

MARK STREET UNITED CHURCH
The House of Friendship



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10 a.m.

Rev. Patti Armstrong, B.A., M.Div., Minister
Office Administrator: Jill Brown
Custodian: Judy Ashworth
Parish Nurse: Janice Ross RN, MN

August 20, 2017
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Thank you to Pat Cole and worship leader Ann Keys who contributed to putting together today's service. Thank you to Sonya Guingona for leadership in the ministry of music.

(*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE &
 CONGREGATION RESPOND IN **BOLD**)

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING ONE ANOTHER

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CENTERING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Let us take a moment of quiet reflection to centre ourselves for worship and become more aware of God's presence among us.

ILLUMINATING CHRIST'S LIGHT (together) *Song of Faith, 2006*

**We sing of the Creator,
 who made humans to live and move
 and have their being in God.**
 (First Candle is lit)

**We sing of the Spirit,
 who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
 and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
 transforming us and the world.**

(Second Candle is lit)

**We find God made known in Jesus of Nazareth,
and so we sing of God and Christ, the Holy one embodied.**
(Christ Candle is lit)

HONOURING THE LAND

As we gather together in this faith filled worshipping community, we celebrate the shining waters which run through the ancestral lands of our First Nations sisters and brothers in the area. Those waters shimmer with the Great Spirit of all Creation and the spirits of the mothers and fathers that come ahead of us. In our time together, let the ground on which we congregate as Mark Street United Church be sacred ground.

CALL TO WORSHIP (In Unison)

Welcome this day to the house of our God.

We are greeted in peace and in love.

Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.

We worship in hope and with grace.

Welcome this day to our community of faith,

Where we are sisters and brothers in Christ.

We come to give thanks

And to hear the Story again.

Friends, let us worship God. Amen.

***HYMN:** "Come in, come in and sit down" VU 395

GATHERING PRAYER

Creator God, in this time of worship we come and we pause; to rest from our work and responsibilities, from our play and from our distractions, from our fears and

anxieties, to bring you our love and our praise.

Sometimes, O Holy One, it is easier to say sorry for the big mistakes of life than for the dozens of little ones we make daily: worrying rather than finding grace in the moment, those regrettable words of criticism, silence when words could make a difference, self doubt when you offer unlimited love and acceptance.

It is in the little things we are most likely to fail you and each other. Help us, Bless One, in the day to day moments of our lives, to be open, generous and mindful of who we are in you. Help us to bring the light of Christ to theirs, and to our own lives, as we pray:

SHARING OUR STORIES (Children's Time)

JESUS PRAYER

PAUSE & PREPARE FOR SCRIPTURE (together)

Song of Faith, 2006

Scripture is our song for the journey, the living word passed on from generation to generation to guide and inspire,

that we might wrestle a holy revelation for our time and place from the human experiences and cultural assumptions of another era.

God calls us to be doers of the word and not hearers only.

SCRIPTURE READING: *Genesis 45:1–15* page 42

***HYMN:** "There's a wideness in God's mercy VU
271

**SCRIPTURE READING: *Matthew 15:(10–20), 21–28*
page 17**

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

REFLECTION

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

GIVING THANKS

God is creative and self-giving, generously moving
 In all the near and distant corners of the universe.
 Nothing exists that does not find its source in God.
 Our first response to God's providence is gratitude.
 The offering will now be received.

***OFFERING SONG:** MV #191

**What can I do? What can I bring?
 What can I say? What can I sing?
 I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
 I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING (In Unison)

**God of mercy and grace, out of your infinite creativity you
 have given us life itself, Bless all that is entrusted to our
 care, that we may, in sharing our gifts and faith, become
 more and more like you in spirit and word and action; to
 your glory. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Dear God of Life,
 When we feel happy to be alive,
You are there,
 When we feel weary and sad,

You are there.

When the day is full of light and promise,

You are there.

When the night closes in with gloom and despair,

You are there.

In all things, in all places, in every moment,

You are there.

You know all about our lives.

You know the things for which we might give thanks.

You also know the things from which we might pray for relief.

You know us from the inside out.

You already know it all, God.

Our prayer time with you is not just about passing on requests or compliments.

We pray to be connected to you.

You are the beginning and the end of all things.

In this connection, we find our joy.

We find our peace.

We find solace in hard times.

We find company in times of celebration.

We pray for ourselves.

We pray for others who need your help.

We pray to draw these concerns to your attention.

We pray to release our hearts from compulsion and worry.

We hand it all over to you.

Our hope, our trust, is in you. Amen

Darrow Woods, Trinity U.C., Oakville, ON

***HYMN:** "There's a wideness in God's mercy VU
271

WORDS OF SENDING AND BLESSING

***CHORAL BLESSING** May the God of Hope VU #424
May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our
lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light
and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with
all,
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear
Christ's call.

MUSICAL POSTLUDE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Honouring the Land

Why Acknowledge the Traditional Territory?

Acknowledging the territory where we gather and the people who have traditionally called it home for thousands of years is a way to continue to live out the church's apologies to the First People of North America. The acknowledgement supports our calls to others to pay respect to Indigenous peoples. It is also one way the church can work toward right relations – by repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery that assumed the land was empty when European explorers, traders, and settlers first came. In order to promote mutual respect, peace, and friendship, the 40th General Council 2009 encouraged the recognition of Traditional Territory of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples at the gatherings of the courts and pastoral charges of The United Church of Canada. A proposal has been brought to the General Council Executive to encourage Parliament to include a similar acknowledgement in its opening address.

Sunday Worship during long weekends of Summer 2017

September 3rd: Northminster United Church

What's Happening this Week

Update from Temporary Council August 13, 2017

Rev. Bill Peacock; Bonnie Davidson; Doug Hagan & Rev. Nancy Wilson

Process of healing and reconciliation: (small group or collective)

We are working with Community Mediation Peterborough (CMP) who have developed a multi-layered approach to address the grief and conflict within the congregation. Please see the attached insert and invitation to participate. In our discussions with CMP about financial compensation, the agreement is that they will provide the outlined services and at the end of the program, give an idea of what it cost and then invite us to pay what we are able. As a Community service organization, CMP would rather offer their gifts to this ministry at this time and are willing to make it affordable for us to do so. For that we are grateful.

Spiritual Listeners: (for individuals) to contact

In any time of change, grief, loss it is essential for people to be able to tell their story. As grief counsellor Alan Wolfelt writes: “Tell your story again and again and again.” So here is a list of Spiritual listeners for people to phone or contact to set up a time to chat and share what you are feeling and experiencing during this time.

Lyle Horn (Grace United Church - 705-742-5846)

Don MacLean (Norwood UC – 705-639-5216 - August and Sept.)

Lynn Watson (St. Paul’s, Bancroft) – 613-332-1900

Jan Stobie – (705) 340-9084

For Pastoral Care: (Hospital visits and Funerals)

Aug. 21 - Aug. 27– Rev. Jan Stobie (Retired) (705) 340-9084

Aug. 28 - Sept. 3 – Rev. Bain Milroy (Retired) 705-295-4972

Sept. 4- Sept. 10 – Rev. Bain Milroy (Retired) 705-295-4972

Sept. 11- Sept. 17 – the Rev. Don Uhryniw (705) 742-4162

Sept, 18 - Sept. 24 - the Rev. Don Uhryniw (705) 742-4162

Sept. 25 - Oct. 1.- TBD

If you need anything, contact us at:
temporarycouncil@gmail.com