

Order of service for October 10, 2021 Lakeview United Church
Thanksgiving Sunday
Worship Leader: Bryan Tudor

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (written by Judy Sears, Gathering magazine, Pentecost 2021, Used with permission)

For the bounty of the harvest, for the colours of the fall,

thanks be to God.

For the miracle of bird migration, for the ingenuity of hibernation,

thanks be to God.

For the glories of the earth all around us,

we give thanks to God, our Creator.

In a spirit of humility and thankfulness, come let us worship God.

~ Silent reflection ~

Opening prayer (written by Wendy MacLean, Gathering magazine, Pentecost 2021, Used with permission)

Holy One, we praise you for simple gifts on an autumn day: the squirrels darting in and out of the garden, sparrows and chickadees at the feeder, the way thanksgiving springs to our lips as praise lifts our hearts. Before we ask, we are forgiven. Before we notice, we are blessed. Before we pray, we are already held in your love. For the blessing of your unending grace we give thanks. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn: 30 More Voices, *It's a Song of Praise to the Maker*

Children's Time

Prayer for healing and wholeness

(written by Gord Dunbar, Gathering magazine, Pentecost 2021, Used with permission)

Generous God, whenever we perceive scarcity, may you open us to embrace your reality of plenty. Whenever we feel isolated and abandoned, may you open us to risking companionship. Whenever we shrink from your touch out of shame-filled fear, may you prepare us for transformation. Whenever we are filled with worry and alarm, may you create space within us for your embrace, opening us to moments of healing and wholeness.

~ Silent reflection ~

Words of Assurance

Hymn: 226 Voices United, *For the Beauty of the Earth* (verses 1, 2 and 3)

Prayer for illumination (Unison on screen)

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

Scripture – Joel 2:18-19, 21-27 Fields, don't be afraid but be joyful and glad.
Matthew 6:25-33 Do not worry about what you will eat or drink

Music for Reflection: *Thankful*

Reflection

Hymn: 182 More Voices, *Grateful*

Prayer of Dedication of the Offering (Together – words on the screen)

For what we receive, make us truly thankful, O God.

For what we are able to give, make us thankful, too.

Grateful for all that we are and for all that we might become,
we commit to living thankful and thanks-filled lives. Amen.

Offering Music: 516 Voices United, *Come, You Thankful People, Come* (verse 1)

Stories of our Faith – Dignity is on the Menu at Centre 507

https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2021-09/ygm-2021_oct10_centre-507_lge.jpg

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: 300 Voices United, *God, Whose Farm is All Creation*

Commissioning and Benediction

Benediction Response: 969 Voices United, *Amen* (X2)

Postlude