

Key Scripture - Mark 7:32, 33

They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue."



Theme - Clearing Away Confusion

## Welcome and Announcements

- † Newcomers please sign our guestbook
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † We continue to pray for those who were impacted by the legacy of Indian Residential Schools.
- † If you do not already track news and events in our larger Church Community, you may wish to [visit the United Church of Canada Website.](#)
- † [E-ssentials](#) is a helpful NewsLetter you may wish to consider.
- † **The Healing Pathway Ministry** is a form of prayer which recognizes that we are all One in the Source of Life. We open to the Sacred Spirit and to allow the Healing energy of the Spirit to flow.
  - If you wish to have a conversation and / or book an individual healing session, email -
    - [trinitysmithsfallshealingpathway@yahoo.com](mailto:trinitysmithsfallshealingpathway@yahoo.com)

## Looking Ahead

**10 September, 6:00pm** - Rainbow Sabbath

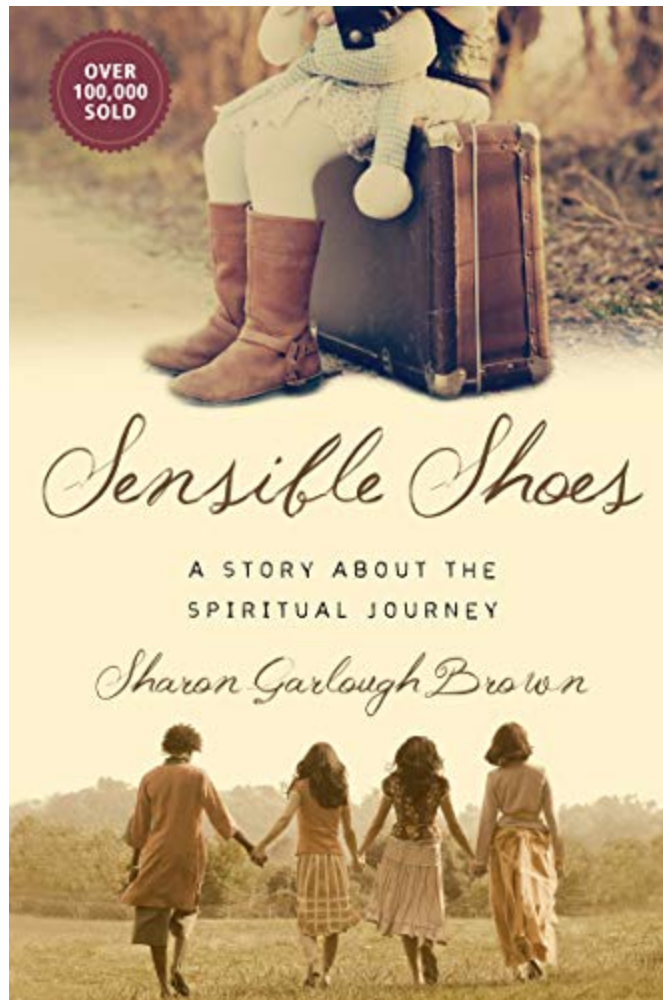
- [Video call link](#)

**12 September, 9:30am** - The Annual Congregational Meeting.

- [Video call link](#)

**13 September, 1:00pm** - The Spiritual Leadership Team is hosting a book study, **Sensible Shoes: A Story about the Spiritual Journey.**

- [Video call link](#)



- Sharon Garlough Brown tells the moving story of four strangers as they embark together on a journey of spiritual formation:
  - Hannah, a pastor who doesn't realize how exhausted she is.

- Meg, a widow and recent empty-nester who is haunted by her past.
- Mara, a woman who has experienced a lifetime of rejection and is now trying to navigate a difficult marriage.
- Charissa, a hard-working graduate student who wants to get things right.
- You're invited to join these four women as they reluctantly arrive at a retreat center and find themselves drawn out of their separate stories of isolation and struggle and into a collective journey of spiritual practice, mutual support and personal revelation.
- Along the way, readers will be taken into a new understanding of key spiritual practices and find tangible support for the deeper life with God.

**15 September, 9:30am** - Bible Study. [Listen Up! Bible study](#) - the Gospel of Mark Part 1 - Mark 1-8

- [Video call link](#)

**26 September** - Orange Shirt Day

- This Orange Shirt Day is also the first observance of a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This is a time when we can reflect on the residential school system, and our ongoing responsibility to make reparations.

**17 October, 10:30am** - A Service of Remembrance and Reunion

- The Christian Community Team hopes to host a form of Memorial Service for folk whom we lost during COVID and could not properly acknowledge as a congregation. We will remember in word, in prayer and fellowship.
- We will monitor COVID limitations closely and adjust if necessary.

## **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

## **Interlude**                    "Where Everybody Knows Your Name" (Portnoy)

Making your way in the world today takes ev'rything you've got.

Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot.  
Wouldn't you like to get away?

Sometimes you wanna go where ev'rybody knows your name,  
and they're always glad you came.

You wanna be where you can see our troubles are all the same.  
You wanna be where ev'rybody knows your name.

You wanna go where people know people are all the same.  
You wanna go where ev'rybody knows your name.

## **Call to Worship**

Put your confidence in God.

**Those who have God as their helper will rejoice.**

God gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry.

**God frees the prisoners and opens the eyes of the blind.**

So, put your trust in God's goodness.

**Let God's reign endure forever! Let us worship God.**

## **Opening Prayer**

Eternal God, first and last, our beginning and our end.

You gave breath to all living things.

By your Spirit, you are among us still, breathing new life,  
turning anger into reconciliation,  
division into unity,  
grief into consolation.

Through your grace, you open up new directions and new possibilities for the world you love.

So, we offer you our lives and our labours in worship and in service, joining in creation's song of praise and adoration:

Holy, holy, holy are you,  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, now and always. Amen.

**Hymn** 407 "O Joy of God"

O joy of God, we seek you in the morning  
and long to see the glory of your face:  
rise on our darkness with your sun's new dawning.  
Flood all our being in this feast of grace.

O life of God, for you our spirits hunger;  
unless we feed on you we surely die:  
with love and faith renewed and hope grown younger,  
send us from here to serve you, God most high.

O peace of God, you pass our understanding;  
safe through each moment keep us every day:  
with joy divine and mercy never ending,  
direct our path and prosper all our way.

**Time With Children**

**Children's Prayer**

## **Prayer of Confession**

God of mercy,

You judge the world with an eye for the poor and outcast.

We sometimes lack the same awareness.

We have been silent when we should have spoken up,  
and uncaring in the face of injustice.

We have not shown the same generosity to others that you have shown us.

Forgive us for putting ourselves first,

and help us to serve you with the kindness we meet in Jesus Christ.

## **Words of Assurance**

Hear the good news!

Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Jesus -

and Jesus died for us; Jesus rose for us; Jesus reigns in power for us; Jesus prays for us.

Believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

## **Scripture**

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23;

Psalms 146 (VU 868);

James 2:1-10, 14-17;

Mark 7:24-37

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,  
and favor is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:  
the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,  
and the rod of anger will fail.  
Those who are generous are blessed,  
for they share their bread with the poor.  
Do not rob the poor because they are poor,  
or crush the afflicted at the gate;  
for the Lord pleads their cause  
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Psalm 146 (VU 868)

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

Praise God, O my soul. As long as I live I will praise God.

**Yes, as long as I have life I will sing praises to God.**

Put not your trust in princes, nor in any mortal,  
for in them there is no help.

**When they breathe their last they return to dust;  
then their plans come to nothing.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
**whose hope is the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them,**  
the One who keeps faith for ever,  
**who gives justice to the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry.**

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

God sets prisoners free, restores sight to the blind.

**God straightens those who are bent;  
loves those who are just.**

God cares for the stranger in the land,  
and sustains the widow and orphan;  
**but the way of the wicked God turns to ruin.**  
God shall reign forever, O Zion.  
**your God for all generations.**

*Refrain -*

*Give your praise to God, O my soul!*

James 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm



and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go - the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**Meditation**    "Out on the Mira" (Murray)

**Reflection**    What Do We Hear? How Do We Speak?

**Hymn** MV 173 "Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands"

Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation.

Reach out in friendship, stay with faith  
in touch with those around you.  
Put peace into each other's hands;  
the Peace that sought and found you.

**Invitation to the Offering**

Proverbs declares that those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. May our gifts and our labours, whether paid or volunteered, meet the needs of those who often go without.

**Minute for Mission**

On the morning of Saturday, August 14, Haiti was struck by a severe earthquake. Precious lives have been lost. Many homes and community buildings have been destroyed. Hospitals have also been damaged, and acutely injured and traumatized people are struggling to find help.

The earthquake follows sharply on the heels of other disasters, including a massive earthquake in 2010 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. To make the situation even worse, Tropical Storm Grace hit Haiti on August 16.

The impact of the most recent earthquake is all the more devastating because of political instability, a severe economic downturn, and the COVID-19 pandemic. In the face of the current political crisis, Haitian citizens are working to create an agreement to facilitate a successful interim government to build a different future for their country.

The United Church of Canada is in contact with Mission & Service partners in Haiti to find out how we can support their communities. Already, we know that the people of Haiti need emergency shelter, clean water, and food. The church has made it possible for members to designate donations to help Haiti when they make a gift through a special emergency fund.

### **Offering Prayer**

Generous God, you call us to reach out to those in need in kindness rather than judgment, and with generosity, not just good intentions. Bless our gifts and our actions that our faith will show in our actions through the church that bears Christ's name.

### **Hymn** MV 169 "When Hands Reach Out"

When hands reach out beyond divides and hope is truly found,  
Each chain of hate will fall away and bells of peace shall sound.  
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound,  
and bells of peace shall sound.  
Each chain of hate will fall away and bells of peace shall sound.

When fear no longer guides our steps and days of war are done,  
God's dream for all shall live anew; our hearts will heal as one.  
our hearts will heal, will heal as one,  
God's dream for all shall live anew; our hearts will heal as one.

When race and creed blind us no more, a neighbour's face we'll see,  
And we shall dance the whole world round, for love will set us free.  
for love, yes love will set us free, for love will set us free.  
And we shall dance the whole world round, for love will set us free.

## **Prayers of the People**

Loving God,

This is a happy day! This is an exciting day! This is a grace-full, holy day!

We give you thanks most Loving God that we can worship in our sanctuary again.

We give thanks for worship.

We give thanks that we can offer prayer together.

We give thanks that we can listen to the scriptures read and explored.

We give thanks that we can lift our voices in songs and hymns.

Yes! We rejoice that we can sing together again.

We give thanks for fellowship.

We give thanks that we can meet our church friends again.

We rejoice that we can worship once again as we have traditionally worshipped, in the company of our fellow Christians.

We also give thanks for the new worship ways that COVID has brought home to our faith community.

We give thanks for the worship experience by video.

We give thanks for pastoral care by phone and Facetime.

We give thanks for compassionate contact maintained with the housebound and suffering, despite fear and unfamiliarity.

Loving God,

With every song, with every smile, with every greeting exchanged, with every story heard, with every new area of service revealed and taken up, we give our heartfelt thanks to you.

- *David Sparks*

Almighty God, Creator of the world,

On this labour Day Weekend, we give you thanks for the gift of stewardship and work. Deliver us, in our various occupations, from the service of self alone, that we may do our work in truth and beauty and for the common good.

God of justice, we pray for all workers, that they would receive fair compensation and treatment in their labor.

For those who seek work, provide jobs.

For those who cannot work, provide sustenance.

Make those who lead industries and commerce responsive to your will.

Build a respect for all labour and labourers.

We come to you as the summer season draws nearer to its close:

We give you thanks for the occasions we have enjoyed

to catch up with family and friends;

for recreation and restoration and let our worries go.

We are grateful for each moment to savour the beauty of creation.

Refresh us for the season ahead we pray,

and renew our commitment to serve you.

We pray for all those who have not found rest this summer:

for those whose work is stressful, exhausting, or unappreciated;

for those whose livelihoods remain uncertain,

because of the pandemic or through disasters caused by heat, fire, or storm.

We pray for those with hard choices to make,

about work or school or what comes next,

about relationships and priorities,

or about social policy and community leadership.

...

May they know your strength and guidance day by day.

We remember those for whom this summer has seen suffering:

We pray for those who have lost loved ones,  
and those facing an uncertain future or a difficult diagnosis.

We pray for those who have lost their homes, for whatever  
reason,

and for those who despair about the climate crisis  
and what can be done to repair the suffering earth.

...

We pray for all those who join efforts to relieve suffering of any kind.

May each one find courage to face tomorrow in your company.

As we prepare to leave this service, walk with us.

We give you thanks for the work and ministry of our sister Pastoral  
Charges in the Eastern Ontario Outais Region, especially -

Osgoode-Kars Pastoral Charge -

St. James United Church and

Trinity United Church

We join our prayers together with them as we remember that great  
prayer you taught your disciples -

*Prayers conclude with:*

We experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength,  
courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer;  
Father, Mother, Friend; may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

**The Lord's Prayer**

## **We Depart to Serve with Joy**

**Hymn** 606 "In Christ There is No East or West" vs. 1,2,4

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great family of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding humankind.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north:  
all Christ-like souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

### **Benediction**

God sends us forth to love all people.

**We will share grace and hope with everyone.**

Jesus sends us forth to forgive our sisters and brothers.

**We will offer mercy, not judgment, to those around us.**

The Spirit sends us forth to trust God in every moment.

**We will live in faith, not in fear, sharing our hearts with all we meet.**

### **Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Farewell to Nova Scotia" (Lightfoot)