

A Warm Welcome to All Who Gather for Worship

Quispamsis United Church

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MINISTER Rev. Audrey Lounder

GREETERS June and Bruce Jardine

January 3, 2010

*An Intergenerational Worship
for*

the Second Sunday of Christmas

(Congregational responses are in bold type.)

*Please stand as you are able)

Prelude: *A Star Proclaims* (Pachelbel)

Welcome and Announcements

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Lighting the Memorial Candles and the Peace Candle

Call to Worship

* Hymn: #54 VU *Unto Us a Boy is Born*

Prayer of Approach:

Many voices surround us, vying for our attention...

Conflicting priorities call from many directions.

What voices do we listen to?

What priorities deserve our attention?

What is right? What is just? What is wise?

How do know God's voice in all the noise?

Open us, God, to listen with our hearts.

Help us to find your voice, whispering in our lives:

your voice that speaks forgiveness when we do wrong,

your voice that calls us to serve you and others,

your voice that invites us to use our own voices

to challenge injustice in our world.

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Minute for Mission

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Our Gifts to God

Dedication

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,

If I were a wise man, I would do my part,

Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Words: Christina Rossette ca. 1873. Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906.**

Offertory Prayer:

God of all, who left your place in the heavens to join in life with us, accept our praise, our gratitude, our gifts. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

WE ARE SENT FORTH

* Hymn: #35 VU *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

* Commissioning and Benediction:

* Choral Benediction

In the heavenly country bright none shall need created light;

you its light, its joy, its crown, you its sun which goes not down;

there forever may we sing hallelujah to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix ca. 1858, alt.

Music: Conrad Kocher 1838, adapt. William H. Monk 1861.**

Postlude: *March of the Three Kings* (Marcel Rouher)

**Speak to us, God.
We are listening.**
(silence)
Amen.

Hymn: #74 VU *What Child is This*

A Story for Christmas

Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon

How silently ... the dear Christ enters in.

***O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!***

Words: Phillips Brooks 1868. Music: Lewis Henry Redner 1868. **

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

First Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:7–14
(With dancing and song, the remnant is gathered.)

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 147:12–20 – Part 2 (VU pp. 868–869)
(Great is our God with abundant power.)

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 1:3–14
(Destined for adoption through Jesus Christ.)

Anthem: *African Noel*

Gospel Reading: John 1:(1–9), 10–18
(The word became flesh and lived among us.)

Message: Wait a Minute! It's Still Christmas!

Kindling the Memory – Hope, Love, Joy, Peace

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn: #76 VU *See amid the Winter's Snow*

We State Our Faith

**God is Holy Mystery,
beyond complete knowledge,
above perfect description.
Yet,
in love,
the one eternal God seeks relationship...
We find God made known in Jesus of Nazareth,
and so we sing of God the Christ,
the Holy One embodied.
We sing of Jesus,
a Jew,
born to a woman in poverty
in a time of social upheaval
and political oppression.
He knew human joy and sorrow.
So filled with the Holy Spirit was he
that in him people experienced the presence of God among
them.
We sing praise to God incarnate.
Jesus announced the coming of God's reign –
a commonwealth not of domination
but of peace, justice, and reconciliation.
He healed the sick and fed the hungry.
He forgave sins and freed those held captive
by all manner of demonic powers.
He crossed barriers of race, class, culture, and gender.
He preached and practised unconditional love –
love of God, love of neighbour,
love of friend, love of enemy –
and he commanded his followers to love one another
as he had loved them.**

(From Song of Faith, a United Church of Canada statement of faith.)



Announcing

LIFE of the CONGREGATION and the COMMUNITY

Tuesday, Jan. 5 10:30am Tuesday Study Group resumes
7:30pm Worship Committee

Copies of the *Upper Room* for January/February *and Mandate Magazine* are available in the church entry ways.

Please submit **REPORTS** for printing for the Annual Meeting by January 19, 2010. Electronic forms welcomed at guc@nb.aibn.com.
Thank you, Donna

LOOKING AHEAD



Next Sunday, Jan. 10, 11:15am Children's Choir Practice resumes.

Wednesday, Jan. 27 Official Board Meeting.

February 14 Shared meal and Annual Congregational Meeting.

*** DETAILS OF THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS ON BULLETIN BOARDS***

*Check out the announcements and other information from **Maritime Conference**, currently updated regularly.*

***L'Arche 5th Annual Epiphany Concert**; today, Jan. 3, 2010, 2010 at Trinity Church Charlotte St.*

Portland UC is looking for an individual to work with their young families.

BALLOT – PLACE ON THE OFFERING PLATE

The Nominating Committee hereby requests your suggestions for persons to serve as Elders or Stewards for our Congregational Annual Meeting in February. Each year a number of Elders and Stewards complete their terms of service. It is important that they be replaced by persons who are capable and sincere. The work of the Christian Church should be held in high priority by the man or woman you select. As you nominate, keep in mind the contributions that could be made to these committees by our teenagers. Elders are requested to be Members of the congregation in which they serve.

My Suggestion for an Elder would be:

1st Choice

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

My Suggestion for a Steward would be:

1st Choice

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

Thank you,
The Nominating Committee

If you are not sure if the person you select is already an Elder or Steward, please call the Clerk of Session, Larry Watson, at 849-7501 or Chair of the Nominating Committee, Stu Baker, at 847-4906.

PLEASE RETURN BALLOT BY JANUARY 24, 2010