

Quispamsis United Church

August 7, 2022 – Ninth Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Colour: Green

Presider: Layton Peck

Reader: Diane Tonge

Centering Passage: “the eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemies before you”

- Deuteronomy 33: 27

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle to remind us that Christ is present with us, wherever we are. Christ is the joy that lights our souls and makes us whole, even if we are broken. The light of Christ will reignite us today and every day.

Opening Music

Where Two or Three Are Gathered

MV – 14

Where Two or Three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there,

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):

In Psalm 65:8 says, ‘The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.’

Today another opportunity has dawned and we have the joy to worship our Savior today. He is calling each one of us to enter into worship with him. Leave behind the baggage and just enter into His presence today.”

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 Asian Heritage Month
in remembering who we are.
Enhance our joy of journeying together for the common good.
In the name of Jesus, our companion,
we pray. Amen.

Hymn:

Deep In Our Hearts

MV – 154

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Theme Conversation

Prayer for Reconciliation:

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. Breathe in us the grace to trust in your loving forgiveness, that we may face our histories with the courage of open minds and hearts; touch us through the holy gift of story 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 another's moccasins on the way of justice and healing. Amen.

From the Anglican Church of Canada

Assurance of God's Love:

For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5: 6-8 (KJV)

Sung Assurance:**Don't Be Afraid****MV 90**

**Don't be afraid, my love is stronger
My love is stronger than your fear
Don't be afraid, my love is stronger
And I have promised to be always near.**

Prayer of Illumination:

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: 1 Peter 5: 1 – 14

He'll Promote You at the Right Time

I have a special concern for you church leaders. I know what it's like to be a leader, in on Christ's sufferings as well as the coming glory. Here's my concern: that you care for God's flock with all the diligence of a shepherd. Not because you have to, but because you want to please God. Not calculating what you can get out of it, but acting spontaneously. Not bossily telling others what to do, but tenderly showing them the way. When God, who is the best shepherd of all, comes out in the open with his rule, he'll see that you've done it right and commend you lavishly. And you who are younger must follow your leaders. But all of you, leaders and followers alike, are to be down to earth with each other, for— God has had it with the proud, but takes delight in just plain people. So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you. Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you

napping. Keep your guard up. You're not the only ones plunged into these hard times. It's the same with Christians all over the world. So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God who has great plans for us in Christ—eternal and glorious plans they are!—will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, he does. I'm sending this brief letter to you by Silas, a most dependable brother. I have the highest regard for him. I've written as urgently and accurately as I know how. This is God's generous truth; embrace it with both arms! The church in exile here with me—but not for a moment forgotten by God—wants to be remembered to you. Mark, who is like a son to me, says hello. Give holy hugs all around! Peace to you—to all who walk in Christ's ways.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: Lord

Prepare Me To Be A Sanctuary (X2)
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living,
sanctuary for you

MV 18

Message

The Suffering Won't Last Forever

Offering Our Gifts: “Folks, today we have the opportunity to still be a part of supporting the ministry of Quispamsis United and the broader United Church of Canada and Mission and Service efforts around the globe. If you want to give today you can do so in one of the following ways.”

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/ 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: 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:

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning,
Safe and secure from all alarms;

**Leaning, leaning,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. R.**

**What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. R.**

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Benediction – Gabriel's Blessing (*L. Peck used with permission*)