

St. Mark's United Church, Cannifton, Ontario
Sunday, August 2nd, 2026
Minister: Rev. Darren Liepold
Musician: Mark Bond
Technical Team: Sheila Parks, Elaner Pound,
Mary Milligan, Alfreda Rupert, Lois MacDonald,
Natalie Land, Chloe Land, and Alex Reid

APPROACHING GOD

Prelude

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

WORDS OF WELCOME

COMMUNITY NEWS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

This candle is a small pin point of light that brightens our path way. It can offer a way forward when darkness surrounds us. It can offer hope in the midst of despair. It can offer joy when the world seems full of gloom. As this candle shines, may we know that Jesus Christ is the light of our lives.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Holy One, we come here longing for good news. In the midst of our troubled world, we hunger for hope, joy, and light.

Many: It all seems so bleak, yet scriptures tell us that you have not left us alone. You walk along side of us. You give to us all we need to thrive and survive.

One: Encourage us to share our gifts with one another. Alone we cannot do very much. But when we work together, we can do so much more than we can possibly imagine.

Many: By your grace, loving God, we are brought together as one. By your grace, we can pool together our gifts and talents and do so much more than we can possibly imagine.

One: Come let us worship together.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Creator God, we come before You this Sunday morning with open hearts and minds. Thank You for the gift of this new day and for bringing us together in fellowship on this summer day. Calm our spirits and quiet our minds so we may focus entirely on Your presence. We ask that Your Holy Spirit fill this place, guiding our worship, our words, and our interactions. Teach us to lean on Your strength when we are weak, and to find joy in Your unchanging love. Open our ears to hear Your truth today, so that we may leave here transformed to better serve You and our neighbors. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN MV # 79

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.**

- 1 God, replace my stony heart
 with a heart that's kind and tender.
 All my coldness and fear
 to your grace I now surrender. R**
- 2 Write your love upon my heart
 as my law, my goal, my story.
 In each thought, word and deed,
 may my living bring you glory. R**

- 3 May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. **R**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Gracious one, we know that you have given us much but we are reluctant to share. We fear we may run out. We worry about others wasting your gifts, yet forget the ways we squander your riches. We ignore your calls to us to help and serve others, yet we feel badly when others do not come to our aid. For this short sightedness, forgive us O God. Help us to see that just as we freely accept your gifts, we should be a blessing to others. Help us to break from our stinginess and give fully of ourselves when we hear our neighbours' cries. Help us to be bearers of your radical love for the world. In Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

A Time of Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN # 958 VU

"Halle, Halle, Halle" (sung twice)

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Repeat)

THEME TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

HYMN # 595 VU

“We Are Pilgrims” (The Servants Song”)

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened.

SCRIPTURE

First Scripture:

Genesis 32: 22 – 31

(Jacob wrestles with the angel)

Read by: Nancy Shorey

Responsive Psalm # 145 – page 866 VU

Led by: Nancy Shorey

Refrain: We praise you, O God: we bless your holy name.

Every day we will bless you
and praise your name forever.

**O God, you are great and highly to be praised;
your greatness is beyond all measure.**

One generation shall praise your works to another,
and declare your marvellous deeds.

**I will speak of your splendour and glory,
and all your wonderful works. R**

You, God, are righteous in all your ways,
and loving in all your deeds.

**You are near to all who call you,
to all who call on you in truth.**

You fulfill the desire of those who revere you;
you hear their cry and you save them.

**You watch over all who love you,
but the wicked you will destroy.**

My mouth will speak your praise, O God.

Let every creature bless your holy name forever.

Refrain: We praise you, O God: we bless your holy name.

Second Reading:

Matthew 14: 13 – 21
(The Feeding of the 5000)

Read by: Rev. Darren Liepold

SERMON
“Satisfying our Hunger”

RESPONDING

HYMN # 154 MV

“Deep in Our Hearts”

- 1 Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.
- 2 Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,
justice and peace in harmony.
- 3 Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;
deep in our hearts there is a common current,
flowing to freedom like a stream.
- 4 Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

HYMN # 544 VU

“In Gratitude and Humble Trust”

In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.

O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

HYMN # 625 VU

“I Feel the Winds of God”

1 I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray
and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water's crest,
and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest,
and brave another cruise.

2 It is the wind of God that dries
my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts shall rise
the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease
or pleasure I should be,
O let me feel your freshening breeze,
and I'll put back to sea.

3 If ever I forget your love
and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above;

it bears your name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way,
you will not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

HYMN # 214 MV

“May God’s Sheltering Wings”

- 1 May God’s sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you.
May God’s nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love,
and hold you in her love
- 2 May God’s sheltering wings,
his gathering wings protect you.
May God’s nurturing arms,
his cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in his love,
and hold you in his love

Postlude

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