

Northminster United Church
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Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry
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Pulpit Guest: John Taylor
Music Director: Dustin Bowers
Sunday, August 9th, 2020

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Celebrations

Birthday wishes to *Norma Cooke* [94]

Life and Work of the Community

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

One: The Holy longs to be with us and calls us to worship.

All: Let us open our hearts, minds, and spirits as we respond.

One: The Holy is closest to us especially in times of uncertainty.

All: Guide us Creator Spirit to trust you and walk our journey with you. Amen.

Opening Hymn: MV77

“Be Still and Know that I am God”

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The Holy gathers us in and sends us out. The Holy accepts us for who we are and encourages us to grow into all that we can become.

All: We are blessed. We are forgiven. We are loved.

First Lesson:

1 Kings 19:9-12

⁹At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

Young at Heart Hymn: MV138

“My Love Colours Outside the Lines”

Young at Heart Time

Psalm Selection: VU828 Part 1

Psalm 105:1-11

R: Bless God, my soul. Hallelujah!

One: Give thanks and call on God’s name. Make known to the nation’s what God has done.

All: Sing, O sing the songs of praise; tell of all God's wonderful deeds.

One: Exult in God's holy name;

All: let those who seek God be joyful in heart. R

One: Turn for help to the One who is your strength; seek God's presence continually.

All: Remember the marvels the Most High has done, the wonders and judgements God has given,

One: O children of Abraham and Sarah, God's servants,

All: O offspring of Israel, chosen of God. R

One: You are the eternal God,

All: your justice reaches every corner of the earth.

One: You are ever mindful of your covenant, the promise you gave to a thousand generations,

All: the covenant you made with Sarah and Abraham, the oath you gave to Isaac.

One: You confirmed it for Jacob as binding. To Israel your everlasting covenant you declared,

All: "To you I give the land of Canaan, as your appointed inheritance." R

Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

One: As the Holy One speaks to us from the stories of our faith history, may we hear the love and hope in the message.

All: Let us take the love and hope of the message to transform our lives and the communities in which we live.

One: In the name of the one called, Jesus.

All: Amen.

Music for Meditation

Meditation

The New Creed: VU918

One: Let's share together in the New Creed:

**All: We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,**

to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: VU562

“Jesus Calls Us”

Invitation to Offer Our Gifts

Offertory Dedication: VU224

“Sing a Happy Hallelujah”

Sing a happy hallelujah, sing it out with heart and style,
We're the echo of God's laughter, we're the image of God's smile.
Hallelujah, all creation, hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation, hallelujah everyone!

Dedication of Our Gifts

A Minute for Local Mission:

“GreenUp”

As the new reality of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, many aspects of our lives have taken a backseat to health, safety and economic recovery. One area that has substantially decreased in awareness is the environment.

For over 25 years, GreenUp has been active in the Kawarthas. To quote their website (greenup.on.ca), “GreenUp is an active community organization offering dozens of programs and services to those living both full time and seasonally in the Kawartha Lakes Region of Ontario. Our programs focus on facilitating positive action and provide the tools to make small changes in their home or cottage that can create a large and lasting impact on our environment.”

From community bee keeping in the area to the enviro-park and nurse in Peterborough, GreenUp promotes awareness and action for the environment. For more details and examples of their work on the community, please consult their website.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: MV84

“In You There is a Refuge”

Blessing as We Go Forth

One: As the winds of the Holy blow among us...

All: ...the fire of the Holy burns within us!

One: We are blessed and transformed...

All: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Amen!

Sung Blessing: VU567 vs 5

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

Christ, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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