

**St. Mark's United Church  
Cannifton, Ontario  
October 13<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**

**THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**MODERATOR'S THANKSGIVING MESSAGE**

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**

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

Welcome to this place of worship, by the river called Sagonaska by generations of Indigenous people.

**We give thanks for its waters.**

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship and wonder. A building of ancient stone, a community of today.

**We give thanks for all who make our gathering possible.**

It is good to be together.

**Blessed be all who gather.**

We light this candle to remind us that God's house glows with love and light and that the Risen Christ is always with us. Amen.

**Centering Hymn # 18 MV (SEATED) "Sanctuary"**

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy tried and true;  
With thanksgiving,  
I'll be a living sanctuary for you. X3

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God says, "I will fill your cup and then some."

**We come now to receive.**

Jesus says, "I bring abundant life to all."

**We come now to share.**

Spirit says, "I fill your hearts with love."

**We come now to love.**

**Hymn # 520 VU (STAND) "We Plough the Fields"**

1 We plough the fields and scatter  
the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered  
by your almighty hand;  
you send the snow in winter,  
the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine,  
and soft refreshing rain.  
**All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above;  
we thank you, God, O holy God,  
for all your love.**

2 You only are the maker  
of all things near and far;

you paint the wayside flower,  
you light the evening star;  
the winds and waves obey you,  
by you the birds are fed;  
much more to us, your children,  
you give us daily bread. **R**

- 3 We thank you then, O Maker,  
for all things bright and good,  
the seed-time and the harvest,  
our life, our health, our food;  
accept the gifts we offer  
for all your love imparts,  
and, what from us you long for,  
our humble, thankful hearts.  
**All good gifts around us  
are sent from heaven above;  
we thank you, God, O holy God,  
for all your love.**

## **APPROACHING GOD THROUGH PRAYER**

† Hymn # 42 MV (STAND)                      “Praise God for This Holy Ground”

- 1 Praise God for this holy ground,  
place and people, sight and sound.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God’s  
good is eternal.
- 2 Praise God in whose world we find  
food for body, soul and mind.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God’s  
good is eternal.
- 3 Praise God who through Christ makes known  
all are loved and called God’s own.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God’s  
good is eternal.

- 4 Praise God's Spirit who befriends,  
Raises, humbles, breaks and mends.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's  
good is eternal.
- 5 Though praise ends, praise is begun  
where God's will is gladly done.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's  
good is eternal.

## **WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

**Responsive Psalm # 126 Refrain 2**

**Page 850**  
**Led by: Alfreda Rupert**

**Refrain 2: We praise the One who gave the growth,  
with voices full and strong.**

When God brought Zion's captives home,  
it seemed to us like a dream.

**But then our mouths were full of laughter,  
and our tongues uttered shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations:

"God has done great things for them."

**Truly God has done great things for us,  
And therefore we rejoice. R**

Restore our fortunes, O God, as streams refresh the Negev.

**Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,

**shall come home with songs of joy,  
bringing in their sheaves. R**

## **MESSAGE**

**“What are you sowing?”**

**† Hymn # 52 Songs of Gospel “Bringing in the Sheaves”**

1 Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,  
sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;  
waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,  
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

**Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,  
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.  
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,  
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.**

2 Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,  
fearing neither clouds nor winter’s chilling breeze.  
By and by the harvest, and the labour ended,  
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. **R**

3 Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,  
tho’ the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;  
when our weeping’s over, He will bid us welcome,  
we shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. **R**

## **RESPONSE**

### **PRAYER OF THANKS AND CONCERN**

#### **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.

### **INVITATION TO SHARE**

### **GIFTS IN ACTION**

<https://united-church.ca/stories/whats-thanksgiving-dinner>

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Like the psalmist, gracious God, we love living with you and we are grateful for our many blessings. We love knowing that you are present with us as we journey through life. With thanksgiving in our hearts, we pray that our gifts of time, talent, and treasure will bless our neighbours, near and far. Amen.

† Hymn # 236 VU (STAND)                      “Now Thank We All Our God”

- 1     Now thank we all our God, with heart,  
            and hands, and voices,  
            who wondrous things has done,  
            in whom this world rejoices;  
            who from our mother’s arms has blessed us on our way  
            with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
  
- 2     O may this bounteous God  
            through all our life be near us,  
            with ever joyful hearts  
            and blessed peace to cheer us,  
            and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,

and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

- 3 All praise and thanks to God  
for all that has been given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest  
who dwell in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

### **BLESSING & SENDING FORTH**

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, go into the world, this week,  
determined to share God's lavish love with all whom you encounter.

**Thanks be to God!**

May the Creator mould you, the Son hold you and the Spirit enfold you in  
the days ahead. Amen.

### **Postlude**

*\*\*Projected and printed material used by permission, CCLI Lic. #11119818 and ONE  
LICENSE # A-625477.*

