

**St. Mark's United Church
Cannifton, Ontario
September 15th, 2024**

Minister: Rev. Ryan McNally, MDiv.

Organist/Pianist: Mark Bond

**Technical Team: Sheila Parks, Elaner Pound, Mary Milligan,
Julie McNally, Alfreda Rupert and Lois MacDonald**

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome to everyone joining in worship today. For some, it is the first time ever, and for others it is a return. You are appreciated.

COMMUNITY NEWS

CANDLE LIGHTING

† Centering Hymn # 41 MV “O Beautiful Gaia”

**O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.**

**1 Soil yielding its harvest, O Gaia, calling us home.
Soil yielding its harvest, calling us on.**

**O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home.
O beautiful Gaia, calling us on.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

God created light in the beginning.
God calls us to be the light of the world.

Christ reveals God's light to us.
God calls us to be the light of the world.

The Spirit reveals God's light in others.
God calls us to be the light of the world.

Come, you who are light for the world, let us worship God.
Sandy Ferguson, Strathearn U.C., Edmonton, Alta.
www.gatheringworship.ca

† **Hymn # 226 VU “For the Beauty of the Earth”**

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
**God of all, to you we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.**
- 2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light, R
- 3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, R
- 4 For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven, R

APPROACHING GOD THROUGH PRAYER

R. McNally

† Hymn # 3 MV “River”

- 1 River, rush-a-down to the ocean blue,
 River from a mountain high.
 River as you do what rivers do,
 River, draw the Spirit nigh.

- 2 Spirit, come-a-down to the riverside,
 Spirit, spark of wondrous thought.
 Spirit, I am free for you to guide.
 Spirit, pray that I be taught!

- 3 Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r.
 Water, strength and life you give.
 Water, as I travel with each hour,
 Water, help my body live.

- 4 River, flow-a-down where you ran before,
 River, source of clearer view.
 River, as I walk your rocky shore,
 River, see my journey through.
 see my journey through
 see my journey through
 see my journey through.

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Elise Feltrin, Chemainus U.C., Chemainus, B.C.
www.gatheringworship.ca*

SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 1: 20 - 33

Read by: Roger West

Responsive Psalm # 19

**Page 740-741
Led by: Roger West**

Refrain 2: Glory and praise to God whose word brings life!

The heavens declare the glory of God:
and the vault of the sky reveal God's handiwork.

**One day speaks to another,
and night shares its knowledge with night,**
and this without speech or language;
their voices are not heard.

**But their sound goes out to all the lands,
their words to the ends of the earth. R**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun
which comes out like a bridegroom from under the canopy,
like an athlete eager to run the race.

**Its rising is at one end of the sky,
it runs its course to the other,
and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat. R**

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul;

**God's instruction is sure,
giving wisdom to the simple;**

God's precepts are right, rejoicing the heart;

**God's commandment is pure
giving light to the eyes;**

God's fear is clean, enduring forever;

**God's judgements are true,
every one of them righteous;**

more desirable than gold, even much fine gold;

**sweeter also than honey,
pure honey from the earth. R**

By them is your servant warned;

for in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can discern unwitting sins?

O cleanse me from my secret faults.

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,
lest they get the better of me.

Then shall I be clean and innocent of great offence. R

**All: Let the words of my mouth
and the thoughts of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O God,
my strength and my redeemer.**

Romans 8: 19 – 25

“Sustainable Brandon”

Video

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND THANKS

LORD’S PRAYER

Hymn # 248 VU

“When Long before Time”

- 1 When long before time and the worlds were begun,
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,
and even our Maker had only a dream...
- 2 ...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,
and light pieced the darkness and rhythm began,
and with its first birth-cries creation was born,
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.
- 3 The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord’s,
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.

- 4 Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared,
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,
the Singer comes to us to sing it again,
our God-Is-with-Us in the world now as then.
- 5 The light has returned as it came once before,
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more;
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice
the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.
- 6 To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise,
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
be glory for ever, through life and through death.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

GIFTS IN ACTION STORY

OFFERING PRAYER

*Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C., Goulais River, Ont.
www.gatheringworship.ca*

† Hymn # 143 MV “We cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

- 1 We cannot own the sunlit sky,
the moon, the wild-flowers growing,
for we are part of all that is within
life’s river flowing.
with open hands receive and share
the gifts of God’s creation,
that all may have abundant life in
every earthly nation.
- 2 When bodies shiver in the night
and weary wait for morning,
when children have no bread but tears,
and war horns sound their warning,

God call humanity to wake,
to join in common labour,
that all may have abundant life,
in oneness with their neighbour.

- 3 God calls humanity to join
as partners in creating
a future free from want or fear,
life's goodness celebrating,
that new world beckons from afar,
invites our shared endeavour,
that all might have abundant life
and peace endure forever.

BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

*Adapted from Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, Ont.
www.gatheringworship.ca*

Postlude

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