

DOWNTOWN UNITED CHURCH July 15, 2018

Worship Leader: Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

Preacher: Pastor Sarah Magie

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: Jesus Our Companion

(Hebble)

Welcome to the Church

Call to Worship:

In the rush of the wind, in a burst of light, in the "aha!" of an epiphany,

Christ's Spirit appears.

In the singing of a babbling brook, in the crackling of a campfire's light, in the whisper of a still small voice,

Christ's Spirit calls.

In the crush of a crowd of thousands, in the loneliness of an empty room, in the beating of our hearts,

Christ's Spirit lives.

In this place,

in all places,

in every moment of our lives,

Christ's Spirit appears;

Christ's Spirit calls;

Christ's Spirit lives.

And we respond with

ALLELUIA!

And we live our love with

AMEN! *Richard Bott,* Dunbar Heights U.C., Vancouver, B.C. (richardbott.com)

We Light the Christ Candle

Opening Prayer:

Spirit of gentleness, blow through our wilderness.

Fill us with your power.

Spirit of stinging sand, goad us with your truth.

Fill us with your power.

Spirit of a hilltop cry, speak to us of true giving.

Fill us with your power.

Spirit of freedom, help our captive souls to dream.

Fill us with the power to make dreams reality.

Beth W Johnston, Hantsport P.C., Hantsport, NS Inspired by VU 375 "Spirit, Spirit of gentleness."

* Opening Hymn: We Praise You, O God VU #218

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

*Hymn: Water Flowing from the Mountains MV #87

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Connecting to Our Hearts' Longing:

How may we approach you, Holy Mystery?

Through silence, speech, music?

On our knees, on wings of the morning?

Teach us how to listen, how to love.

Plant seeds of hope where they may grow into fields of fairness and oneness.

We know that we lose the Way, Redeemer and Friend.

We expect harvests where we have not planted.

We lower our eyes instead of following your gaze.

Sometimes, we know we are lost, sometimes we don't.

Sometimes we glory in our excess as if we were gods.

First awaken us to our costly ways, our uncomprehending habits.

Then stir within us the need to be forgiven, to do differently. (music)

Assurance of God's Love & Accompaniment

Prayer of Preparation:

Hugh Ellis

God of startling revelation, open us to your message this day. Get our attention; show us the way to abundant life for all of creation. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Job 1: 1-2, 2: 1-10

Congregational Response:

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Guitar Solo: La libellule – Steven Peacock

(Peacock)

Sermon: "Job's Phantasy" Pastor S. Magie

* Hymn: Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU

#374

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:

We bring our gifts to you, God, in oneness with all who love you, and pray that you will use them so that all will praise your great faithfulness, love, and compassion.

Fern Gibbard, Oliver U.C., Oliver, BC

Prayers of the People

* Closing Hymn: Be Thou My Vision VU

#642

*Commissioning:

Whether we are those fed or those feeding,

O Spirit, lead us through grace.

Whether we are those forgiven or those forgiving,

O God, lead us through insight.

Whether we are those naked or those clothing,

O Jesus who is God with us, be our guide, our strength, and our joy.

Gord Dunbar, Port Nelson U.C., Burlington, ON

*Sung Blessing

VU #963

Postlude: To God Be the Glory

(Schrader)

You are invited to remain for the Postlude as it is part of our worship.

"We want to go to God for answers, but sometimes what we get is God's presence."

Nadia Bolz-Wever, Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint

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 **Shirley Cleave and Ellen Sherren** for providing this time of refreshments and fellowship.

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> 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.

SYMPATHY: Our love and condolences go out to Sheila Washburn and family on the recent passing of husband and father, *Owen Washburn*. Owen passed away on July 10. Funeral service was held at Wilmot United yesterday, July 14th

<u>COOL CONVERSATION and NIBBLES:</u> 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**

PRAYERS IN THE LADIES PARLOUR (at St. Paul's): On Wednesdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. St. Paul's will be holding prayer time. All are invited to come together as we pray for one another, our churches, our community and the world. Feel free to bring a bag lunch as we share in this time together.

NOON HOUR RECITAL featuring the Lintuhtine Performance Choir with guest musician Sidney Murgatroyd. Wednesday July 18, 12:10 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. at Saint Anne's Chapel of Ease (corner of George and Westmorland Streets.) Admission by freewill donation to support the music programs at Christ Church Parish Church.

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 43rd 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 Cost is \$125 (Sponsorship is available – touch base with Ellen)