

Quispamsis United Church

October 31st, 2021 - Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Halloween/Reformation Sunday

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Musician: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Chris Young

Centering Passage: *Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body.*

John 2:19-21

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ's presence among us, but Christ is not the flame. He is now bound by the heat or the light, but moves in and through our lives. He is more, and we enter into this time together, led by this light, to discover Christ together.

Opening Music Hedwig's Theme (Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets)

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):

Stones and mortar, wood and nail.

In places of worship we find so much more.

Ancient writings, familiar rituals, worship flowing in praise and prayer.

In these practices we find so much more.

People gather, rich and poor, old and young, sick and healthy, broken and whole.

In this gathered people we find so much more.

For here is the church, God's people listening for and responding to God's call.

We the church gather to worship and pray and in this time we will find so much more.

Opening Prayer

God of Mystery, you who move in the light and the dark, reveal yourself to us. In prayer, in song, in scripture verse, we come here with a desire to know you, to follow you, to understand you. Through this time of worship, show to us a portion of your glory that we might share what we have seen and heard with the world around us. Show us a portion of your power as we come humbly into your presence. Show us a portion of your love and we will reflect that love on the world. Hear us, O divine mystery, and speak. We offer this prayer in the name of Christ, your glory, power, and love revealed. AMEN

Hymn: **Beyond the Beauty and the Awe** **MV 80**

- 1. Beyond the beauty and the awe,
 beyond the fear and dread,
 we long, O God, to hear your word,
 to taste you transformed bread.**

- 2. Our lives feel torn between the world
 whose needs are grimly real
 and empty talk of peace and joy
 with distant, vague appeal.**

- 3. Oh, teach us how to hear your voice
 despite the traffic's din;
 to keep the blasts of rancour out
 and let your Spirit in.**

- 4. In sound or silence, sight or smell,
 may we some token find
 that makes your living presence known
 to body, soul, and mind.**

- 5. Then help us live as Jesus taught,
 as light and salt and yeast,
 that others may be brought to share
 your promise and your feast.**

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

You, O God, are unbound. Time and space are like pages in a book to you. Yet, so often, your people try to limit you, define you, contain you. Forgive us those times where we have done these things. Forgive us for trying to limit your love, ignorant of the length, breadth, and depth of your love. Forgive us for trying to define your will, assuming we know what you want and ignoring the whispers of your Spirit. Forgive us for trying to contain you in a building, in an hour, in an image, when you are more than we can imagine, your power and person beyond what mortal minds can comprehend. Open us up to the infinite mystery that is you: always more to discover, always more to learn. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our glimpse into your glory. AMEN

Assurance of God's Love

Because there are no limits to God's love, there is no limit to God's forgiveness. For all the times we stumble, God is there to lift us up. Thanks be to God for such a love as this. AMEN

Theme Conversation Pumpkin Show & Tell

Sung Prayer of Illumination Listen God is Calling MV 97

**Listen, listen, God is calling,
through the Word inviting,
offering forgiveness,
comfort, and joy.**

Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Now King Hiram of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, when he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father; for Hiram had always been a friend to David. Solomon sent word to Hiram, saying, 'You know that my father David could not build a house for the name of the Lord his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet. But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. So I intend to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord said to my father David, "Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name."

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark. So, they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the Israelites, when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

Then Solomon said,
'The Lord has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.
I have built you an exalted house,
a place for you to dwell in for ever.'

Herein is Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Message God in a Box

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: I can feel you near me God MV 48

1. **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.
*Repeat***

2. **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**

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/ 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: 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):

Solomon gave you a house in which to dwell. We offer our very selves. Receive us and all that we give. Live in us. Move through us. Transform us. Bless us and our gifts as we strive to be your vessels of grace and conduits of love. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ who showed us how to welcome you into our hearts. AMEN

Prayers for Ourselves and Others & Lord's Prayer

Hymn: God be With you Till we Meet Again

VU 422

- 1 God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

- 2 God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. R**

- 3 God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. R**

- 4 God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;**

**till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

In this building God is found,

but the stones and mortar cannot contain God's Glory.

In the practices of our faith in worship, we engaged God's story,

but these acts do not tell the full story of God's presence.

As we Gathered together we connected with each other

but we also come to know each of us is part of the body of Christ.

In these walls, through our worship

we the gathered people found communion with God and each other becoming the church.

You are the church and no walls can contain the Holy Spirit moving in and through you.

So we go out into the world, to share God's glory and grace and the good news of God's great love.

Benediction

Now go 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've 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 Toccata in D minor - J.S.Bach