

St. Mark's United Church, Cannifton, Ontario
Sunday, September 13th 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

With a spark, the light of this candle brightens this room. With a spark, the love and grace of Christ is made known to this room. May we feel Christ's presence with us as the glow from this candle be ever present for us.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give praise to God. Praise the Lord for it is God who saves.
It is the God who forgives, it is the God who delivers.
Give thanks and praise to the Lord.

HYMN VU # 240

“Praise my Soul the God of Heaven”

- 1 Praise my soul, the God of heaven,
Glad of hear you carols raise;
ransomed, healed, re-stored forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise the Maker all your days!
- 2 Praise God for the grace and favour
shown our forebears in distress,
God is still the same forever,
slow to childe and swift to bless.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Sing our Makers faithfulness!
- 3 Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame,
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
All within me, praise God's name!
- 4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish,
blows the wind and it is gone;
but, while mortals rise and perish,
God ensures unchanging on
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise the high eternal one.
- 5 Angels teach us adoration
you behold God face to face,
sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space.

O praise God! O praise God!
Praise with us the God of grace!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Praise with us the God of grace!

OPENING PRAYER

O God who is our strength, you have protected us from those who would seek to oppress us. You have shielded us from those who would seek to destroy the good gifts you have put in us. Your love and power never fail. Thanks, and praise to you, our safety and stronghold. We exalt you, O God, majestic in holiness for there is none like you. Amen.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us- we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us- we have not forgiven others. You have loved us- we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another. Take pity on us and forgive us, O God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time of Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People of God

Our sins are forgiven. God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all. Reconciled to the God who loves us, let us live and love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN VU # 958 Halle, Halle, Halle

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Repeat)

THEME TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

HYMN MV# 135 “Called by Earth and Sky”

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.**

- 1 Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again. **R**

- 2 Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace. **R**

3 Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song. **R**

4 Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one. **R**

**Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky,
called by earth and sky.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, your Word is strong and leads our feet to your holy dwelling place. Strengthen and guide us with your Word through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

First Scripture:

Exodus 14: 19-31 (*The Parting of the Waters*)

Read by: Jackie Bell

Responsive Psalm # 103: Page 825 VU

**Refrain: Come, bless God, O my soul,
and never forget all God's blessings.**

Bless God, my soul,
and all my being, bless God's holy name.

**Bless God, my soul,
and forget not all God has done for you.**

Bless God, who forgives all your sin,
who heals you in all your infirmities,
**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with mercy and love,**
who fills your life with good things,
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's,
**who works righteousness
and justice for all who are wronged. R**

O God, you showed your ways to Moses,
your deeds to the children of Israel.
**You are compassionate and merciful,
slow to anger and extravagant in love.**

You will not always accuse
nor do you keep your anger forever.

**You have not dealt with us according to our sins
nor punished us according to our wickedness.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love toward those who fear you.

**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you put away our sins from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you.

***As a mother comforts her child,**

so you comfort us, O God.
For you know how we were made.

You remember that we are dust. Bless God, O my soul. R

**Refrain: Come, bless God, O my soul,
and never forget all God's blessings.**

Led by: Jackie Bell

Second Reading:

Matthew 18: 21-35 *(If you Received then Give)*

Read by: Rev. Darren Liepold

SERMON

"To Give and Take"

HYMN MV # 126 "Are You a Shepherd"

- 1** Are you a shepherd, good shepherd who leads us
safely through danger, while calming our fears?
Are you a father who shelters and feeds us,
shares in our laughter and wipes away tears? **R**

**Yes, you are a shepherd, parent and teacher,
but you are greater than all that we know.
Holy and living, loving and giving,
God, you are with us wherever we go.**

- 2** Are you a mother, good mother who bears us,
comforts, protects us and helps us to rest?
Are you a teacher who daily prepares us,
challenging students to offer their best? **R**

- 3 Great, gentle shepherd, forever beside us,
lead all your children in paths that are right.
Great, loving parent, wise teacher, you guide us.
We want to love you and bring you delight. **R**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

God is unfailing in blessing and love. With thankful hearts, let us offer up to God a portion of what has given us.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Hymn VU 544 "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 VU # 651 "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar,
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

HYMN MV # 214 "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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