

# Quispamsis United Church

September 11th, 2022 - Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

**Liturgical Colour:** Green

**Presider:** Rev. Richard Bowley

**Director of Music:** Stephen Alexander

**Reader:** Ruth Buckley

**Centering Passage:** *A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?'*

-Matthew 8:24-27

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## GATHERING TOGETHER

### Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle and in doing so remind ourselves that this light bears a part of that first light at the dawn of creation, a part of the light that shone from the empty tomb, a part of the light that shone on the day we took our first breath, and a part of the light that will shine on the day of our last breath. Our lives are filled with light, and even we carry a portion of that Holy Spark. Let us carry this light into worship and beyond.

### Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

### Acknowledgement of Territories

### Celebrations & Announcements

**Opening Music**    Come, Thou Fount - arr. Harold 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 come together carrying our brokenness with us.

**In this time we seek healing together.**

We come together with open minds.

**In this time we seek to be challenged that we might grow.**

We come together in faith and hope,

**knowing that God is with and will never abandon us.**

Come, let us praise God together!

**In God we are renewed, restored, redeemed!**

**Opening Prayer:**

God of Light and Dark, of wind and flame, of sun and rain, you bring creation in all its wonder from the growth of a single blade of grass all the way to the spinning galaxies that fill the cosmos. In you we find our strength, our breath, our very life, and by your wisdom, we find our way through today and into tomorrow. Guide us, O Great Redeemer, from fear to hope, from death to life, from sin and brokenness to wholeness in your love and light. We offer this and all our prayers in the strong name of our brother and Saviour, Jesus Christ. AMEN

**Hymn:**

Morning has Broken

VU 409

**Morning has broken like the first morning,  
Black bird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning.  
Born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, Praise ev'ry morning,  
God's recreation Of the newday!**

**LISTENING FOR TRUTH**

**Prayer for Reconciliation (Unison):**

**Creator God, by your hands and breath we have been formed and given life. You established your covenant with us. So often we forget those promises of grace and love, turning to go our own way. We forget that the promises you made were to all of creation, and instead of seeing ourselves as partners with the world, we have sought to dominate it, control it, abuse it, exploit it. As bad as we have treated this world, we often treat our neighbours - our kin - worse. Forgive us, O God, for not living into the covenant of love you made with us, for not renewing it daily by our actions. Call us again to the work of healing, reconciliation, and love. Call to us again and again, and by your grace may we answer. Inspire us to turn again and follow you. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Great Redeemer. AMEN**

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

We call God the Bridge Builder, the Mender of Wounds, the Lover of the Broken because God is always ready and waiting to embrace us, to care for us, and to remind us of the covenant to love one another. Live into God's embrace, feel the Spirit moving, and know Christ is with you. In this way may we know that we are forgiven, that we are loved.

## **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:** Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17

The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the Lord said, 'I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.' But Noah found favour in the sight of the Lord.

These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. And God said to Noah, 'I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them.' Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message** Flood and Promise

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

**Hymn:**

This Is God's Wondrous World  
**This is God's wondrous world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is God's wondrous world;  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
God's hand the wonders wrought.**

VU 296

**This is God's wondrous world:  
the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their Maker's praise.  
This is God's wondrous world:  
God shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,  
God's voice speaks everywhere.**

**This is God's wondrous world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.**

**This is God's wondrous world:  
why should my heart be sad?  
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:  
God reigns, let earth be glad!**

### **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):**

**Generous God, who has gifted us with a wondrous world and partners to share the journey, we come before you today with gifts we would give to you. We offer you our time. Each moment is precious, and our lives are filled with moments to share your grace. We offer you our talents. Each one of us brings something difference, our diversity a small reflection of the variety that is creation. We offer you our treasures. To you we give back the fruit of our labours for the support of the work of building your kingdom. Bless and use us and our gifts, O God,we pray.  
AMEN**

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

**Hymn:**

God of the Sparrow

VU 229

**God of the sparrow**

**God of the whale**

**God of the swirling stars**

**How does the creature say Awe**

**How does the creature say Praise**

**God of the earthquake**

**God of the storm**

**God of the trumpet blast**

**How does the creature cry Woe**

**How does the creature cry Save**

**God of the rainbow**

**God of the cross**

**God of the empty grave**

**How does the creature say Grace**

**How does the creature say Thanks**

**God of the hungry**

**God of the sick**

**God of the prodigal**

**How does the creature say Care**

**How does the creature say Life**

God of the neighbor  
God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages  
God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

### SENDING FORTH

#### Commissioning (Responsive):

As a covenant people we go  
to spread God's love,  
to share God's grace,  
to live God's will.

To a world and people always moving from from brokenness to wholeness we bring  
forgiveness,  
healing,  
hope, all in Christ name.

And in our work we are empowered  
by the Holy Spirit that guides us every step of the way.

#### 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:

Go To The World VU 420 (vs 4)  
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!

Closing Music Postlude on "Italian Hymn" - Edward Broughton