



## DOWNTOWN UNITED CHURCH

July 8, 2018

**Worship Leader: Pastor Sarah Magie**

**Preacher: Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin**

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

At the points marked \* - those who are able are invited to stand.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory: For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked in this land, their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the unceded traditional territory of the Wolastowqiyik (Maliseet) and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

---

### THE GATHERING

**Organ Prelude:** Andante Espresso (Buck)

**Welcome to the Church** Rev. R-H Gaskin

**Call to Worship:** Pastor S. Magie

Come and hear the good news!

**No matter what is happening in our life,  
God's blessing and love is with us.**

Come and hear what God wants you to do:

**live lives of justice and love and truth.**

Come and get courage and strength

to be fools for Christ,

embracing Kingdom values

rather than those of the world.

**We're here, ready to listen, open to change,  
expecting to be blessed by our time together.**

**We Light the Christ Candle**

## Opening Prayer

\* Opening Hymn: Come, Children, Join to Sing

VU #345

### Time for the Young and Young at Heart

\*Hymn: I Can Feel You Near Me God

MV #48

## LISTENING FOR TRUTH

### Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing:

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

**Keep us from being preoccupied with money and worldly goods, and with trying to increase them at the expense of justice.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth."

**Help us not to be ruthless with one another, and to work eliminate the discord and violence that exists in the world around us.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

**Let us not be impatient under our own burdens and unconcerned about the burdens of others.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be filled."

**Make us thirst for you, the fountain of all holiness, and actively spread your influence in our private lives and in society.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

**Grant that we may be quick to forgive and slow to condemn.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God."

**Free us from our senses that overwhelm and our earthly desires that seek to distract us, and help us to fix our eyes on you.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

**Aid us to make peace in our families, in our country, and in the world.**

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of justice, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs."

**Make us willing to sacrifice for the sake of what is right rather than to practice injustice; and do not let us discriminate against our neighbours and oppress and persecute them. AMEN**

## **Time for Silent Reflection**

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

God has called us and blesses us  
when we live God's ways and not the world's.  
God's love embraces us  
even when we fall short of what God desires  
for our lives and actions.

**We know that the God of blessing  
loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness.  
And in so knowing, may our lives and souls  
be transformed. AMEN**

### **Prayer of Preparation:**

Jon Sweeney

Holy God, your blessings are abundant,  
and your wisdom exceeds our grasp.  
Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word this day,  
that we may be justice seekers and peace makers,  
sharing your life among those who are forgotten,  
weak, or persecuted, and revealing to all your glory. Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 5: 1-12

**Congregational Response:**

**One:** This is the witness of God's people.

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

**Piano Solo:** Take My Life and Let It Be - V. Leiter (Fettke)

**Sermon:** Three Themes to Live By: Simplicity, Hope and Compassion  
Rev. R-H Gaskin

**\* Hymn:** Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VU #684

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**Announcements**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory Music**

**\* Doxology:** VU #541

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

**\* Prayer of Dedication:**

**O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives—  
in places we often fail to recognize as blessing.**

**Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand  
the depth of your love and blessing.**

**Today, we give out of that blessedness,  
dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love,  
giving all that we are and all that we have  
to bring about your beloved community, here and now. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

**\* Closing Hymn:** Three Things I Promise

MV #176

**\*Commissioning:**

Blessed in the midst of God’s love

Blessed in the midst of our world

Blessed in what we feel, see, do

Blessed

**Even in the times we find it hard**

**to see the blessing**

**Even then**

**We can know ourselves**

**As the children of God**

Especially then

We can know, see, feel

God’s presence in our lives

Blessed

**God’s love in our lives**

**Given by the One**

**Who came to save**

**Blessed are you**

**In the name of Christ**

**AMEN**

**\*Sung Blessing**

VU #963

**Postlude:** Allegro Maestoso

(Mendelssohn)



This Sunday's bulletin has been sponsored by **Joan and Andy MacDonald** in recognition of their **50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary** which occurred on July 6<sup>th</sup>

**WELCOME** to this service of worship and thank you for being with us today. We're glad you're here! You are invited to join us for **COOL CONVERSATION and NIBBLES** in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall following the Worship service. Thank you to **Bruce and Debi McMillan** for providing this time of refreshments and fellowship.

**CONDOLENCES:** Downtown United Church offers sincere condolences to Danny King, family and friends on the recent death of Danny's wife **Cathy King**. Funeral service was held at St. Paul's United Church on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**PLEASE NOTE:** On these hot summer days, you are welcome to bring a water bottle to worship so you can remain hydrated. I will put some water at the back of the sanctuary near the Carleton Street doors.

**COOL CONVERSATION and NIBBLES:** Thank you to those who have been able to commit themselves to helping out for Cool Conversation and Nibbles this summer. We are still looking for a couple of people for July 22 and July 29. If you are able to do one of these two Sundays, just let Ellen know. **THANKS**

### **LOOKING AHEAD – MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**July 1 - 29 (5 Sundays)** Our **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE** will be combined with St. Paul's and held **here at Wilmot at 10:30.**

**July 16 – July 20 – GO Children's Adventure Camp** (see notice)

**July 21 – July 27 - The 43<sup>rd</sup> GENERAL COUNCIL of the UCC** to be held in Oshawa, ON **Rose-Hannah** will serve as the commissioner clergy from the Woolastook Presbytery.

**August 5 – Sept. 2 (5 Sundays)** Our **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE** will be at **St. Paul's at 10:30.**

**August 27-31 – VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - “ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE”** held at St. Paul's this year.

**THE 'GO' PROJECT ADVENTURE CAMP -- For Grades 2 – 7 - July 16-20**

The GO camp is a United Church Camp designed to happen right here in your own community. It is a joint effort by St. Paul's, Forest Hill, Nashwaaksis & Wilmot to be held at Nashwaaksis. There will be trained staff and volunteers that will lead exciting programming with an outreach and justice focus. Children will spend time learning, playing, volunteering and learning about their faith. It is a full day program filled with fun activities. LIMITED SPACE so give Ellen a call to reserve a space for you or register online at [WWW.THEGOPROJECT.CA](http://WWW.THEGOPROJECT.CA) Cost is \$125 (Sponsorship is available – touch base with Ellen)

**STRAWBERRY SOCIAL AND BBQ:** On Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, a Strawberry Social and BBQ will be held at Nashwaaksis United Church from 4 – 6:30 p.m. Enjoy your choice of one hamburger or hot dog, with a beverage and fresh, homemade strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Rain or shine – join us for a yummy time!

**July 15** – Ellen will once again be heading to **GRAND MANAN** to lead their Sunday Service of Worship. As there is no United Church on the Island, each summer they organize having a visiting clergy or lay person to conduct a service for them. Feel free to travel to the Island and join me. It is a great place to visit and to go biking or hiking.

**DRIVERS NEEDED FOR DROP-IN TOUR:** On Saturday, July 21, Wilmot has planned a day tour to Grand Falls for the participants in the Drop-In. Volunteers are required to drive the 3 seven-passenger vans which have been reserved. If you can help to transport additional people in your own car with the gas being paid,

that, too, would be very much appreciated. If you can assist in either capacity, please contact, as soon as possible, Norm Laverty (455-3349).

Are you a gardener or would you like to be?  
Help us build a small vegetable garden at Wilmot. We'll offer the produce to all in the neighbourhood who would love some healthy veggies this summer. Contact Rose~Hannah and let's get digging!



**MAGGIE'S MUFFIN MANIA COOKBOOKS** are still available (\$15). You may obtain one from Marlene in the Wilmot Church Office.

**FACES OF NEW BRUNSWICK:** Those who wish can now purchase Keith Minchin's latest book of photography *Faces of New Brunswick* at the church office for the reduced price of \$30. All profits will be generously donated to the Wilmot Local Fund.

**ANO SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE@:** It has been our policy to ask that our AWilmoteers@ be aware that scented products can cause allergic reactions in some of our members. This can be triggered by perfume and aftershave, but also by certain Afresh-smelling@ laundry products, soaps, and hair products. Please pay attention to how you use them.

**ANNUAL YARD SALE, SUPPER AND AUCTION on July 21st** at Knox Presbyterian Church in Harvey. Yard sale is ongoing all day (from 8 a.m.) Supper is 4 -6 (barb-e-cued chicken breast, variety of salads, homemade rolls and pies. Auction begins at 7 o'clock. All are welcome.

**REDEEMABLES:** Just a reminder that we do pick ups if you have any bottles to donate to the YOUTH FUND! You can also leave them in Ellen's office at the church. The summer is a great time to save your redeemables and then pass them along to the youth. Just give Ellen a call at 206-1943.





---

## **FALL AUCTION: A CALL FOR TREASURES AND TALENTS!**

Be sure to reserve November 24<sup>th</sup> for the popular Wilmot United Church Biennial Auction. It was a grand time two years ago with a professional auctioneer moving the day along quickly as many items generously donated by our congregation were purchased in either the silent or live auction. Please consider over the summer what treasures or talents you may have to donate to this event. We encourage you to drop off your items at the church over the summer or very early fall so that we will have a large variety of lovely items to photograph as we ramp up our promotion of the auction. To ensure we can supply you in 2019 with an accurate official tax receipt for your donations, please fill out one of our auction donor sheets when leaving your items at the church. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Luton (459-1099) or Andy MacDonald (459-7569).