

**St. Mark's United Church  
Cannifton, Ontario  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 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**

**WORLD FOOD SUNDAY**

**About World Food Day**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) created World Food Day to commemorate its founding in Quebec City, October 16, 1945. The goal of the FAO is to free humanity from hunger and malnutrition, and to effectively manage the global food system. World Food Day events are organized in over 150 countries across the world, making it one of the most celebrated days of the UN calendar. These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and help strengthen the link between agriculture and food security.

*A WORSHIP RESOURCE FOR WORLD FOOD DAY,  
Canadian Food Grains Bank*

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**WELCOME**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**CANDLE LIGHTING**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

L. Come, let's praise God together!

**P. For God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

L. Let's tell stories of the things God has done—

**P. mighty acts of power and love throughout history:**

**All for God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

L. Let's remember how much he loves us,

**P. and celebrate the care he continues to show to all of creation:**

**All for God is great, and worthy of our praise!**

L. Let's worship God together!

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## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Good and gracious God, you are gathering this community from across the earth, asking us to pour out our lives on behalf of those who hunger. For hope, for justice, for daily bread. You are asking us to see the earth as you do, so very, very good. Trees with fruit, bursting with seed. Green plants for food, for humans and for every living creature. As a holy place for everything that breathes and to whom you have given life. Yet we see the realities before us and it takes our breath away: Those whose bellies growl every day. Those who consume more than their fair share. Breathe new life into us... As a global community, as local congregations Gather us together so that we may remind each other of your intent for this earth. Gather us so that we may pour out our lives in Christ's name, as Christ does on behalf of those who hunger.**

*Adapted from WFD prayer on [presbyterianmission.org](http://presbyterianmission.org).  
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## Hymn # 1 MV (STAND) "Let Us Build a House"

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
**All are welcome,  
all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**
- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**
- 3 Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: **R**
- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**

5 Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **R**

## **CONFESSION & RENEWAL**

**You asked for my hands so that you might use them for your purposes. I gave them for a moment then withdrew them for the work was hard. You asked for my mouth to speak out against injustice. I gave you a whisper that I might not be accused. You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them for I did not want to see. You asked for my life so that you might work through me. I gave you a small part that I might not get too involved.**

**Lord, forgive me for calculated efforts to serve you only when it is convenient for me to do so, and only in those places where it is safe to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so. Lord, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument, that I may take seriously the meaning of your cross.**

*Written by Joe Sereman, South Africa  
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## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

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**Hymn # 595 VU (STAND)      “We Are Pilgrims”**

1 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

**CHILDREN'S TIME**  
**The Spark Puppeteers**

**WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*R. McNally 2024*



## SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55: 1 – 5

Read by: Margaret Alexander

Responsive Psalm # 145

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Led by: Margaret Alexander

**Refrain: We praise you, O God: we bless your holy name.**

Every day we will bless you  
and praise your name forever.

**O God, you are great and highly to be praised;  
your greatness is beyond all measure.**

One generation shall praise your works to another,  
and declare your marvellous deeds.

**I will speak of your splendour and glory,  
and all your wonderful works. R**

You, God, are righteous in all your ways,  
and loving in all your deeds.

**You are near to all who call you,  
to all who call on you in truth.**

You fulfill the desire of those who revere you;  
you hear their cry and you save them.

**You watch over all who love you,  
but the wicked you will destroy.**

My mouth will speak your praise, O God.

**Let every creature bless your holy name forever. R**

John 6: 1 - 15

Hymn # 355 VU (SEATED) “For the Crowd of Thousands”

1 For the crowd of thousands  
sitting on the ground,

- seven is sufficient,  
seven will go round.
- 2 Seven is sufficient,  
fish and loaves of bread;  
Jesus, for our hunger,  
gives us life instead.
- 3 Jesus makes his offer:  
fish and bread as food.  
Make us truly thankful,  
make our living good.
- 4 If we give to Jesus  
bread to bless and break,  
five and two will feed us,  
seven days a week.
- 5 What we give to Jesus,  
and with others share,  
will at last be gathered:  
over and to spare!

**THE VIDEO**  
**“Food Security in Belleville”**

**Hymn # 600 VU (STAND)      “When I Needed a Neighbour”**

- 1 When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 2 I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

- 3 I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 4 When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?
- 5 Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,  
wherever you travel I'll be there.  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there.

### **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

When Jesus told the disciples to give the crowd something to eat, they found only a few loaves and two small fish. But they brought what they had to Jesus. Let us bring our prayers before the Lord. We thank you, God, for the abundance of food we receive from your hand. We thank you for the progress that has been made against hunger in recent years, and we remember today those people at risk of falling back into hunger and extreme poverty.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those directly affected by hunger, especially those in the Sahel region of Africa. For farmers whose livelihoods depend on natural, economic, and political conditions beyond their control. For parents who struggle to put food on the table, and for children who go to bed hungry.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing on those working to save lives and end hunger in the world, especially now at a time when the high cost of food makes meeting those needs an even greater challenge.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**



We pray for the leaders of the nations, especially our own leaders, that they will act with wisdom, generosity, and compassion, bring relief to those who are hungry now, and help move us all toward a world without hunger.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Finally, we pray for ourselves, that you will show us the ways your church can be an instrument of grace to hungry people, and give us the courage to act in your name, sharing generously what you have so freely given to us. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Jesus blessed the five loaves and the two small fish, and it was multiplied, and everyone had enough and more. God, please accept our prayers. We know you will multiply this small offering beyond our imaginings, and that one day soon, everyone will eat and be satisfied.

We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. Amen  
*Adapted from Prayer of Intercession from Bread for the World website.*

[www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

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Canadian Food Grains Bank*

## **INVITATION TO SHARE**

We continue to collect food and monetary donations to support Gleaner's Food Bank.

**Hymn # 552 VU (SEATED) "For Food in a World"**

For food in a world where many walk in hunger,  
for friends in a world where many walk alone,  
for faith in a world where many walk in fear,  
we give you thanks, O God.

## **PRAYER FOR THE OFFERING**

## Hymn # 227 VU (STAND) “For the Fruit of All Creation”

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth’s safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labour, God’s will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbour, God’s will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God’s will is done.
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

*From the Monthly Prayers page of the Christian Aid website  
[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)  
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Canadian Food Grains Bank*

### **BENEDICTION**

*Written by Kim Winchell, in Living Earth:  
Creation Waits with Eager Longing  
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## Postlude

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