



WILMOT UNITED CHURCH

September 24, 2017

Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.

At the points marked * - those who are able are invited to stand.

Presider: Rev. Rose-Hannah Gaskin

WE GATHER AS A FAITH COMMUNITY

Organ Prelude: Introduction & Fugue in F Major (Nares)

Welcome to the Church

Christ Candle Lighting

Call to Worship:

Before our eyes the autumn leaves change colour,
green giving way to red and gold:

Creating God, we marvel at the beauty of your world.

Birds and animals, trees and plants prepare for the changing season.

Providing God, in wisdom you have fashioned all that lives.

In every season your Spirit speaks to us,
drawing us onward into new beginnings.

**Engaging God, we open our minds
and hearts to your Spirit's urging.**

Let us worship God.

* **Opening Hymn:** Let All Things Now Living VU #242

Opening Prayer:

To you, God of life, we lift up our hearts.
Our God, in you we trust. In our worship,
lead us into new understanding of your way for us;
remind us of your mercy and your steadfast love.
Help us to live in harmony with one another,
and with the world that sustains our being.
May we, with all your creation, sing your praise
and live to your honour and glory. Amen.

Story Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Rev. E. Beirsto

*** Singing Together As This Church Family:**

The Church Is Wherever God's People

VU #579

Prayer of Confession:

**We confess to you, Sacred Creator,
that we have not always taken care of our environment.
We are sorry for the ways we've abused it:
wasting it,
hoarding it,
destroying it,
taking it for granted.
Forgive our foolish ways.**

Silent Prayer:

**For these and all our foolish ways, we pray,
forgive us, loving God.
Guide us to work diligently with our beloved Earth.
With faith and assurance may we find ourselves
in new relationships with all of your Creation. Amen.**

Assurance of God's Love:

God is always willing and ready
to forgive us and to guide us.

As we strive to live in harmony
with the Holy Spirit,
our daily work and play yield
abundant fruit for all.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Hymn:** Come, Let Us to the God of Love

VU #653

LISTENING TO SCRIPTURE

Prayer of Preparation: (Unison)

Janice Harvey

**Eternal God, open our minds to hear your word,
our hearts to love your word,
and our lives to be obedient to your word,
through the power of your Spirit
and the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Scripture: Exodus 14: 9 – 21 and Romans 14: 7-9

Congregational Response:

This is the witness of the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: The Cross

(Courtney)

Reflection: Deliverance Re-examined

Rev. R-H Gaskin

Time and Space for Silent Reflection

*** Hymn:** Spirit Dancing

VU #388

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Announcements

Invitation to The Offering

Offertory Music

* **Offertory Verse:** Grant Us, God, the Grace VU #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

* **Offertory Prayer:**

Loving Father, accept these gifts we bring this day.

May they be used to further your work in this community and beyond.

**May they be in some special way a rich reflection of our work on behalf of
your Creation and thus of your good seed growing in our good soil. Amen.**

We Give Thanks and Pray for Others

The Lord's Prayer

* **Closing Hymn:** Lead On, O Cloud of Presence VU #421

* **Commissioning**

***Choral Blessing** VU #963

Postlude: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Micheelsen)

You are invited to remain for the Postlude as it is part of our Worship Service.

WELCOME to this service of worship and thank you for being with us today. You are invited to join us for **COFFEE & CONVERSATION** in the Dr. G. M. Young Memorial Hall following the worship service. Thank you to *members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry* for hosting this time of fellowship.

TODAY: LISTENING SESSION: Today we will host the first of several monthly "listening sessions" in the parlour after worship. This is a time to chat with members of the Property Development Committee and Council as we move forward in our discernment process concerning possible re-development of our property. This is not a formal presentation, but rather a time to listen, chat and share ideas through dialogue together. Please pick up your coffee and come to the parlour. We plan to have these sessions every month this fall.

THE PRAYER CIRCLE offers confidential prayer support for those with physical, emotional, family and spiritual needs. To have your concerns added to the Wilmot prayer list contact Guy Vezina (455-6174) or Raday Brown (454-3001).



Monday, Sept. 25th – Church Office OPEN

Wednesday, Sept. 27th – Church Office CLOSED

Monday, Oct. 2nd – Church Office OPEN

Wednesday, Oct. 4th – Church office CLOSED

Regular hours – 9 a.m. – 4:30 – each Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

PLEASE NOTE: We will be receiving new members on October 8th. If you would like to transfer your membership from another congregation or become a member of Wilmot, please speak to Ellen or Rose~Hannah.

REMINDER regarding staff parking at Wilmot United Church: our staff [ministers, secretary, custodian, organist, and choir director] have designated parking spaces off King Street which are reserved for their use 24/7. Our staff may need to use their space at any time of day/evening and are inconvenienced when they arrive to find their space occupied. Please be respectful of this. Thank you.



FLOWERS FOR THANKSGIVING: The Sanctuary Committee invites members of the congregation interested in placing memorial flowers at the front of the church on Thanksgiving (Oct. 8th) to have them to the church by 10:00 a.m. on Oct. 7th. Please advise Marlene no later than Wednesday, October 5th of whom your donation is in memory, so that it can be noted in the bulletin. The committee also welcomes donations of fruits, vegetables, potted mums, pickles or other harvest season items with which to decorate the sanctuary.

HELEN A. YOUNG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Deadline for applications is Oct. 30th. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a post-secondary learning institution, i.e. university, community college, trade school, etc. Application forms are available at the church office.

CAN YOU HELP? I am looking for someone who will organize a luncheon for newcomers after worship in October. Please give me a call, or send an email.

Thank you. Rose-Hannah

BOOK CLUB members are reminded of our September Book Club meeting to be held on Tuesday, Sept. 26th at 7 p.m. in the parlour. The title to be discussed is *Journey* by James Michener, an historical fiction novel published in 1989 about the Klondike Gold Rush. The royalty earnings from this novel allowed the author to endow the "Journey Prize", an annual Canadian literary award worth \$10,000 to the year's best short story published by an emerging Canadian writer. New members are always welcome. Come along and bring a friend to discuss this novel over a cup of tea, whether you have read the novel or not.

FALL BOOK SALE: Wilmot United will be hosting a Book Sale on Oct. 5 and 6th from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. each day. If you have books you wish to donate, you may leave them at the church. If you are available to help with setup and/or work at the sale, please contact Marlene in the church office. Thanks



UCW RUMMAGE SALE: Please mark your calendars for Fri. Oct 20th (3 - 6 p.m.) and Oct 21st (9 - 12 noon) for Wilmot's fall rummage sale. This initiative is always warmly received by the Fredericton community and is also a wonderful time for fellowship and fundraising for us at Wilmot. If you have items to donate, please leave them on the gym stage anytime up to Oct 20th. If you are available to help with setup and/or work at the sale, please contact Linda Gough at 459-3706.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: Doors Open Fredericton – This afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. approximately twenty-two Fredericton buildings will be open to the public for visits and tours. Wilmot Church has been invited to participate again this year.

TODAY: Hymn Sing - Join the congregation of Brunswick Street Baptist Church for an hour of singing your favourite hymns this evening at 6:30 p.m. All welcome.

TODAY: Karon Croll, Contralto, and Ruth Nieboer, Piano, with guest Alexis Ervin, Soprano, will present **A Seesaw of Song – from Bach to Britten** at 7 p.m. at Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Admission by free will offering at the door.

SEPT. 26: Death Cafe: Last Tuesday of the month from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Fredericton Library. Join us for conversation and coffee/tea. Death Cafe is not a counselling session or a bereavement support group. We get together to share our views and feelings about dying and death in a safe and non-judgmental space. Space is limited so please pre-register: Anne Marie: hartford@rogers.com

SEPT. 27: Opportunity for Dialogue: Christian Theist/Atheist Perspectives

You are invited to participate in a day of dialogue on this topic: with guest presenter Gretta Vosper and two of her West Hill United Church congregants in daytime sessions (10 to 4) held at Forest Hill United church and again in an evening public dialogue (7-9 p.m.) with Gretta and theist presenter Dr. John Valk at Dineen Auditorium, UNB. (Dr. Chris Levan will also be available to take feedback for Toronto Southeast Presbytery.) Lunch and refreshments are provided for daytime sessions. Participation is by your donation to cover travel, food and other costs for daytime sessions, and \$10 admission for the evening but no one turned away from any sessions. We encourage anyone interested to attend as feedback from all perspectives is needed! Details of evening session are available on Murray McFarlane's Facebook. For all details, including agenda for daytime and evening sessions in printable PDF or as printed brochures, contact Gail Wylie (wylie1@nb.sympatico.ca), Murray McFarlane murraymcfarlane@gmail.com, or Owen Washburn. To register, email Owen at owenw@nbnet.nb.ca.

Sept. 30: A group called No One Is Illegal" received word through David Coon's office that a group called "Storm Alliance" is planning a White Supremacy rally in Fredericton on Sept 30th at City Hall. We are organizing a Silent Gathering to Resist Hate event for the same day in response. Sept 30th is Yom Kippur. Their plan is to gather on the green space between the Art Gallery and the walking bridge. We would like to invite Imelda Perley and Rabbi Yosef Goldman to speak and led us in a meditation or prayer, followed by a shared period of silence to fortify ourselves in resisting hate in our own hearts. The group No One Is Illegal is reaching out to Fredericton's faith communities and invite them to participate.

Silent Gathering to Resist Hate

Where: South Riverside Trail

(between the Beaverbrook Art Gallery and Bill Thorpe walking bridge)

When: 3 p.m., Saturday, Sept 30th

SEPT. 30: St. Paul's United Church, will be hosting a **RUMMAGE SALE** on Saturday, Sept. 30th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. We will have clothing, small household items, and one of a kind treasures at very reasonable prices. Bring your bags and see what gems you can find!!

OCT. 19: Nashwaaksis United Church - U.C.W. Unit 6 is hosting a Bridge Luncheon at 12 noon in their auditorium. To reserve your table for \$40, please contact Connie at 472-4744. Call now to reserve your spot!

OCT. 30: at 7 p.m. there will be a very different 'night out' for concert goers at St. Paul's United Church! A unique cinema experience with a twist is offered when we show one of the greatest silent films ever made, the classic 1925 film version of **The Phantom of the Opera**, starring Lon Chaney, together with live, improvised organ accompaniment from international recitalist David Drinkell. This was cinema as it used to be with a musician trying to capture the mood as the silent movie's images flash across the silver screen. Free will offering. Produced by Dr. Sharon Pond, "A Silent Haunting" it is a unique event as St. Paul's United Church transforms itself into the world of silent film and, accompanied by David on our 70-year-old Casavant organ, provides a heady and exhilarating evening's entertainment.

ENGAGING DIFFERENCE

Our gifts for Mission & Service support intercultural programs. Let us hear the story of the Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry program (DUIM).

God is calling us to find new ways of being church together. It is not simply a matter of continuing with traditions we have become comfortable with and allowing others to join us. Rather, our intercultural vision calls us to be aware of who is at the centre and who is at the margins and to empower those at the margins to lead us into change.

The church's intercultural vision is about more than inclusion - it's about radical welcoming. When we affirm and welcome a variety of expressions of faith, it deepens our understanding of God and of one another.

DUIM is an interactive program for church leaders. It is offered by our partner the Canadian Churches' Forum and shaped, in part, by the United Church. Bursaries are available for United Church participants to help offset program costs.

DUIM is offered in different locations across Canada several times throughout the year and is tailored to the intercultural realities of each local context. Participants discover how to nurture faithful relationships across difference, gather insights on cultural relevance, and deepen understanding and awareness in their faith communities.

We sing thanksgiving that our gifts for Mission & Service support this exciting time of Spirit-led questioning, experimenting, and mutual learning.

If Mission & Service is already a regular part of your giving, thank you so much! If you have not given for Mission & Service, please consider making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith. In all our Mission & Service giving, with a willing heart, we sing thanksgiving to God!

THIS WEEK AT WILMOT

Sept. 24 – Oct. 1

Today:

11:00 a.m. **WORSHIP & S.S.**
12:00 p.m. **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**
12:00 p.m. **LISTENING SESSION – Parlour**
1:00 p.m. **DOORS OPEN FREDERICTON**

Monday, Sept. 25:

9:00 a.m. Church Office will be **OPEN**
6:45 p.m. **TOASTMASTERS CLUB** - Board Room

Tuesday, Sept. 26:

7:00 p.m. **BOOK CLUB** - Parlour
7:00 p.m. **STEWARDS** – Board Room

Wednesday, Sept. 27:

Church Office **CLOSED**

9:00 a.m. **QUILTING and FELLOWSHIP** - Parlour
10:00 a.m. **TOY LIBRARY**
1:00 p.m. **WEDNESDAY @ WILMOT** - Lunch and Vouchers
7:00 p.m. **COUNCIL** – Board Room
7:00 p.m. **NA GROUP** - Fireside Room

Thursday, Sept. 28:

PRESBYTERY – Forest Hill United Church

9:30 a.m. **QUILTING and FELLOWSHIP** – Parlour
1:00 p.m. **WRITERS' GROUP** - Parlour
6:30 p.m. **HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE**
7:00 p.m. **MARTIAL ARTS** - Gym
7:30 p.m. **CHOIR PRACTICE**

Friday, Sept. 29:

7:30 p.m. **FREDERICTON MARCHING BAND – “A Celebration of Theatre Music”** – Sanctuary

Saturday, Sept. 30:

10:00 a.m. **TOY LIBRARY**
6:00 p.m. **DROP-IN CENTRE** - Gym

Sunday, Oct. 1:

WORLDWIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. **ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION** – Board Room
11:00 a.m. **WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL**
12:00 p.m. **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**