

Welcome to Worship

Quispamsis United Church

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For years in Church we taught people to stand up and sit down. Stand up and sit down. And then we were angry with them for only knowing how to stand up and sit down. Vibrant churches learn, feel, grow, shout, dance, laugh, jump, play, cry, love...and believe it or not, we still remember how to stand up and sit down.

September 27, 2009

Pentecost 17

(Congregational responses are in bold type.)

***Please stand as you are able)**

Prelude: *Rhosymedre* (R. Vaughan Williams)

Welcome & Announcements

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Lighting of the Memorial Candles and Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Hymn: #232 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Prayer of Approach

**O Divine Wisdom, Sophia of God,
dance among us this day.
Reveal to us the ways of God
and gift us with courage
so we can face each situation
with confidence in your presence and love. Amen**

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Commissioning and Benediction:

God called us here to this sacred space.

This same God now sends us into the world to proclaim the good news to any and all, to live the good news in all that we do.

So we will go out in hope, for God leads us.

So we will go in joyful praise, for God walks with us.

So we will go with courage, knowing God has faith in us.

We go in peace.

*Choral Benediction:

Go with us Lord, as now we depart,

calming the fears that trouble each heart.

Keep us all in your grace ----- until we come, again, to this place.

Interlude

Now we will walk in peace with the Lord,

living in faith and teaching his word.

Share his love ev'ry day ----- for he has surely shown us the way!

A – men, a – men.

*Prayer of Dedication (Don Besig and Nancy Price)***

Postlude: *Fanfare* (Mouret)

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Welcome!

A warm welcome to all who gather for worship

Stewards responsible for checking the church:

this week – September 27 – Dannie Forret

next week – October 4 – Jay Fuller

Scripture Readings for October 4:

Job 1:1; 2:1–10 (Job's first affliction; faith intact.)

Psalm 26 (Prove me, try me, test my heart)

Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12 (God gave the world to humans, not angels)

Mark 10:2–16 (Question of divorce; Jesus blesses children.)

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Children's Choir: *A Place in the Choir*

Chorus:

All God's children got a place in the choir.

Some sing low. Some sing higher.

Some sing out loud on the telephone wire.

And some just clap their hand or paws or anything they got now.

Words and music: Bill Staines; Mineral River Music (adm.by Bug Music Inc.)**

We Celebrate Our Ministry of Teaching

Hymn: #341 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

(Please remain seated)

Theme Conversation and the Prayer of Jesus

Prayer of Confession

Loving and gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our hurts and fears and discouragements. Forgive us when our actions and non-actions hurt others and ourselves. Heal us when we give up hope and allow fear to determine our choices. Help us when we forget our deeper selves and allow shallow self-interest to rule the day. Empower us to follow Jesus with all our hearts and souls and minds. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear these words of comfort:

God loves us.

God forgives us.

We are free to begin again.

We are not alone in our struggles
or in our risking.

Assurance of Pardon

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

First Testament Reading: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 (*Esther pleads for the life of her people.*)

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Responsive Psalm: Psalm 124 (VU pg. 848 – Refrain 1)
(*If God had not been at our side.*)

Epistle Reading: James 5:13-20

(*The sick should be anointed by the elders.*)

Anthem: *We Will Be Your People* (Phillips)

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:38-50

(*If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off.*)

Message: *Opening the Doors*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: #1 *More Voices* (see blue sheet) *Let Us Build a House* **

Minute for Mission

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Our Gifts to God: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

(Joseph Marten)

Dedication: #540

Grant us God the grace of giving,

With a spirit large and free,

That ourselves and all our living,

We may offer faithfully. Words: anonymous**

Offertory Prayer:

Loving God, accept these gifts we bring and let them be a symbol of our desire and commitment to stand with you in these times in which we are living. Amen

Prayers of the People

WE ARE SENT FORTH

*Hymn: #424 *May the God of Hope Go with Us*

***DENOTES FURTHER INFORMATION
ON BULLETIN BOARDS***

***2009 Operation Christmas Child Campaign** officially underway in Saint John area; shoe boxes available at Calvary Temple; kick-off event Monday, September 28, 7-8pm at Calvary Temple.*

***Dance Dance Revolution;** Monday, September 28, 7-8pm at Quispamsis Town Council Chambers.*

*** International Day of Older Persons;** Thursday, October 1, at the Market Square Atrium; free refreshments and music.

***The Message** – contemporary Christian band – Saturday, October 3, 7:30pm at St. Mark's UC; tickets \$7 available at St. Mark's church office or at the door.*

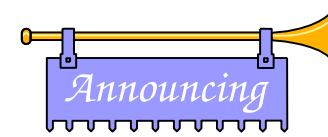
***Newsboys - The Way We Roll Tour;** Thursday, October 8, 7pm at Harbour Station.*

***Concert with Terry Kelly and Friends;** Wednesday, October 14, 7pm at St. Joachim's Church*

***Fall Bazaar & Luncheon;** Saturday, October 17, 11:30am-1:30pm at St Paul's UC, Sussex.*

***Art Show and Sale;** Friday, October 23, 7:30pm-9:30pm and Saturday, October 24, 10am-5pm at Saint David's UC, Rothesay; admission \$2.*

*** Celebrate Life Musical Concert** with Tracy, family and friends; Monday, November 23, 7:30pm at the Imperial Theatre; tickets \$20 on sale September 21 at the Imperial; all proceeds for Saint John Learning Exchange.*



LIFE of the CONGREGATION and COMMUNITY

This Week: September 27—October 3

TODAY 11:15am Children's Choir Practice

6:30pm Jam session (further info below)

TUESDAY 10:30am Tuesday morning Study Group

THURSDAY 7:00-8:30pm Adult Choir Practice

Church Directories: The church directories have come in and will be available downstairs in MacDonald Hall after service this morning. If you had portraits taken in March you will receive a free directory.

They are also available for those who indicated that they wanted to purchase a directory for \$15.00. A few extra copies were ordered and will be available for \$15.00 on a first come, first served basis.



If you are interested in participating in our morning worship by **reading the scriptures**, could you please sign up on the side bulletin board in the hall, or simply fill in the insert with your name and telephone number and place it in the offering plate.



Do you have a dusty guitar hiding in a closet somewhere? Is there tambourine you haven't played for awhile? Maybe a drum that just doesn't get drummed anymore?

If you do, then dust 'em off and come to church on Sunday evenings at 6:30pm for a **jam session** centred around contemporary Christian music by some of today's popular Christian song writers... these get-togethers will be informal and fun...so bring you instrument, your voice and your laughter and join in the party!



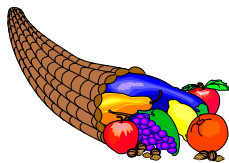
There is a sign up sheet is on the side bulletin board for **Nursery Volunteers**.

You may indicate the Sunday(s) you will be available, or leave your name and phone number to be called when needed.



United for Peace Pins and Cards still available at reduced prices (at cost); pins - \$6, cards- \$3; time is running out – campaign ends December 09; contact Jane Barefoot (849-9302) or Sally Allanach (847-2170).

LOOKING AHEAD



Thanksgiving will soon be here. To help with our decoration and our gifts to the Food Bank, the Worship Committee is asking for donations of produce, preserves, pickles, etc. to place at the front of our sanctuary. Thank you.

Fall Turkey Supper – Saturday, October 24, 4-6pm



Are you in need of **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**? Then Valley Suites is for you!

KenVal United Church Suites Inc. is constructing a 16-unit complex of affordable housing for seniors (60+), as well as family households and non- elderly single applicants (19+) with a physically disabled household member. The Valley Suites complex will consist of two buildings that will be adjacent to Quispamsis United Church, on the corner of Hampton Road and Phillips Dr.

If you are interested in registering for this complex, please call the Department of Social Development at **1-866-441-4340**, Mon-Fri., 8:15-4:15. Ask to apply for subsidized housing and staff will conduct a short telephone interview to determine your eligibility. They will require the following information:

your name, telephone #, birth date, Social Insurance #, and your income from 2008 (line 150 on your last Income Tax Return).

In the Kennebecasis Valley, affordable housing for Seniors and Single applicants is targeted to households where total income, as reported on line 150, is less than \$23,500. In the case of Families, total household income must be less than \$30,000.

This registration process must be completed before you will be considered for any government-assisted, affordable housing in N.B.

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22

7¹So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, 'What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.' ³Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have won your favour, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.' ⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?' ⁶Esther said, 'A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. ⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, 'Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.' And the king said, 'Hang him on that.' ¹⁰So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

20 Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King

Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, ²²as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

James 5:13-20

The Prayer of Faith

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19 My brothers and sisters,^{*} if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's^{*} soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 9:38-50

Another Exorcist

38 John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone^{*} casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' ³⁹But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Temptations to Sin

42 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me,^{*} it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell,^{*} to the unquenchable fire.^{*} ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.^{.*} ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,^{*} ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

49 'For everyone will be salted with fire.*⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?*' Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.'