

**Quispamsis United Church**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**National United Church Pride Sunday**

*Presiders: Affirming Committee-Ruth, John, Heather, Sue, Leslie, Cindy*

*Guest Speaker: Stuart Kearney*

*Music Director: Stephen Alexander*

*Hymn Leaders: Sue and Ruth, Jammers Band*

*Reader: Marilyn Robertson*

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**Centering Passage: Hebrews 3:1-4 NIV**

*Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.*

**Welcome**

**Acknowledgement of Territories**

**Celebrations & Announcements**

**GATHERING TOGETHER**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this candle so it may be like a lighthouse to all who are seeking to find hope and safe harbor here.

**Prelude**      He's Got the Whole World in His Hands - Traditional Spiritual arr. by Phillip Keveren

**Greeting (Responsive):**

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 (Unison): Ruth**

**Teaching God, as we gather to worship, open our minds to your intentions for us.**

**Guide us to the path you wish us to follow. Help us to remember that you love us all.**

**Fill us with your spirit. In Jesus name we pray**

**Amen**

**Prayer of Approach (Unison) *Ruth***

**Loving God, open our hearts. Help us to remember we are all children of God and created in your image. Show us how to hold each other up in times of difficulty and rejoice together in your love. We are not all the same, but our differences can create something that is better than anything we could ever imagine. Help us not to put up boundaries or exclude people but be a place where all can come to worship and learn more about your love for us all. This is your house, let us welcome everyone who wishes to know you. Amen**

**Hymn: Come in, Come in and Sit Down - VU #395**

**Refrain:**

*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

- 1** You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. R
  
- 2** God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. R
  
- 3** There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. R
  
- 4** There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. R

**Theme Conversation:** Heather Haché

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison): Sue**

**Leader.** Jesus our Teacher,

You met people who lived on the edges and drew them in,

You ate with outcasts,

You healed the vulnerable and untouchable.

You welcomed the stranger.

Jesus' lover of our souls, forgive us for gravitating to people like us.

Forgive us for the discomfort of not knowing what to say or do when encountering differences.

**All: Turn our faces towards you,  
to lead people to you as you have led us,  
to illuminate and reflect your love as lighthouses do,  
to guide people home.**

**In your name we pray Amen**

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

People of God you are created in God's image. Be reassured that you are welcome to seek and be accepted by God as all of who you are, not in spite of who you are. Receive God's love and grace and be at peace. Amen

### **Today's Scripture:** Ephesians 1:1-14 NIV

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to

sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have

redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the

mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth

under Christ.

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to

put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in

Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our

inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of our God.

**Praise be to you, O Creator.**

## **Anthem**

Jammers – Less Like Me by Zach Williams

**Message:** Guest speaker Stuart Kearney School Counsellor, Quispamsis Middle School, New Brunswick Gender and Sexuality Alliance Support Person and Chapter Leader of PFLAG

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

**Hymn:** Draw the Circle Wide - MV #145

### **Refrain**

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

- 1. God the still-point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms. R**
- 2. Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call. R**
- 3. Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door. R**

## **How Can I Give?**

### **HOW CAN I GIVE TO MY CHURCH WHEN THE CHURCH IS CLOSED?**

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

**Offertory Dedication Hymn: Doxology**  
**Praise God,**  
**from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;**  
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison): *Cindy***

**Our loving God**

**Please open my eyes so I may know the truth that sets us free.**

**I am loved by You.**

**I am accepted by You.**

**I am a new creation.**

**I am a child of God and an heir of Your kingdom.**

**I am Your masterpiece.**

**I am a citizen of heaven.**

**I am chosen of God, holy and dearly loved.**

**I am a child of light and not darkness.**

**I am part of a holy nation, a special family that belongs to God.**

**I possess the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and gentleness.**

**God, you have given all these gifts to me and I gladly give back to you in all the ways you call me to do so.**

**In Jesus name,**

**Amen**

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others & Lord's Prayer *Leslie and John***

Gracious and loving God, holy mystery, wholly love, we gather our personal reflections in a moment of **Silence**

Empowering God may your Spirit guide us to become a faith-filled people, piloted towards the celebrations and concerns of those beyond our walls. We appreciate the stories and wisdom we have heard today from Stu Kearney and would ask that you bless him daily as a partner, a father, in his work as a guidance counsellor in schools and all he does in our community.

We are grateful for the movement of your Spirit of love and inclusion both within the United Church and Canadian society and we pray that all people who feel excluded by families, faith communities, and society because of who they are may experience your love in their lives. We pray for peace and respect for all in this congregation, community, this country, and this world.

We pray for courage for ourselves to be bold enough to speak up and support the marginalized and people who are targeted with hate because they are different.

We remember today:

LGBTQ+ people of Chechnya, Uganda, Zambia, Saudi Arabia, Iraq who are tortured because of who they are,

2SLGBTQI+ refugees from around the world seeking safety and sanctuary.

Trans and gender-diverse people in Canada, New Brunswick and our own community.

2SLGBTQI+ people whose dignity and self-esteem have been eroded by hateful systems and structures. We remember them and seek to be people who love more fully.

In our own efforts towards the Affirming process of Quispamsis United we pray for wisdom and careful consideration of the needs of people as we discuss them together in the days and months ahead. Help us to be mindful that our intentional welcome is to lead anyone who seeks you, closer to your extravagant love and acceptance.

For those amongst us who have personal challenges, have family members who need support, or anyone who is under stress, particularly as we continue to feel the separation and isolation of a pandemic, we pray that God's gentle Spirit will bring peace, spiritual and physical healing.

We particularly remember the families of the indigenous children found buried in a residential school in Kamloops -we will carry them in their grief.

We name people in our hearts and minds in silence now.

In all these celebrations and concerns, we are grateful that we can turn to the one who guides us in our lives, saying together...

### **LORDS PRAYER**

#### ***Our Father and Mother***

**Hymn: My Love Colours Outside the Lines MV138**

#### **Refrain**

***We'll never walk on water  
if we're not prepared to drown,  
body and soul need a soaking  
from time to time.  
And we'll never move the grave-stones  
if we're not prepared to die,  
and realize there are worlds outside the lines.***

- 1. My love colours outside the lines,  
exploring paths that few could ever find;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before,  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines.**

2. **My Lord colours outside the lines,  
turns wounds to blessings, water into wine;  
and takes me into places  
where I've never been before  
and opens doors to worlds outside the lines. R**

3 **My soul longs to colour outside the lines,  
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries  
where I've never been before,  
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines. R**

4. **My soul longs to colour outside the lines,  
tear back the curtains, sun, come in and shine;  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries  
where I've never been before,  
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.  
I want to walk beyond the boundaries  
where I've never been before,  
throw open doors to worlds outside the lines.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

### **Commissioning *Cindy*:**

May the peace of God be in your heart,  
The grace of God be in your words,  
The love of God be in your hands,  
The joy of God be in your soul and in the song that your life sings.

**Amen**

### **Benediction *Cindy***

Go now with the love of God in your hearts, the Peace of Christ in your hand, and the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the good news you have heard this day.

**Amen**

### **Choral Closing:                    Let Us Build a House                    MV #1 (Verses 1, 2 & 5)**

1 **Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

4 **Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**5** Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

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