

**St. Mark's United Church  
Cannifton, Ontario  
October 6<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 COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**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**

Welcome in the name of the Christ.

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

Welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace, and this holy sanctuary.

**We gather this morning to share in the Word, the Cup, and the Bread and to receive God's deepest blessing that we might in turn be blessing to others.**

So, be welcome.

**Be blessed.**

Be.

We light this candle to remember that in Christ Jesus, we are indeed most blessed.

**Centering Hymn # 326 VU (SEATED) “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer’s praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of God’s grace.
  
- 2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease;  
‘tis music in the sinner’s ears,  
‘tis life and health and peace.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Eternal God, you are great indeed.  
**Praise God, O my soul.**

You spread heaven like a tent and make the winds your messengers.  
**Praise God, O my soul.**

You fix the earth on its foundations so that it can never tremble.  
**Praise God, O my soul.**

You’ve designed the world for blessing and have blessed us without limit.  
**Praise God, O my soul.**

Come, let us bless one another and God with our worship.

**Hymn # 291 VU (STAND) “All Things Bright and Beautiful”**

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.**

1 Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their tiny wings. **R**

2 The purpleheaded mountains,  
the rivers running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky; **R**

3 The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one. **R**

4 The rocky mountain splendour,  
the lone wolf's haunting call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,  
the forest in the fall: **R**

5 God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God our maker,  
who has made all things well.  
**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful:  
in love, God made them all.**

## **APPROACHING GOD THROUGH PRAYER**

† Hymn # 3 MV (STAND)

“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**

Holy One, as we listen once more to the wisdom of your Word, may we be fed both in mind and body. Help us open to your revelation of love and to receive your blessing with grace.

## **SCRIPTURE**

### **Responsive Psalm # 104**

**Led by: Roger West**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.  
You are clothed with honour and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a garment.

**You stretch out the heavens like a tent,  
you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,  
you make the clouds your chariot,**

**you ride on the wings of the wind,  
you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers.**

You set the earth on its foundations,  
so that it shall never be shaken.  
You cover it with the deep as with a garment;  
the waters stood above the mountains.

**At your rebuke they flee;  
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.  
They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys  
to the place that you appointed for them.  
You set a boundary that they may not pass,  
so that they might not again cover the earth.**

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;  
they flow between the hills,  
giving drink to every wild animal;  
the wild asses quench their thirst.  
**By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;  
they sing among the branches.  
From your lofty abode you water the mountains;  
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.**

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,  
and plants for people to use,  
to bring forth food from the earth,  
and wine to gladden the human heart,  
oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the human heart.  
**The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,  
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.  
In them the birds build their nests;  
the stork has its home in the fir trees.**

The high mountains are for the wild goats;  
the rocks are a refuge for the rabbits.  
You have made the moon to mark the seasons;  
the sun knows its time for setting.

**You make darkness, and it is night,  
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.  
The young lions roar for their prey,  
seeking their food from God.  
When the sun rises, they withdraw  
and lie down in their dens.  
People go out to their work  
and to their labour until the evening.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
**Yonder is the sea, great and wide,  
creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.  
There go the ships,  
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.**

These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;  
when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.  
**When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works

### **MESSAGE**

**“Ancient Wisdom, Modern Living”**

**† Hymn # 467 VU (STAND)**

**“One Bread, One Body”**

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless;**

**and we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more. **R**

2 Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all. **R**

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all.

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless;  
and we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

### **COMMUNION**

(From *Celebrate God's Presence*, United Church of Canada, 2000.)

Because there is one bread,  
we who are many are one body,  
**for we all partake of the one bread.**

In Christ, God breaks down the walls  
that make us strangers to ourselves,  
and divide us from one another.

**We are the body of Christ.**

At this table we bear witness to our faith.

**At this table, God brings wholeness out of brokenness,  
and healing to our world.**

As we prepare to feast together, we are reminded that this is not the table of  
this congregation, nor is it the table of The United Church of Canada, or any  
particular denomination.

It is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God.  
All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith

and long to live justly and in peace with their neighbour, are welcome here.  
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth,  
we join with all your people to give you thanks and praise.

You formed the universe in your wisdom  
and created all things by your grace.

We praise you for all your good gifts:

the witness of saints and prophets;

the work of faithful women and men;

this earth in all its blessing and promise;

and this bread, once scattered,

now brought together and made one.

In the hope that your people

may be brought together from the ends of the earth

into your reign of justice and compassion,

we gather with those of every time and every place

to give you praise and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign  
shown to us in Jesus at table:

**he shared food with followers and friends,**

with saints and sinners,

**with crowds of thousands on the hillside,**

and a few friends in an upper room.

**On the night before he died,  
he had supper with his companions.**

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks,  
he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

**“Take, eat.**

**Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,  
he passed it among them, saying:

**“Drink this.**

**Do this in remembrance of me.”**

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

**In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.**

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith,  
as we break bread and share the cup,  
giving thanks for your love in Jesus, the Christ.  
We spread your table with these gifts of the earth  
and of our labour.

We present to you our very lives,  
committed to your service  
on behalf of all people.

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ’s death, O God, we proclaim.**

**Christ’s resurrection we declare.**

**Christ’s coming again, we await.**

**Glory be to you, O God.**

Send your Holy Spirit, God, on us and what we do,  
that as we break bread and drink wine,  
we may be united with Christ,  
he in us and we in him,  
that we who are many may be one in him.

Make us strong in faith and love,  
that we may become truly human,  
as Christ was truly human.

At this time, we also remember all those  
with whom you would have us share your feast.  
We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .  
all who are ill or alone . . .  
all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .  
all whom the world counts as last and least . . . .

We pray for your church and its varied ministries . . .  
for the nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .  
for the earth, and the fragile web of life we share . . .  
for our families and friends . . . .

**Praise be to God, the Source of love!**  
**Praise be to Christ, Love incarnate!**  
**Praise be to the Spirit, Love's power!**  
**Praise be to God!**  
**Amen.**

### **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.

### **FRACTION**

# **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Eternal God, we thank you that you have called your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ.

**Keep us faithful to your will.**

Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labour and leisure.

**Guide us that whether we are gathered or scattered, we will be disciples of Christ, in whose name we pray.**

**Amen.**

**† Hymn # 468 VU (STAND)**  
**Employ”**

**“Let Us Talents and Tongues**

1. Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

2. Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express. **R**

3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out,  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere! **R**

## **BLESSING & SENDING FORTH**

Go into the world this week knowing you are anointed and blessed without limit.

Share the blessing of God with friends, neighbours, even strangers.

Reach out, extend yourself, and let God surprise you.

Be blessed and be a blessing this week and all your days. **Amen.**

### **Postlude**

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