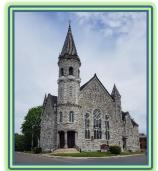
CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH

10:30 AM SUNDAY, OCT. 22, 2023



On Oct. 23, 1888 the cornerstone of the current building was laid, and the church formally opened on Jan. 5, 1890. It was renamed Chalmers United Church on June 10, 1925, when the union of the churches officially took place, with the formation of the United Church of Canada.



First session Jan. 28, 1847. Kingston City Hall, 1st Place of Worship.

Sydenham St. Closed 1888.



Text *indicates the parts that everyone reads together.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The lands on which we are gathering today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of the Huron-Wendat, Metis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

WORDS OF WELCOME

HYMN VU 238 How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. R 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" R

Words: Carl Gustav Boberg ca. 1885, English trans. Stuart K. Hine ca. 1939, rev. 1939' French trans. unknown Music: Swedish melody, arr. Stuart K. Kine 1949 English words and arr. © 1953 [1981] Renewal by Manna Music Inc. Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicence.net

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Joyce Holden

One: As we light this candle, we remember all of the leaders and congregants who have worshipped in this building. Above all, we remember that God is at the centre.

All: May God's light shine through us all.

HYMN VU 37 Gloria

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Music: trad. Liturgical setting Music: Jacques Berthier, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987 Music © 1978, 1980, 1981, 1987 Jeeva Sam Les Presses de Taizé (France) G.I.A. Pub Inc Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather together, to honour our past, remember the leaders and all who worshipped in this beautiful, limestone building. We look back to see the paths taken.

All: We gather this morning, celebrating with joy, as we look forward to forging a new path together.

One: We cherish the moments of grace, love and friendship that we have shared in this sacred space.

All: We come with hearts full of gratitude.

One: We celebrate who we are today,

All: And welcome the possibilities and opportunities before us.
One: We gather to worship God, the God of yesterday, today and

tomorrow, ever present in our midst.

Joyce Holden

Holy One, we come together this morning to remember our past, look forward to the future and give thanks. We are reminded, God, that you have been with us every step of the way. May we be filled with your loving spirit as we gather to celebrate the gift of Chalmers and the special place it holds in all of our hearts. Amen

HYMN VU 331 The Church's One Foundation

- 1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord; we are his new creation by water and the Word; from heaven he came and sought us that we might ever be his living servant people, by his own death set free.
- 2 Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; one charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 One holy name professing and at one table fed, to one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.
- 4 Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war, we wait the consummation of peace forevermore; till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
- 5 We now on earth have union with God, the Three in One, and share through faith communion with those whose rest is won. Oh, happy ones and holy!

 Lord, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone 1866, adapt. Laurence Hull Stookey 1983 Words (adapt.): © 1983 The United Methodist Publishing House Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley 1864 Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David Mathers

All: Dear God, as we listen to the words of scripture, we pray that these words resound in us and stir in us feelings of grace, justice, kindness and above all, love. Amen.

READING

David Mathers

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 639 One More Step Along the World

One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain:

And it's from the old I travel to the new. keep me travelling along with you.

- 2 Round the corners of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn; all the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me. R
- 4 Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough; leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you: R
- 5 You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me. ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you: R

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Anniversary Greetings, Videos, Words of Remembrance and Reflections from Past Leaders

Emmeline Patton (Rev. Dr. Franklin Banister)

Rev. Don McLean (Rev. Dr. Robert McLean)

David Cameron (video)

Marilyn Braden (Marg Quigley)

Rev. Dr. Stan Lucyk

J. Moncrieff (Rev. Dr. Roy & Rev. Dr. Lois Wilson)

Rev. Dr. C. Wayne Hilliker

Rev. Dr. Steven Chambers & Rev. Beth Hayward (video)

David Spooner (Rev. Drew Strickland, M. Moncrieff, D. Melhorn-Boe)

Monika Holzschuh (Rev. Barry King)

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 217 All Creatures of our God and King

v. 5

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness; sing praises, hallelujah! Praise, God eternal, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One: sing praises, sing praises, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (paraphrase)

VU pg. 916

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love now and for ever. Amen.

HYMN MV 145 Draw the Circle Wide

sustain our hope and come on earth.

Refrain:

Draw the circle wide, Draw it wider still. Let this be our song, no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

- 1 God the still point of the circle, 'round whom all creation turns; nothing lost, but held forever, in God's gracious arms. R
- 3 Let the dreams we dream be larger, than we've ever dreamed before; let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door. R

Words and Music: Gordon Light 1994 © 1994 Common Cup Co .arr. Michael Bloss © 1998 Wood Lake Books Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

BENEDICTION

Janice Moncrieff

We go forth from this place, remembering that life is short and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us; so be swift to love and make haste to be kind and just.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go On Your Way in Joy my Friends

Hosanna #84

Go on your way in joy, my friends.
Go on your way in joy, my friends.
Go on your way in joy, my friends.
Let your left foot say glory and your right say Amen.

Words and Music: Kerri Meyer, arr. Andrew Donaldson Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net



In loving memory of Madam Justice Mary Dunbar

A memorial gift has been made
to Chalmers' General Fund by her family.

Flowers in the sanctuary are
in celebration of Chalmers' 135th anniversary.
Chalmers' cornerstone was laid in 1888.
We also give thanks for all the Chalmers' congregations and members who have gone before us.

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Leader Janice Moncrieff
Participant Joyce Holden
Reader David Mathers
Video Assembly Monika Holzschuh
Organist Juliet Milsome

Hymn Singers Members of Chalmers' Choir

Counter Charmaine Puszkar

Media Techs Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

Refreshments Ivan Brandsma

Luncheon Barb Laidlaw, Joan Simeon, Jane MacEwen

Thank You to

The Anniversary Planning Committee:

Monika Holzschuh, Marilyn Braden, Juliet Milsome, Linda Steinberg, Janice Moncrieff, Mary Davis Little, Rosalie Spooner, David Spooner, Carol Sleeth, Ivan Brandsma and to the InReach Circle, with a special thank you to Barb Laidlaw, Joan Simeon and Jane McEwen for taking the lead in planning the special lunch afterward. Thank you to those who provided pies.

After the service you are invited to share in refreshments, fellowship and a luncheon in MacCallum Hall.



1888 – 2023 In Our Current Building 135 Years



1849 – 2023 174 Years





1847 – 2023 176 years Since first session in City Hall



To submit materials for the bulletin please use: bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com and Linda Steinberg hpsesp14@gmail.com.

Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the following Sunday.

At 10:30 join us in person at Chalmers or watch live-streamed on Chalmers' YouTube channel. The service will also be posted later to the same channel. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwjj2P2O The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be found on the home page of the Chalmers website www.chalmersunitedchurch.org

COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
- 2. Masking is encouraged but not mandatory. Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
- Social distancing still continues in the Sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH

212 Barrie St. Kingston, ON, K7L 3K3 t: 613-546-3263 x 221

e: office@chalmersunitedchurch.comw: www.chalmersunitedchurch.com

DID YOU KNOW?



Chalmers' namesake: Our church was named after Rev. Thomas Chalmers who was the leader of the Free Church of Scotland movement. In debate it was said that he could "bury his opponents in fragments of burning mountains". He is honoured for the work he did caring for the poor, materially and spiritually. 1770 - 1847



Chalmers' congregation worshipped for nearly 40 years at the site of the current Annandale apartments before the decision to erect the building in which we now worship. The peonies beside the Clergy St. steps 'stem'



from this site of Earl and Sydenham Streets from 1849 – 1890 and was called the Free Presbyterian Church.

In anticipation of the Union, groups of Congregationalists, Methodists and Presbyterians came together to form a "Union Church Society." They elected to join with Chalmers Presbyterian Church in 1922. The union of the churches officially took place in 1925 with the formation of the United Church of Canada and our church was renamed Chalmers United Church.



- The cornerstone of this building was laid October 23, 1888. It was a rainy day, with several hundred in attendance. In the cornerstone is a type of time capsule that contains the history of the church, photographs of the old building, church and city reports, lists of members, coins, newspapers and magazines from the time. The cornerstone weighed 800 pounds.
- Mr. John Caruthers, one of the founding members of the church was in ill health the day of the laying of the stone, so Miss Maud Caruthers, an active member of the ladies group took his place and "gracefully plied the trowel as if it were no new thing for her".



Rev. Dr. Malcolm Macgillivray was Chalmers' fifth minister but the first at the new building. He was the pastor for 30 years and a member for 11 more years after his retirement.

- For years, Chalmers had no official address as it is situated on a triangle of land that borders Earl St, Barrie St and Clergy St. The main door is on an angle to Clergy and Barrie Streets.
- Chalmers' radio ministry started in 1938 until 1942 (broadcast on the Queen's University channel CFRC), then restarted by Rev. Dr. W. Franklin Banister in 1951 and continued up until 1994.
- In the 1990's 8 ordained United Church ministers had the role of Ministers in Voluntary Association with Chalmers. (Rev. Douglas Crichton, Rev. Mac Freeman, Rev. Marsh Laverty, Rev. Victor Levin, Rev. Mary Smith, Rev. Clifford Hospital, Rev. Brian Thrasher, Rev. William Bickford)
- Chalmers had a fire in 1995 which started in the organ, caused by faulty wiring. Extensive damage occurred and the congregation moved to Macgillivray-Brown Hall, across the street, to worship while repairs were made. It took 7 miles of electrical wire to rewire this part of the sanctuary.
- Chalmers sold Macgillivray-Brown Hall and the adjacent land to Queen's University in 1996.
- The floor at the back of the church fell 4 inches while the choir was lined up to process down the aisle. The base of the vertical steel posts that held up the beams had rusted out due to the damp earth floor in the basement and collapsed.
- Chalmers is a stop on the Haunted Walking tour of Kingston. Many people claim to have felt a presence and heard strange sounds, especially at night, while practising the organ.
- The meaning of sunflowers: loyalty and strong bonds between two people, vitality, bounty, and provision, positivity, strength, peace, and hope, unwavering faith and unconditional love.

