

Silver Falls United Church

Sunday, September 20, 2009

Minister: Rev. Angela Cory, BA M.Div Director of Music: Ann McAllister

Congregational Responses are in **Bold** print.

* ***Please stand if able.***

Personal Prayer of Preparation

Loving God, hold us close when we fear or do not understand the way before us. Open us to the ones who await your welcome through us. May our own frailty make us more gracious—and may we rejoice that in caring for others, we welcome you. Amen

Organ Prelude

* Introit Make a Joyful Noise all the Earth **VU 820 verse 1, repeat chorus**

Call to Worship

One: Friends, we gather to worship God. May we come with eyes to see, ears to hear, and hands happy to care in God's way.

Prayer of Approach (responsively)

One: Here we are again, God.

Two: Yes, back where we belong;

Three: At home in the circle of love.

All: At home in the circle of love.

One: Greet us in the centre.

Two: Yes, hold us in your heart;

Three: For we are at peace in the circle of love.

All: At peace in the circle of love. Amen

Opening Hymn God, Whose Almighty Word **VU 313**

Call To Confession

One: As we come to God in confession let us create a space to allow the Spirit to move amongst us and refresh our lives. Let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Very often, O God, we think all that makes sense, and all that should really concern us, is our present and future reality; our needs and our ambitions. And despite all good intention—years of church going, community service, searching prayer—we return to you confessing, even lamenting our inability to see past our own noses when it really counts. When self-centredness rises like a destructive wave, or when the need to be great or first in line blinds us to another and pushes them to the outer limits of our care and conscience. Forgive us again, O Holy One. Centred in your welcome, playful in your arms, may we find a renewed capacity and the hard-fought freedom to be a people of warmth, a people of equality, indeed, a people of sheer goodness and grace. Amen

Words of Assurance

One: From many differing places we come; contrasting ages, cultures, histories, opinions and even beliefs. Yet, we surely belong to one another in the peace and unity of God. In that peace and through that world-wide unity we are made whole, healed and forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen!

A New Creed

**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.

Faith in Action
Life and Work of the Church

Children's Hymn Jesus Came, a Child like Me **VU 583 vs 1 & 2**

Theme Conversation

Hymn VU 583 vs 3 & 4

Introit for the Word

One: Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may your Word be heard; in the meditation of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your kingdom be known. Amen

Scripture Readings:

First Reading:

Proverbs 31: 10-31

Reader: These are our sacred stories

All: Thanks be to God

* Psalm Psalm 1 VU 724

Epistle: James 3: 13 to 4: 3, 7-8

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading: Mark 9: 30-37

Reader: Glory be to you, O God

All: Praise be to you, O Christ

Ministry of Music

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life -- by M. Praetorius

Sermon

Offertory Invitation

One: Being allowed to serve is one of the greatest gifts that another may allow us to give. May the gifts that we bring today help us to serve as Jesus calls us to, both through the ministries of this congregation and in the wider world. Let us receive our morning offering.

Receiving our Offerings and Par Cards

Offertory Hymn

Who Comes From God

VU 892 (wisdom 7)

Dedication of Offering

We Praise You, O God

VU 218, vs 1

***Offertory Prayer** (responsively)

One: Receive these gifts from our hands, the fruit of our work and calling. Yet even more than this:

All: Receive the shared gift of our hearts; our desire to serve and love you in the way of Christ. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to you children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place,

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Refrain *We will follow, we will follow Jesus.
We will follow, we will follow him.
We will follow, we will follow Jesus.
Wherever he leads us we will follow.*

Lord's Prayer

**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;
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen**

Closing Hymn Forth in Your Name, O Christ **VU 415 vs 1, 2 4 & 5**

Commissioning and Benediction

One: Go in the peace and gentle wisdom of God. Be of humble courage, looking toward the needs of others with hearts full of mercy, acting without favour or with guile, now and always.

All: Amen!

Choral Blessing (tune: vu 402)

*We are one, as we go, now we leave,
strengthened and renewed.
We have shared, we have cared,
We have witnessed God's great love.
As we go from this place,
All our fears and cares erase,
For we know the future is in God's hands.
Be with us as we journey on our way.*

(text by Sue McBeath, Humphrey Memorial U.C., Moncton, NB)

Organ Postlude

If you are a visitor with us, we give you **special welcome** in the name of the Lord, Jesus Christ. If you are a regular worshipper, do you know the person in front of you, or even beside you? If not, why not introduce yourself?

*Today's Service and Bulletin are dedicated in loving memory of loved ones by
John, Barb and Sarah Woollven*

Scripture for Sunday, Sept. 27th – **Donna Melanson**
Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22
Psalm 124
James 5: 13-20
Mark 9: 38-50

Greeter for Sept. 27th : **Gayle & Ron Powers**

Thank you goes out to last weeks

Readers & Greeters for all your help!!

****please note there are new schedules on the back table for reading and greeting. Please make sure you pick one up.*

*Thanks. If you're interested in adding your name to the list
Please let Tammy, in the office, know.*

Announcements

“Stylin’ for Fall” Fashion Extravaganza

Being held on **Saturday, October 3rd**, at **6:30pm**. Come on out and see our members walk the runway for stores like Tanjay, Jayset, Boathouse and the Butterfly Shoppe!! Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from any UCW member or in the office. Coffee & dessert to follow. For more information, call the office at 696-1410. Come enjoy a “Girls Night Out!”

Attention Youth Group! There will be a meeting on Saturday, September 26 from 7-9pm. Everyone is welcome!! Always looking for new young members!! Come see what we’re all about!

*From July 20 – 30th youth from Silver Falls United Church in Saint John went to Halifax to participate in a mission trip run by Islington United Church in Toronto. They worked in soup kitchens, food banks and group homes, just to name a few. They had an amazing experience and are ready to share their stories with you. Come to Silver Falls United Church on **September 27th, 2009 at 7pm** to hear their stories and enjoy their fellowship.*

Attention! If you are a volunteer or work within the church and are involved with any youth or groups, we are asking that you have a Police Record Check done. This is mandatory within the United Churches. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office at 696-1410. All police record checks can be dropped off in the office. Thanks for your cooperation.

Still looking for a few **volunteers** for the **nursery** on Sunday mornings. If you’re interested in lending an hour of your time per month, I’d really appreciate it. You can let Tammy in the office know. Thanks so much!

Hope everyone had a great summer and I’m sure we all got out there and enjoyed the sunshine when we had it...which makes me think about our **Walking to Jerusalem** challenge. Anyone out there got some miles/kms to post? I can’t wait to see how far some of our members have gone. You can let me know and I’ll make sure your success is recorded!!

**We seem to be missing our sticker board that kept track of everyone’s kms. If anyone has seen it please let me know. For those of you that have been keeping track, could you please update me as to where you are so I can make a new poster in the event we can’t find the old one. Thanks. Keep up the great work! Tammy 696-1410.

The Scouts are looking for donations of Duct Tape. Any size, any color will do. Please see Andrew Cory.

There are still some plastic containers down in front of the kitchen. If they belong to you, please pick them up. Thanks for your cooperation.

There is now a binder in the office with information, newsletters, emails, etc. from Maritime Conference and General Council if anyone is interested.

Early call for those interested in decorating for Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is October 11, 2009.

October 4th is Communion Sunday.

Attention girls! Messengers, Explorers and CGIT will be starting up again on Monday, September 28, at 6:30pm. If you would like to be a part of these fun groups or know of a young girl age 5-16 who might be interested, please call June at 696-1512 or Diane at 696-3964, or you can give the office a call for more information, 696-1410.

Park Avenue United Church will be holding a **Gospel Music Evening** on Saturday, September 26 from 7-9:30pm. Come join us for your favorite gospel music, with special guests and refreshments!

Tracy Friars, Family & Friends are pleased to present “Celebrate Life” – A Musical Concert at the Imperial Theatre on Nov. 23rd at 7:30pm. The show will feature Tracy and many talented artists from the Saint John area including a 90 Voice Choir under the direction of Janet Kidd and accompanied by Terri-Lynn Russell. Tickets are \$20 and available through the Imperial Theatre (the box office, telephone and on-line) starting September 21st. All proceeds from this event will go to the Saint John Learning Exchange.

Prayer Corner *This information is given so that you may “Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” (Rom. 12:15) Please pray for them.*

Please keep in your prayers this week, Fred Quigley.