



Building Community through love, grace and acceptance – all are welcome!

Who are the ministers of Lansing United? *All of us!*

Music Leadership: Chris Kovarik • Office Administrator: Rebecca Scanga

Worship provided and led by the LUC Worship Committee and Friends

Sunday, September 14th, 2025 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Creation Time Begins!

Thank you for being here at Lansing United! We are a welcoming and affirming community of faith where you are only a visitor once - we embrace diversity and welcome the seekers, the questioners, the new-timers, the old-timers, young and old and everyone in between. Come every Sunday, come only on special occasions, come as you are, come when you can and know you are always welcome.

To assist you in our service:

🗣️ *Devices are available for those who have hearing impairments. Please speak to one of the greeters.*

🗣️ *Throughout the order of service you will notice an “*” indicating when we stand (as we are able), and **Bold** print indicating congregational responses.*

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🗣️ *We pride ourselves on being a family friendly congregation and have engaged the help of Ping (currently a University Student) to assist with care and activities in our Sunday School Room found in the north hall of the building, behind the kitchen with additional access to the north hall from the doors at the front of the sanctuary. Following the story time, Ping takes the children to the Sunday School Room.*

Parents/grandparents/caregivers are welcome to join your little person if they are feeling apprehensive and please know they are under excellent care with Ping. Feel free to check on them during the service. There is also an activity table set up in the sanctuary near the AV equipment and you are welcome to utilize that space as well. A

change station is located in the accessible washroom found in the west hall of the building. There are juice boxes and snacks always available. When we host communion, all ages are invited to the table. We appreciate young people joining in our services and understand that they are learning the lay of the land as they go. Please don't feel uncomfortable as they are finding their way and feel free to move with them to attend to their needs.

Gathering Music and Prelude ~ Doug

Welcome and announcements – *Life around Lansing* ~ Doug

Acknowledgement of the Territorial Land and What We Believe ~ Doug

As we gather together, we acknowledge this sacred land. It has been a site of human activity for more than 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit. The Traditional Territory that Lansing United Church is on, falls under Treaty No. 13, agreed to by the Crown of England and the Chiefs of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful for this land that was under their care. Our pledge is to care for this land as a symbol of our desire to walk with Indigenous peoples in a spirit of reconciliation and respect.

Mission and Service ~ Doug

We are called to breathe... ~ Doug

Leader: Oxygen. Carbon dioxide.

Traces of other gases.

All: All around us.

Leader: The air we breathe.

All: Deep within us.

Leader: The ancients believed...

All: that the air was divine breath. Holy Spirit.

Leader: And when it moved, we would be “in-Spirited.”

Inspired.

All: Given Life!

Leader: Let us breath deep into our bodies,
filling our lungs with the air that gives life!

**All: Let us breathe deep into our souls,
filling ourselves with the Spirit that gives life!**

Leader: Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Lighting our guiding candles... ~ Brenda

Opening Prayer... ~ Brenda

Holy Spirit, Breath of Life,
move in Creation,
blow us about,
fill the world with
new possibilities.

New Life!

As we share in story and in song,
we ask that our words and our breath,
might mingle with your Breath,
and be healing for the world.

Amen

*** Hymn ~ VU #296 *This Is God's Wondrous World* ~ Brenda**

**This is God's wondrous world,
and to my listening ears
 all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.**

**This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
 of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
God's hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise;
 the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
 in the rustling grass or mountain pass,**

God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world:

O let me ne'er forget

that though the wrong seems oft so strong,

God is the ruler yet.

This is God's wondrous world:

why should my heart be sad?

Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:

God reigns, let earth be glad!

A Story for the young and young at heart ~ Orville

Because I Love You by Max Lucado

Following the story, Ping will take any children that are interested, to the Sunday School Room located in the back hall which can also be reached through the doors at the front of the sanctuary. There will be activities and the children are welcome to move back and forth between the two spaces. There is also a small table for colouring in front of the AV desk in the sanctuary.

Prayer of Confession ~ Shirley

Faithful God, in this Season of Creation that we in the church celebrate, we give thanks for your wonderful world.

People: We see the trees outside the sanctuary window and wonder as they change through the seasons of the years.

L: Today, they also remind us of the many trees that have burned this year; of the forests and towns that have been destroyed this summer.

P: We wonder and feel helpless in the face of this destruction. Sometimes we try to wiggle out of any senses of blame,

L: But we acknowledge that our indifference is also a sin against you and your beautiful creation.

P: Help us in our helplessness to find a better path. Help us to live out the words of our Creed; to Live with Respect in Creation; and to cherish this world and all who live in it. AMEN.

Words of Assurance ~ Shirley
(Matthew 11: 28-30)

L: God says, “Come to Me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

P: Take My yoke upon You and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

L: For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” AMEN

Reading from our ancient scriptures... ~ Shirley
1 Timothy 1:12-17 NRSV

Gratitude for Mercy

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

May God bless this reading to our understanding.

***Hymn ~ VU #266 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* ~ Rev. Dale**

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.**

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Praise God, praise God, praise God, praise God
Praise God, praise God, Praise God
Praise God, praise God, Praise God, praise God
Praise God, praise God, praise God.

More words from our ancient scriptures... ~ Rev. Dale
Luke 15:1-10 NRSV

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

...words from our ancient scriptures offered up to you in the name of Jesus.

Reflection ~ Rev. Dale

“God’s Overflowing, Exuberant Love”

*** Hymn ~ TLUS #23 *For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table* ~ Rev. Dale**

**For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,**

**and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

**For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and colour,
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!**

Affirmation of Faith~ A New Creed ~ Rev. Dale *(please stay standing, as you are able)*

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,**

who has come in Jesus,
the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Offertory Hymn ~ MV #191 *What Can I Do?* ~ Mark

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Offering ~ *although not currently passing the plate, you will find it as you enter the sanctuary. There are many ways of contributing to the life and work of Lansing United Church. Cash or cheque donations are appreciated, you can go on PAR (pre-authorized remittance taken from your account monthly), make an e-transfer, volunteer on one of our committees. We believe in doing what you can, when you can and give thanks for the many ways we can work together, sharing ideas, love, support and resources. May we be a blessing to many, in our own unique ways.*

Prayer Prelude ~ MV #62 *There Is Room for All* ~ Mark

**There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing; there
is room for all, sheltered in God's love.**

**And I rejoice and sing, "My refuge and my rock, in whom I trust." There
is room for all, there is room for all!**

Prayers of the People ~ Mark

The Lord's Prayer (sung) ~ Mark

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come;
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

*** Hymn ~ VU #477 *I Come with Joy***

**I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

**As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,**

**we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.**

Closing Prayer ~ Rev. Dale

**Loving and gracious God,
send us from here filled with Your Spirit, the love of one another
and the grace to make a difference in the world.
Bless those we love and those we don't,
keeping all of us in Your care.
Amen**

*** A blessing as we go into our week... Rev. Dale**

*** Sung Benediction ~ Rev. Dale**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love.**

*** Postlude**

Thank you to the Worship Committee and Friends for leading us today!

*Thank you for joining us this morning for worship with Lansing United and to those who assisted with today's service. There are lots of ways to be involved in the life and work of the church and everyone is appreciated for the unique gifts that you bring! You can call the church office and leave a message and someone will get back to you with information 416•221•1722. You are welcome to contact Rev. Brad on his cell phone 416•268•7592 for urgent needs, to set up a visit or get information. He can also be reached by email at minister@lansingchurch.com. We do send out at least two weekly e-blasts and if you would like to be on this mail list, please let Brad know. **And most importantly, if there is something you didn't understand about the service today, want further discussion or to learn more about church committees and why we do things the way we do, or offer feedback...please don't hesitate to contact Brad or the office 416-221-1722 or lansingunited@lansingchurch.com***

Please notify the office if you or someone you know is ill or in hospital and needing some extra care, support and/or prayers. Brad is always happy to make a visit or have a phone conversation. If you have a specific prayer you would like shared on a Sunday morning during the prayers of the people, please let Brad know - keeping in mind, if the prayer is for someone other than yourself, that they are comfortable with sharing.

Rev. Dale's Bio:

Dale grew up in Lansing United after WW II. Dale (ZE) was Confirmed on January 8, 1956. Dale taught Sunday School and participated in all the Youth activities. The call to ministry was first felt during those years of growth. Teaching Elementary school, raising a family and volunteering in various positions in the church communities filled all of Dale's time, until the opportunity for further education presented itself. Dale graduated from Emmanuel College and was ordained in May 1988 by Toronto Conference. ZE has served 5 congregations in 3 Conferences. Dale last served full time at Covenant United Church in Timmins, ON. Retired for several years, Dale (ZE) continued to offer leadership in many places and congregations in Manitou Conference including the Manitou Conference United Church Women. Dale moved to North York in the fall of 2021 for Cochlear Implant surgery.

...in and around the church

Do you have a prayer request? Please let Mark know if you would like it shared during the Prayers of the People today.

2SLGBTQIA+ SENIORS AND FRIENDS (STARTS THIS TUESDAY)

Join us for community, conversation and connection. We are a warm and welcoming space for 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors and their friends to come together, share stories, enjoy companionship and build meaningful relationships. Every Tuesday 12-2 pm in the LUC Studio. No cost to attend. All are welcome!

There is NO Coffee with Brad this week as he is on a Study Leave. Join Brad Wednesday, September 24th from 1pm to 3pm. All are welcome! This is a drop in, come at any time.

Community Walk - Join 32 Division on Thursday, Sept 18th at 2:00 PM, as all 16 TPS Divisions walk alongside community and faith leaders across Toronto. Toronto Police Service 32 Division's 2025 Prayer Walk location will be at 5 Replin Road, **The Lawrence Heights Community Centre**. The Walk begins at 2:00 PM sharp. Members

of 32 Division, Mayor Olivia Chow, TPS Chief of Police Myron Demkiw and many other community and faith leaders will walk in solidarity against guns, violence, and all forms of hate.

Baptism Sunday and Welcoming New Members - Is there someone in your family who would like to be baptized? Have you thought about officially joining Lansing United Church? Sunday, September 21st has been set aside for baptism and to welcome new members. If you would like more information, please contact Brad directly for further conversation.

Cross Country Check-in Monday, September 22 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm. Meet the new UCC Moderator, Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, as well as the new members of the General Council Executive. All are welcome to be part of this town hall. **To register-** <https://churchx.ca/local/shop/product.php?id=315>

Witness Blanket: A gentle reminder that the Witness Blanket exhibit is on until October 18, 2025 (closed Mondays) at Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church in Cannington 12-8 pm. Admission is free. For more information - <https://trinitycannington.ca/>

Saturday, September 27th (9am to noon) - Lansing is hosting a gathering with our neighbouring churches to hear/share what each of us are currently doing, look at ways we can work more closely together and explore funding opportunities to further enhance our programs.

All are welcome to attend this gathering. Come and learn more about our *Affirming Ministry* and the work of our neighbours, ask questions, better understand our goals or just hang out for the treats! This will be an informal gathering and you don't have to be "gay" to attend...this is for everyone.

** Just a note - those who are straight and support and stand in solidarity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, are called **Allies**.*

This is an exciting opportunity to learn, share, build on what we have already in place and look to the future as communities of faith who believe we are all loved unconditionally, without exception.

For more information and conversation, reach out to Brad or RSVP to Rebecca if you can attend.

Giving with Intention....Thanksgiving Drive at NeighbourLink North York

NeighbourLink North York will be more than doubling its efforts this Thanksgiving. In collaboration with Immanuel Seventh Day Adventist, they will be purchasing over 300 turkeys for households to be made into meals for those who are not able to cook a Thanksgiving meal. Combined, over 1000 individuals will be able to make or receive a Thanksgiving meal with all the fixings. Donations can be made to NeighbourLink North York directly or you can leave an envelope in the offering plate marked "Thanksgiving Drive". Please note that donations made directly to NeighbourLink North York will be issued by them. Visit - <https://www.neighbourlink.org/> if you'd like to donate.

Shining Waters Regional Council Prayer Cycle- Each week, our Region of the United Church - *Shining Waters*, invites us to pray for various congregations within our Region. This week we are invited to pray for Gifford United Church, Harmony United Church in Kearney and Metropolitan United Church in Toronto.

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SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 HAPPY LABOUR DAY	2 Office closed	3 Quilting 1-3 pm	4 Team Alert Training 11:30 am	5	6
7 9:30 am Coffee Bar 10 am Worship Service with Sunday School Ice Cream Sunday	8	9	10 Coffee with Brad 1-3 pm Quilting 1-3 pm Choir 7 pm	11	12	13 Nearly New Shop Nearly New Shop OPEN 10-1
14 9:30 am Coffee Bar 10 am Worship Service with Sunday School	15	16	17 No Coffee with Brad Quilting 1-3 pm Choir 7 pm	18	19	20 YARD SALE 9-1 NeighbourLink NY Yard Sale Hall #1
21 9:30 am Coffee Bar 10 am Worship Service Sunday School, Baptism	22 UCC Cross-Canada Check-in call 4pm	23 Death Cafe 7 pm	24 Coffee with Brad 1-3 pm Quilting 1-3 pm Choir 7 pm	25 CHARTWELL LANSING 2:30 pm Service	26	27 9-12 noon Community Affirming Meeting in the Studio
28 9:30 am Coffee Bar 10 am Worship Service with Sunday School "Meet Dee Marksmen-Phillipotts"	29	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	LOVE 68 love			



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