

A Warm Welcome to All Who Gather for Worship

Quispamsis United Church

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MINISTER Rev. Audrey Lounder

GREETERS Members of Session

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.

January 10, 2010

Epiphany 1

(Congregational responses are in bold type.)

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

Prelude: *Canon in D* (Pachelbel)

Welcome and Announcements

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Lighting the Memorial Candles and the Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Come beloved, seekers of God's wonders...

We come to the river – the sparkling river.

Come beloved, seekers of God's creative spirit...

We come to the river – the buoyant river.

Come beloved, seekers of God's assurance...

We come to the river – the cleansing river.

Come beloved, seekers of God's nurture and care...

We come to the river – the healing river.

Come beloved, seekers of God's abiding presence...

We come to the river – the refreshing river.

* Hymn: 79VU *Arise, Your Light Is Come*



Prayer of Approach:

Source of Life,
we stand on the shore of this river of faith
wanting to wade into these waters, wanting to be refreshed
by it's coolness, wanting to know its supporting waters,
yearning for the waters of your love.
Inspire us to step out in faith, to enter the river, embolden us
to actively seek the ebb and flow of life in you.
Amen.

Hymn: #82VU *A Light Is Gleaming*

Theme Conversation and the Prayer of Jesus

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

First Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

(When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.)

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 29 (VU pp. 755-756)

(Ascribe to God glory and strength.)

Epistle Reading: Acts 8:14-17

(Peter and John baptized the converts in Samaria.)

Anthem: *River in Judea*

Gospel Reading: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

(Jesus is baptized by John.)

Message: *...that I, a sinner...*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission

Offering Our Gifts to God

Dedication:

As they offered gifts most rare
at the manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix ca. 1858, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher 1838, adapt. William H. Monk 1861.*

Offertory Prayer

A Ritual of Affirmation

Passing of the Peace of Christ - *Namaste*

From Sanskrit, the word Namaste literally means "let there be a salutation to you". In these days when many are worried about the spread of H1N1, it provides an alternative greeting that we can use our worship.

The gesture is performed with hands in front of the chest, palms together. Bow your head slightly and greet your neighbor with the words, 'The Christ in me greets the Christ in you.'



Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn: #460VU *All Who Hunger*

The Great Thanksgiving

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you,

And also with you!

Share generously this gift of peace with those around you.

Let us give thanks to almighty God.

It is right to give God our thanks and our praise.

Right and good it is, Divine Beloved, to give you thanks,
for you have called us toward
your promises of blessing and hope.

God of all,

...

And so we sing our praise to you...

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

#203 *More Voices*. Words: William S. Kiervan and Paul Scott.

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As we gather at this table,

...

And so we remember; and so we believe:

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen

Christ will come again!

#204 *More Voices*. Words: William S. Kiervan and Paul Scott.

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Come then, O Holy One.

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

Amen, amen, O One, Hosanna and Amen!

#205 *More Voices*. Words: William S. Kiervan and Paul Scott.

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Distribution of the Elements

The Prayer after Communion

**Gracious God, having given us a star to follow to this table,
may the gifts it has provided to us nourish us for your work.**

**May your presence among and within us move us to such
longing for your kingdom, that we will not be satisfied until the
whole world knows your justice, your peace, your love,
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

Amen

WE ARE SENT FORTH

* Hymn: #481VU *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

* Commissioning and Benediction:

*Choral Benediction

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.

***Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.***

Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

Words: Sylvia Dunstan 1985. Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906.

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Postlude: *March in G* (Handel)

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Stewards responsible for checking the church:

this week – January 10 – George Barefoot;

next week – January 17 – Jay Fuller

Scriptures for January 17: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10;
1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11.

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



Announcing

LIFE of the CONGREGATION and the COMMUNITY

JANUARY 10-16, 2010

Today 11:15pm Children's Choir practice

Monday, Jan. 11, 7:00pm Saint John Chaplaincy

Tuesday, Jan. 12 10:30am Tuesday Study Group

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7:30pm Stewards Meeting

Thursday, Jan. 14, 7:00pm Adult Choir Practice

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 qvc@nb.aibn.com. Thank you, Donna



Are you interested in participating in morning worship by **reading the scriptures**? Please sign up on the side bulletin board.

If you are interested in **confirmation** this year or if you are interested in exploring faith questions as it relates to this United Church of ours, please call the church office (847-4924) and let Rev. Audrey know... classes will start in early February.

LOOKING AHEAD



Wednesday, Jan. 27 Official Board Meeting.

CONGREGATIONAL **Sunday, Feb.14** Shared meal and Annual
MEETING Congregational Meeting.



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

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