

**St. John's United Church**  
**August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**11<sup>th</sup> After Pentecost**  
**Rev. Stephen Sparks**

Regular Office hours  
9:00 AM. – 12:00 PM Tues., Wed. and Thurs.  
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## **HYMN SING**

**GREETINGS, WELCOMING NEWCOMERS,  
ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER CONCERNS AND  
CELEBRATIONS**

## **MINUTES FOR MISSION**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: I am your brother Joseph whom you sold into Egypt.  
But now, do not grieve; do not reproach yourselves for  
having sold me here, since God sent me before you to  
preserve your lives.

**Many: Then throwing his arms round the neck of  
Benjamin he wept; and Benjamin wept on his shoulder.  
He kissed all his brothers, weeping on each one. Only  
then were his brothers able to talk to him.**

### **PRAYER OF APPROACH**

One: Holy One, you called this world into existence, forging  
a unity of life from the very beginning. The divisions and  
brokenness we have created are met by the irrevocable power  
of your mercy and grace. You show us the way of  
forgiveness with the gentle blessing of your love. Amen

Thank you for your generosity.

If you would like to continue with your weekly offerings,  
they can be mailed in, send an E-Transfer (please include  
envelope number) or if you would like to sign up for PAR  
please call Stacy Mericer 780-826-2859

### **Ministry and Personnel Committee:**

Bev Cameron 780 826 4142

Bob McRae 780 826 3256

Roger Antoniuk 780 812 4471

Susan Smith 780 826 2285

### **This Week: August 16<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Greeter: Shirley Highberg & Sophie Harasimiuk

Scripture: Jacki Kunec

Fellowship:

### **Next Week: August 23<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Greeter:

Scripture:

Fellowship:

**SERMON****HYMN # 679 Let There Be Light****BENEDICTION**

One: Holy and eternal God,  
out of the storms of the world  
we came into this quiet place to worship you  
our abiding Refuge.

**Many: Thanks be unto you for silence which unfolds  
strength and for tranquility leading us to things  
deep and true.**

One: Meet with us here in the inner place of our spirits  
and refresh us with your living presence.

**All: In the name of the Father,  
the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL # 402 (vs 4)**

**We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave, as we love, we are loved; and we  
seek justice in God's ways as we move together from this  
place.**

**HYMN # 395 Come in, Come In and Sit Down****THE PASSING OF PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another in the love of God.

**CHILDREN'S STORY****PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: Eternal Forgiveness, we have held so tightly to our  
resentments and bitterness that we are not even aware of the  
ways they have imprisoned our own spirits. We are a people  
often bound by our self-righteousness. We are a people many  
times restricted by our standards of right and wrong. We are  
a people who have not yet learned how to love truly generous  
hearts. And thus, we are limited and retrained; held back and  
misguided; confirmed and constrained.

**Many: Help us to loosen these bonds. Show us the ways of  
forgiveness that lead us to free others from our anger,  
and to free ourselves in renewed wholeness. Remind us  
again of the deep communion within which you created  
us, and of our relatedness as your children. Lead us to  
reconnect with each other in joyful abandonment of our  
hold on brokenness and failures. Show us the ways of  
subversive forgiveness, which allows us new life and  
creates the path for healing. Forgive us, we pray, and  
show us how to forgive. Amen.**

**(Please stand)**

**All: Almighty God, do not remain silent. Do not be unmoved or unresponsive to our needs: hear our prayer and answer it.**

One: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**PRAYER RESPONSE # 381 Spirit of Life**

**Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close; wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

**PARDON AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Creator and Saviour God: Giver and Renewer of Life: We give You thanks for Your grace and mercy by which the burden of sin and guilt has been lifted from us. Blessed are you, God, most Holy, now and forever. Amen.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE # 156 (M.V.) Dance With the Spirit (X2)**

**Dance with the Spirit early in the morning, walk with the Spirit throughout the long day. Work and hope for the new life abornin, listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

**HYMN # 559 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm # 133 Pg. 856**

**GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen**

**HYMN # 79 (M.V.) Spirit, Open My Heart**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER # 959**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING HYMN # 537**

**Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share. Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Genesis 45:1-15 Pg. 49, 50**

**Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Pg. 198, 199**

**Matthew 15:21-28 Pg. 23**

