



Date: October 18, 2026
World Food Sunday

Worship Leaders: Worship Committee

Musician: Barbara-Lynn and Dave Goodwin

Audio/Visual:

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome Back & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Lynda Hewson** will be available after the service for pie sales.
- **Fall Yard Cleanup** ~ Wednesday October 21st 9:00 am, after men's breakfast. Please lend a hand if you are able
- **Pilgrimage** ~ Please drop off any donations by October 23rd.
- **Socktober** ~ For the month of October you can help fill a Christmas Hamper with "Tootsie Warmers". Drop at office. New socks only, Children's, Seniors, Adults
- **Christmas Gift Cards** ~ For Teens for the hampers or gifts for you friends or family. Please get your order to the office by the end of October.
- **Joint Worship Service** ~ Big Valleys Final Service ~ Officiant: Rev. Dr. Karen Medland ~ October 25th 10:00 am
- **Fall Supper** ~ October 25th 4:00 - 6:30 (Leftover pies, if any, will be sold at the supper)

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give

thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

The leaves are changing colour as the fall season unfolds.

We gather to give thanks to God.

The harvest is in. Some tables are full, yet some are empty.

We bring our yearnings for a just sharing to God.

The community gathers to worship, to celebrate, and to give thanks to our Creator.

We give thanks to God for this community of faith.

Let us worship together.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light this candle as a symbolic action to recognize God's presence.

In every moment, especially at the time of harvest, Christ's light shines. Alleluia!

Hymn: *For the Fruit of All Creation* VU #227

Words: Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Welsh folk melody. Words: Hope Publishing Company. Music: Public Domain. CCLI, Licensing, OneLicense. Used with permission license A-605521

Opening Prayer

God our Creator, you have given us so much.

Fill our hearts as we return to worship.

God our Foundation, you have supported us so well.

A sense of blessing is ours as we take our place in the faith community.

God the Eternal One, you know our joys, fears and uncertainties.

In both the good and bad days, we will trust you, our loving Lord. Amen

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, help us to stop trying to force our will in your world. Help us to catch ourselves when we are unkind and judgemental, when we complain about everything out of habit, and when we take people and blessings for granted. Forgive us for being careless with the world's abundance. We know better.

Words of assurance

We know that not everyone has the blessing of a full table or loved ones to gather with. Hunger remains a painful reality for far too many. May gratitude fill our hearts. May that gratitude ripple outward, becoming generosity that helps set more tables, share more bread, and create more moments of joy. Because when we share what we have, God's promise of abundance comes to life, not just as a symbol, but as a feast of hope and possibility for all.

Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth* VU #226

Words: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint 1864. Music: David Evans 1927 Used by permission of Oxford University Press.
Words: Public Domain. Music: Oxford University Press. CCLI, OneLicense.net Used with the permission of OneLicense.net Annual Renewal A-605521.

Prayer of Illumination

Give us, O God the will to receive again the stories of scripture, well worn, well learned but always full of new and rich meaning.

Scripture Readings: Malcolm Fischer

- Exodus 33:12-23
- 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
- Matthew 22: 15-22

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1) (being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885, Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI. Used with permission license A-605521

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message

Hymn ~ *Make a Joyful Noise Psalm 100 VU page 820

Words & Music: Linnea Good © 1992 Borealis Music. Arrangement: © 1994 David Kai Used with permission from composer and One License OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521

Invitation for Offering

Gratitude is the foundation of our giving. Let us show our gratitude with our offering.

Offering Prayer

We thank you for all you have entrusted to each of us individually. Thank you for leading us to give ourselves away through the sharing of time, talents, and resources to your glory always. Amen

***Offering Hymn VU # 542 We Give You But Your Own**

Words: William Walsham How 1858. Music: Johann Balthasar Konig, adapted by William Henry Havergal. Public Domain. N/A OneLicence.net Annual Renewal A-605521

Prayers of the Gathered Community

Loving God, we come to you with longing hearts and tired souls. There is so much that weighs heavy on us.

There are times that we are restless, our minds so busy with the day-to-day tasks of living, caring for those in need, navigating the ups and downs life offers, trying to balance everything, to offer our best selves, and often feeling we don't measure up.

Help us to lift these weights with the grace of your love.

In the news, stories of concern for a hurting world are sometimes as close to home as one can be, and sometimes far away, further than we have travelled, and everywhere else in between.

We learn of loved ones who are struggling with illness, loss, finances, and lack of housing and security; of individuals and groups who are racialized and marginalized, hurt and afraid; of those of us who are experiencing the uncertainty of what is to come in this ever-changing life.

We are blessed in these times to be held in your loving embrace. Help us to lift these weights with the grace of your love.

In this time of silence, let us take a moment to breathe and to lift up our prayers of concern

for our world, our country, our community, and our loved ones.
(*a time of silent prayer*)

Help us to lift these weights with the grace of your love.

Holy One, we rejoice that, even in times of struggle, we have so much to be grateful for: the beauty and gifts of the seasons, the love of friends and family, this Affirming community of faith, the efforts being made to create safe spaces for all, and being part of a larger faithful denomination.

Your presence and stability in all our lives, and the gift of your never-ending love for all your people, helps us to lift the weights of life with the grace of your love, and we are grateful.

Continue to guide us on the path of inclusion and reconciliation. Let us experience and be the hope that is so needed in your world.

With gratitude for the opportunities of lifelong learning you offer us each and every day, through the example of your son, Jesus, and grounded in our faith, we ask for our prayers of love, kindness, and justice to be received in your heart.

We pray for strength for our bodies and souls so we may continue to be your physical presence, putting your love into action with everyone we meet.

We offer ourselves and our service to you, Holy One. Amen.

Jessica Knoyle, Ottawa, Ont.

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: 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. 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.

Parting Hymn ~ *VU 249 Rejoice in the Lord

Words: traditional, anonymous. Music: traditional, anonymous. Public Domain N/AOneLicense.net Used with permission license A-605521

***Commissioning and Benediction**

Go out into the world, sharing what you are able. In praise and worship, we offer ourselves to God's service. Lead us to do your will in the world. Amen

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude