

# Quispamsis United Church

September 25th, 2022 - Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Liturgical Colour:** Green

**Presider:** Layton Peck

**Director of Music:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Wendy Stewart

**Centering Passage:** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'*

*-Matthew 28:19-20*

---

## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbol of the light of Christ, which cannot be held back by distance, emblematic of the light which shines in and through each one of us, no matter where we are.

### Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

**Opening Music**    I Need Thee Every Hour - Robert Lowry arr. DeCou

### 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 have come from different places to worship God.

**We have brought our own cultural heritages.**

We have gathered to seek God's concern.

**We have come together to become peacemakers and community builders.**

We open ourselves to God's wisdom.

**We open ourselves to the Holy Spirit.**

Come, let us celebrate God's presence among us.

## **Opening Prayer**

God of life,

**you sustain us through the harmonious work of heaven, earth, and human beings.**

**You enrich community woven by different cultures and traditions.**

**Today we come together to celebrate our rich shared heritage,**

**And in so doing remember who we are.**

**Enhance our joy of journeying together for the common good.**

**In the name of Jesus, our companion, we pray. Amen.**

**Hymn:**

**We are One**

**VU 402**

**We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.**

**We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.**

**We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.**

**We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.**

**We are one as we feast,  
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;  
in the bread and the wine  
there's a sense of love divine.**

**We are one as we come,  
as we feed, we are fed;  
and we feel God's refreshing grace  
as we meet at table in this place.**

**We are one as we hear,  
as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive  
there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave,  
as we love, we are loved;  
and we seek justice in God's ways  
as we move together from this place.**

### **LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

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

**Holy One, Creator of all that is, seen and unseen, of story and of song, of heartbeat and of tears of bodies, souls, voices and all relations: you are the God of all truth and the way of all reconciliation. Uphold with your love and compassion all who open their lives in the sacred sharing of their stories. Spirit breathe in us the grace to trust in your loving forgiveness, strengthen us so that we may face our histories with courage; touch us through the holy gift of story that moves among us. Such that those who speak, and those who listen may behold your own redeeming presence; guide us with holy wisdom to enter through the gates of remorse that our feet may walk gently and firmly in your way of justice and healing. Amen.**

*Adapted from the Anglican Church of Canada*

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

#### **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:           Genesis 39:1-23**

Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. His master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. So Joseph found favour in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's

sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field. So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge; and, with him there, he had no concern for anything but the food that he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, 'Lie with me.' But he refused and said to his master's wife, 'Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?' And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, she caught hold of his garment, saying, 'Lie with me!' But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside. When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, she called out to the members of her household and said to them, 'See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice; and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside.' Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, and she told him the same story, saying, 'The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me; but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me, and fled outside.'

When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, 'This is the way your servant treated me', he became enraged. And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison. But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favour in the sight of the chief jailer. The chief jailer committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there, he was the one who did it. The chief jailer paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care, because the Lord was with him; and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music (anthem):** Greta & Layton Peck

**Message** "Rice is Heaven"

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

God of Freedom, God of Justice

VU 700

God of freedom, God of justice,  
you whose love is strong as death,  
you who saw the dark of prison,  
you who knew the price of faith:  
touch our world of sad oppression  
with your Spirit's healing breath.

Rid the earth of torture's terror,  
you whose hands were nailed to wood;  
hear the cries of pain and protest,  
you who shed the tears and blood:  
move in us the power of pity  
restless for the common good.

Make in us a captive conscience  
quick to hear, to act, to plead;  
make us truly sisters, brothers  
of whatever race or creed:  
teach us to be fully human,  
open to each other's need.

### 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:**

Grant us God

VU 540

**Grant us God the grace of giving  
with a spirit large and free.  
That ourselves and all our living,  
we may offer faithfully.**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

Gracious and holy God,  
accept what we offer today:  
our cheques and cash, our faltering steps,  
our brokenness, our leftovers,  
our hope, our risking, our lives.  
Bless and transform all that we offer  
and all that we hold back,  
that new life may be ours,  
to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. Amen

*(Source: Jeff Shrowder)*

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

**Hymn:**

Here I am Lord

VU 509

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

***Refrain:***

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? R

## SENDING FORTH

### Commissioning (Responsive):

We are different but we are connected as a family of God;

**We go with God, who calls us to love and serve others.**

We are to called to build our community;

**We go with God who calls us to seek justice and resist evil.**

We go into the world with respect in Creation;

**We go into the world to celebrate God's presence.**

Benediction

Choral Closing:

Go To The World  
**Go to the world!**  
Go as the ones I send,  
For I am with you  
till the age shall end,  
When all the hosts  
of glory cry 'Amen!'  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

VU 420 (vs 4)

Closing Music

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above - James Nares arr. DeCou