming: one church, one faith, one Lord.

Through many days of darkness, through many scenes of strife,  
the faithful few fought bravely to guard your people's life.  
Their gospel of redemption, sin pardoned, earth restored,  
was all in this enfolded: one church, one faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless? Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?  
Shall we evade the conflict and cast away our crown?  
Not so: in God's deep counsels some better thing is stored;  
we will maintain, unflinching, one church, one faith, one Lord.

Your mercy will not fail us, nor leave your work undone;  
with your right hand to help us, the victory shall be won;  
and then, by earth and heaven, your name shall be adored,  
and this shall be our anthem: one church, one faith, one Lord.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Holy God of wind and wave, your Holy Presence renews the face of the earth and warms the hearts of your people. We give you thanks for your gifts of encouragement: the whispers on the winding way; light that scatters darkness; the feeling of hope that is so strong that waves of despair cannot overcome it. And so it is that we join with every voice and tongue on earth and in the heavens to give you praise:

### **Song of Creation:**

MV 203

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.  
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.  
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.  
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

## LISTENING FOR TRUTH

### **Remembering the Meal (Responsive):**

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

**he shared food with followers and friends,**

with saints and sinners,

**with crowds of thousands on the hillside,**

and a few friends in an upper room.

**On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.**

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

**"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."**

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

**"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."**

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

**In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.**

Shepherding God, we rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, guide on our way and voice in our hearts, and we remember Christ's life and death, proclaiming his resurrection. We wait in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

### **Affirmation of Memory and Hope:**

MV 204

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

### **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 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29**

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed towards the people, and they said, 'What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?' So he had his chariot made ready, and took his army with him; he took six hundred picked chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So, Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** Eat This Bread and Never Hunger (Senior Choir)

**Message** What Lies Before Us

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

**Hymn:** Lead on O Cloud of Presence VU 421  
**Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come,  
in wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.  
Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow.  
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.**

**Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,  
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.  
We are not lost, though wandering, for by your light we come,  
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.**

**Lead on O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,  
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.  
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land  
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.**

### **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:**

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

### **Instruction and Invitation**

### **Blessing What We Bring (Responsive)**

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

**Make us, while many, one.**

**Make us, though broken, whole.**

**Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

**Come, Holy Spirit, come guide us in our work as we strive to be builders of the kingdom.**

**AMEN**

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

#### **Great Amen**

MV 205

**Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!**

**Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!**

#### **Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup:**

This is the body of Christ, bread for the journey, nourishment for our souls.

This is the blood of Christ, the cup of promise, poured out for all.

#### **Sharing the Bread and the Cup (Responsive):**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Come now for all has been made ready.

***\*\*\*Those who wish may come forward to receive their bread and cup.***

***Please take it with you back to your seats.***

***Once all have their elements, we will eat and drink together as a community of faith and love\*\*\****

#### **Hymn:**

Sent forth By God's Blessing

VU 481

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,**

**The people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

**The supper ended. Oh, now be extended**

**The fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching,**

**Shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us**

**To work for God's kingdom and answer its call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, with Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
Give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.**

### **SENDING FORTH**

#### **Commissioning (Responsive)**

The world is filled with road blocks, detours, and obstacles of every kind.

**If we live in fear we stand still, or try to go back.**

**If we live in hope, there is always a way forward.**

May we live in hope, and by God's grace,

**this day, and all our days.**

#### **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**

Fuga - J.S.Bach