

**East Plains United Church
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Creation Time 5
Thanksgiving Sunday
October 11, 2026**

Gathering In Community

Prelude

Introit

This Is The Day by M. Blankenship #334

Peace Greeting

When we keep our hearts and minds focused on things that are excellent and admirable, God blesses us with a peace that passes all understanding. Let us share signs of this peace.

The peace of Christ be with you,

And also with you

Opening Hymn All Creatures of Our God and King VU: 217

Territorial Acknowledgement

Bill Berry

We begin this time of worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on the land of the Anishinaabe Peoples, the Haudenosaunee Peoples, the Huron-Wendat Peoples, and the Mississaugas of the Credit Nation. This land has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning. We thank all the generations of Indigenous peoples who have taken care of this land and been its stewards for thousands of years. We give thanks for the countless ways they have assisted the settler peoples who came to inhabit this land. We also recognize the contributions Metis, Inuit, and other

Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening this region, this province, and Canada as a whole.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this weekend, let us be grateful and let us be committed to right relationships.

Announcements

Reverend Jan

Words of Welcome

Theme Introduction

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Thanksgiving.

It's not just a moment.

Thanksgiving.

It's not just a day.

Thanksgiving.

It's not just a season.

Thanksgiving!

Is an action, to be lived always,

and to be lived all-ways.

Thanksgiving!

Is an attitude.

Is a promise.

Is a life.

So let us enter this place----

thanks giving!

Giving thanks-----

To one another,

to all creation,

and to the Creator of All!

Come, let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

Creator God, we come to celebrate

the beauty and bounty of your good earth:

glorious blue skies and blazing fall colours;

fields ripe for harvest;

gardens overflowing with goodness.

Grant us thankful hearts, we pray.

May our prayers and our lives overflow with gratitude.

Amen

Hymn God of the Sparrow VU: 229

Seeking to Grow Spiritually

Prayer for Illumination

Bill Berry

Let us pray:

The word of the Bible is yours, O God.

May we listen and learn these lessons

and grow stronger in our faith.

We welcome the Holy Spirit,

so that we may be enriched by the knowledge

that there will be new beginnings

and new possibilities available to us.

Amen

Hebrew Testament Reading New Revised Standard Version**Deuteronomy 8: 7-18**

⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹ "Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes that I am commanding you today. ¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in

them ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous[a] snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock. ¹⁶ He fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

Gospel Reading **Revised Standard Version**

New

Luke 17: 11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus[a] was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus's[b] feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

**May God bless this reading of the Holy Word to our insight
and our understanding.**

Herein is Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Amen

Gift of Music

Sam Vacca & East Plains Choir
The Lord God Made Them All by J. Martin #376

Message

The Thanksgiving Address

Reverend Jan

Hymn

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

MV: 143

Responding In Care

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology

For the Gift of Creation

VU: 538

Offering Prayer

Spirit of Generosity,

you yield abundant fruit for all to share,

and invite us to feast and celebrate.,

As we present our gifts,

fill us with your passion to feed the world,

that, leaving no one poor or hungry,

all may dwell with you in peace.

We pray in your name, Source of Plenty.

Amen

Pastoral Prayer

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
 and the power and the glory,
 forever and ever.

Amen

Reaching Out In Love

Closing Hymn Now Thank We All Our God VU: 236

Commissioning

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Postlude

Worship Resources: *Gathering Magazine Pentecost 2, 2026 Year A* (page 12, 42 – 43); *Abingdon Worship Annual 2026* (pages 212-215); *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer (2013). Used with Permission.

EAST PLAINS UNITED CHURCH AFFIRM STATEMENT

We celebrate the richness of our community when we have diversity in age, gender identity, racial/cultural backgrounds, economics, class, sexual orientation, and family configurations fully participating in all aspects of the life and work at East Plains United Church. We commit to continuing education to promote understanding and create a safe environment for all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Bee - Saturday October 24 9:00am-12:00 noon. Please bring your own tools. Yard waste bags will be provided. Hope you can help. -Jim M

East Plains UC will be having its 51st Arts & Crafts Show and Sale “**Holiday Traditions**” on Sat, Nov 7th from 9:00-2:00 pm.

The EPUC, through its Wider Work Committee, is conducting its annual **Thanksgiving Food Drive** on September 27th, October 4th and 11th.

The food, toiletries, and money that is collected will be given to the Compassion Society for distribution to those in need. **Thank you for your thoughtful generosity.**