

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH

building connections – living faith – acting for justice

November 14, 2021

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONGS

The spirit in me greets the spirit in you

The spirit in me greets the spirit in you. Alleluia!

God's in us, and we're in God. Alleluia!

Words and Music: Jim Strathee

Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

Oh a Song Must Rise MV 142 st. 1 & 2

Words and Music: Paul B. Svenson

Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

INTRO

Here at Parkdale United Church, we use three short phrases to describe our ministry: building connections – living faith – acting for justice.

Building Connections: We believe church is about community, building relationships, creating a village, so you don't have to journey alone.

Living Faith: How do we live out our faith? How do we practice what we learn from our sacred texts, our worship services, our book studies and Bible studies to make the world a better place for all?

Acting for Justice: We strive to stand up for the marginalized, oppressed, and those who are suffering. We do this by reaching beyond the walls of Parkdale to those who need a little more love and attention.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that we live, work and play on the borrowed traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

Our hearts praise you, O God;
our spirits rejoice in God our rock,
for you have remembered us,
your humble servants.
Mighty God, we celebrate
the great things you have done for us. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God is strong, like a rock.
We rejoice that our God is our Rock.
Our God cares for the ones the world forgets.
We rejoice that our God cares for all people!
Our God is the one who gives life, and who guards the future.
We rejoice in all that God has done for us!

HYMN This Day God Gives Me VU 410 st. 1-3

This day God gives me strength of high heaven,
sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth,
flashes of lightning, wind in its swiftness,
deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.

This day God sends me strength to sustain me,
might to uphold me, wisdom as guide.
Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening,
your lips are speaking, Friend at my side.

God's way is my way, God's shield is round me,
God's host defends me, saving from ill.
Angels of heaven drive from me always
all that would harm me, stand by me still.

Words: attrib. St. Patrick Tune: BUNESSAN
Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

CHRIST CANDLE/CHILDREN'S TIME

Once there was a person who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people began to follow him. But they didn't know who he was. So, one day, they simply had to ask him. "Who are you?" and he said, "I am the light."

LORD'S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL SONG Rejoice in the Lord Always VU 249

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice! (2X)
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice! (2X)

Words: and Music: traditional
Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

CENTERING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying VU 400

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Words and Music: Ken Medema
Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

OFFERING

There are many ways to give to the church. This week, I met with a group of ladies who pray each day, each week for the members in our congregation and the wider community that are suffering. These women not only pray, but they reach out by phone and visits. They are an important part of our ministry! They have been called to the ministry of pastoral care and use their time and talents to reach beyond these walls. Thank you.

I also learned this week that financial gifts are down since the pandemic. I ask you to please take a minute to prayerfully consider giving to the church. If you feel called, there is a basket at the back of the sanctuary. If you are unable to give at this time, please know you are welcome, loved and a valuable part of our community. For those of you who continue to give through PAR, thank you.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Will Joyfully Sing in the Morning (Mary McDonald)
Choir

READINGS

Luke 1:46-55 Mary's Song of Praise

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him

from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm,
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,
he has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and exalted those of low degree;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his posterity for ever.”

1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hannah Gives Thanks

Hannah said, “My heart is happy in the Lord
I feel very strong in my God. I laugh at my enemies. I am very happy in my victory.

There is no holy God like the Lord. There is no God but you. There is no Rock like our God.

Don't continue bragging. Don't speak proud words,
because the Lord God knows everything. He leads and judges people.

The bows of strong soldiers break and weak people become strong.

People who had plenty of food in the past must now work to get food.
But those who were hungry in the past now grow fat on food.
The woman who was not able to have children now has seven children.
But the woman who had many children is sad because her children are gone.

The Lord causes people to die, and he causes them to live.
He sends people down to the grave, and he can raise them up to live again.

The Lord makes some poor, and he makes others rich.
He humbles some people, and he honors others.

He raises the poor from the dust, and he takes away their sadness.
He makes them important and seats them with princes and at the places for honored guests.
The Lord made the whole world, and the whole world belongs to him.

He protects his holy people. He keeps them from stumbling.
But evil people will be destroyed. They will fall in the darkness.
Their power won't help them win.

The Lord destroys his enemies. God Most High will thunder in heaven against people.
The Lord will judge even the lands that are far away.
He will give power to his king. He will make his chosen king strong.

Taken from the Holy Bible: Easy-to-Read Version (ERV), International Edition
© 2013, 2016 by Bible League International and used by permission.

MESSAGE Rejoice in what God has done for us, even though!

PARTING HYMN My Soul Cries Out (Canticle of the Turning) MV 120 st. 1-3

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing...

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing...

Words: Rory Cooney Tune: Irish traditional
Used with permission, OneLicense.net #A716718

BENEDICTION

May the Holy One, the Rock of our salvation bless us now! Join together in faith to work for truth and honesty. As God loves you, carry that love out into the world in peace, hope, and faith. Amen.

CHORAL BLESSING Go Now in Peace VU 964

Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Words and Music: Natalie Sleeth
Used with permission, [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net) #A716718

POSTLUDE

MINISTER

Kim Holmes-Younger

ORGANIST

Antonina Cox

LAY READER

Beth Balshaw

WORSHIP HOSTS

George & Irene Norton, Sarah Leeuwerke

SCREENS

Beth & Jim Balshaw

SOUND

Bob Radiff