

PARKDALE UNITED CHURCH

building connections – living faith – acting for justice

November 21, 2021

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONGS

Oh, sing to Our God VU 241 st. 1 & 3

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing out a new song. (3X)

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit. (3X)

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Words and Music: Brazilian folk song
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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise VU 264 st. 1 & 3

Immortal, invisible, God only wise;

in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;

most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small,

in all life thou livest, the true life of all,

we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,

then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith Tune: ST. DENIO
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INTRO

Welcome! Today, we will be celebrating Christ the King Sunday as well as hosting a Covenanting Ceremony for myself. What is Christ the King Sunday and why do we call Jesus our King? Is this an outdated title for Jesus?

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

With thankful hearts, we pause this day to be reminded of our grandest hope: that the disaster, the demands, even the blessings of this world do not have the last word.

You are the one who was and is, and who is yet to come – a ruler of a different kind.

Open our hearts to the comfort, the challenge and the mystery of this good news.
In the name of our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is King, God is robed in majesty.

All: The Lord is robed, God is bound with strength.

Leader: God has established the world; it shall never be moved.

All: Gather on this Christ the King Sunday to be reminded that God is the Lord of all.

Leader: God is our rock, our strength, our redeemer.

All: Come, let us worship our King!

HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King VU 217 st. 1, 2, 4

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Bright burning sun with golden beam, soft shining moon with silver gleam,

Sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

O rushing winds and breezes soft, O clouds that ride the winds aloft,

Sing praises, hallelujah!

O rising morn, in praise rejoice; O lights of evening, find a voice:

Sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

And everyone of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part:
sing praises, hallelujah!

All who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and yield up all your care:

Sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Words: St. Francis, alt. Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
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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."

COVENANTING SERVICE

PUC Council Chair: We joyfully gather to mark a new ministry relationship between Parkdale United Church and Kim Holmes-Younger. Today, we commit to and celebrate how we are the church together. Our covenants with one another will evolve as we seek ways to faithfully deepen our commitment to Jesus and live into our call to embody God's love in the world.

Chair of Search Committee: After prayerful discernment, and the approval of Parkdale United Church community of faith, we present Kim Holmes-Younger, who has been appointed to a ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in the Parkdale United Church community of faith. We believe that her skills and talents complement our faithful witness, ministry needs, and community context.

PUC Council Chair: Kim, you are here in response to the appointment of Parkdale United Church community of faith. We come together to mark this new relationship. You are about to undertake the ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care in this place.

You, the members of the Parkdale United Church community of faith, are called to join Kim in worship, study, prayer, and action. We pray for God's grace as we covenant together.

Promises of the New Minister

PUC M & P Chair: Kim, do you, in the presence of this community of faith, take on the new trust and responsibility of ministering with Parkdale United Church?

Kim: I do, God being my Helper.

PUC M & P Chair: Will you accept the guidance of Chinook Winds regional council and, together with its other members, be responsible for the health of Parkdale United Church community of faith?

Kim: I will, God being my Helper.

PUC M & P Chair: Will you share in the ministry goals and faith story of this community of faith?

Kim: I will, God being my Helper.

PUC M & P Chair: Will you accept the support and encouragement of this community of faith and the Chinook Winds regional council?

Kim: I will, God being my Helper.

PUC M & P Chair: Will you work cooperatively with the wider church and wider community to embody God's love in the world?

Kim: I will, God being my Helper.

Promises of the Community of Faith

PUC Council Chair: Will you join with Kim Holmes-Younger in a ministry of worship, study, prayer, and action within Parkdale United Church Community of Faith, Chinook Winds Regional Council and within the wider church?

Members of the PUC community of faith: We will, God being our Helper.

PUC Council Chair: Will you support her as she serves among you in this ministry?

Members of the PUC community of faith: We will, God being our Helper.

Promises of the Lay Supervision Team

John Pentland: Nick, Christy, Sandy, Judy and Beth, will you continue to support and encourage Kim Holmes-Younger as she develops her ministry of worship, study, prayer, and action within Parkdale United Church Community of Faith, Chinook Winds regional Council and within the wider church?

Members of the Lay Supervision Team: We will, God being our Helper.

Response to Covenant

PUC Council Chair: Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made.

HYMN OF RESPONSE We Have This Ministry VU 510

We have this ministry and we are not discouraged;
it is by God's own power that we may live and serve.
Openly we share God's word, speaking truth as we believe,
praying that the shadowed world may healing light receive.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our living.

O Christ, the tree of life, our end and our beginning,
we grow to fullest flower when rooted in your love.
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay, called to service by your grace,
different cultures, different gifts, the young and old a place.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.

The yoke of Christ is ours, the whole world is our parish,
we daily take the cross, the burden and the joy.
Bearing hurts of those we serve, wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,
Holy Spirit, bread and wine, we die and rise again.
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.

Words: and Music:: Jim Strathdee
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CENTERING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray to God our King.

God of Joy, as we enter the holiday season, let us never forget the true meaning of Advent and Christmas; that this is a time for us to prepare for the arrival of your son, Jesus Christ, who will break forth as a beautiful, heavenly light in this world to illuminate the way.

As we prepare for the season of Advent, help us not get lost in the busyness of the month of December. Keep us calm. Keep us grounded. Keep us in wonder.

God of compassion, help us speak true words of kindness and gentleness when far too many in this world are hearing harsh words of cruelty.

To the immigrant, let us say "Welcome!"

To the stranger, let us say "God loves you and so do we!"

To the poor, let us say "Here's some food!"

To the sad and lonely, let us say "We're here for you!"

God of all creation, we pray this day for the people among us, and perhaps even our very selves, who need your love and compassion this day and everyday.

Hear us, Holy Parent, as you taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE God Our Protector

God our protector, keep us in mind, always give strength to your people.
For if we could be with you one day in time
it is better than a thousand without you.

Words and Music: Steve Bell
Used with permission – Steve Bell

OFFERING

There are many ways to give to the church! This week, I would like to give thanks to The Parkdale Search Committee and their work in tirelessly conducting surveys, researching and interviews. This group volunteers both their time and their endless talents to ensure the right candidate was found to lead and serve Parkdale. Thank you.

I want you to know that the gifts of time, talent and resources that you give to the church are valuable to this community and wider community.

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 still welcome and loved. For those of you who continue to give through automatic payments, thank you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

His eye is on the sparrow (C.D. Martin/C.H. Gabriel)
Choir/Soloist: Bob Robson

READINGS

Psalm 93

- ¹The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;
- ² your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.
- ³The floods have lifted up, O LORD,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
- ⁴More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the LORD!

⁵Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O LORD, forevermore.

John 18:33-37

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters^[a] again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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MESSAGE Christ the King

HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling VU 333 st. 1 & 2

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Words: Charles Wesley Tune: HYFRYDOL
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BENEDICTION

It is not enough to acclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and King.
Our mission in life is to make his kingdom a reality among us, and to bring it to those around us by our words and deeds. The way to do this is to live as he lived: for others, in love and service.
Go now in peace to love and serve the Lord, and to give shape to God's kingdom. Thanks be to God!

CHORAL BLESSING Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there around you and above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Words and Music: Don Besig and Nancy Price
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POSTLUDE

Prelude in Classic Style (Gordon Young)

MINISTER

Kim Holmes-Younger

ORGANIST

Antonina Cox

LAY READER

Nick Finn

WORSHIP HOSTS

Sue Brodrick, Earl & Sandra Beattie

SCREENS

Beth & Jim Balshaw

SOUND

Ted Moon