

**St. Mark's United Church, Cannifton, Ontario**

**Sunday, May 31, 2026**

**Minister: Rev. Dr. John H. Young**

**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**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather to worship the one we call God.

**We come, with our hopes and dreams, with our fears and concerns.**

Let us trust the one we call God to meet us and to take away the things that block us from being the best we can be.

**We gather, in trust.**

Let us worship God.\*

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH**

**O God, you know our needs before we ask. So, in this time of worship, comfort those among us who need a healing word. Affirm those among us who feel unloved. Challenge those among us who have grown complacent. Assure us that we are your beloved children. This we pray, in Christ's name, Amen.\***

## **HYMN VU 315 “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”**

- 1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,  
only thou are holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Caring God, sometimes we hold back, hoping that someone else will take on a challenging task. On other occasions we step aside, for fear of the cost of involvement. Remind us in such times that you give each of us talents and gifts for the good of the community. Help us to use those talents and gifts. This we pray, in Christ’s name, Amen.**

A Time of Silence

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Jesus said, “Come to me all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”

**For that assurance of forgiveness and relief from our burdens, we give God thanks and praise.\***

## **HYMN VU 958 “Halle, Halle, Halle” (sung twice)**

## **THEME TIME**

### **HYMN MV 182 “Grateful”**

**Grateful for the life you give us,  
thankful for your Holy Son,  
joyful in your Spirit flowing  
over all, O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,  
thankful for your Holy Word.  
joyful in your mercy flowing,  
we will praise you.**

- 1 You are more than we imagine,  
Ancient, Holy, Living Lord\*.  
Even when we doubt your presence  
you are faithful to your Word. R
  
- 2 May our lives proclaim your justice,  
may our voices sing your praise.  
May our hands work in your service  
To the glory of your name. R

## **HEARING GOD’S WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**O God, through Scripture you have revealed yourself anew to every generation in its time and context. So reveal yourself to us today as we hear these words, that we might know you more fully. This we pray, in Jesus’ name, Amen.\***

## **SCRIPTURE**

Epistle

2 Corinthians 13:11–13 Read by Spencer White

**Refrain: O God, our God,  
how glorious is your name in all the earth!**

O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!  
From the lips of infants and children your praises  
reach up to the heavens.

**You have set up a stronghold against your foes,  
to quell the enemy and the avenger. R**

When I look to the heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their places,  
**what are we mortals that you should be mindful of us,  
mere human beings that you should care for us? R**

You have made us little less than divine,  
and crowned us with glory and honour.

**You have made us rulers over all your creation,  
and put all things under our feet,  
all sheep and cattle, all creatures of the wild,  
the birds of the air and the fish in the sea,  
and all that made their way through the waters. R**

Gospel

Matthew 28:16–20 Read by Rev. Dr. John Young

### **SERMON: Thinking About the Trinity**

#### **RESPONDING**

#### **HYMN VU 322 “O God, Whose First Creative Word”**

1 O God, whose first creative word  
set universes into place,  
who stretched across the whirling void  
infinities of time and space;  
O speak to our chaotic day  
a word of ordered grace, we pray.

- 2 O Christ who came, the living word,  
proclaiming love's redeeming power,  
who drained the tempter's bitter cup  
and triumphed in earth's darkest hour;  
O speak to our despair and pain  
a word that kindles hope again.
- 3 O Spirit, ever-present word,  
God's agent of transforming grace,  
who seeks to enter every heart  
with light its darkness to replace;  
O speak within the hearts we raise  
a joyful word of faith and praise.

## **PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **MOMENT OF REFLECTION — Natalie Land**

### **SHARING OUR GIFTS**

#### **HYMN VU 542 "We Give You But Your Own"**

We give you but your own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone,  
we give it gratefully.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

#### **HYMN MV 176 "Three Things I Promise"**

- 1 Three things I promise, Holy God,  
in age and youth, in life and death:  
to bless your Name, and cling to Christ,  
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

- 2 Your love unfolded time and space,  
and life and all that life became,  
and so, with thankful heart and voice,  
through good and ill, I bless your Name.
- 3 I follow, serve, and cling to Christ  
amid our culture's tides and trends,  
for here your Name is most revealed:  
Majestic Love, and Best of Friends.
- 4 Enlivened as the Spirit moves  
to cleanse, awaken, and renew,  
I pray that justice, peace, and truth,  
may seed and grow in all I do.
- 5 If I should live when vigour fades,  
And family and friends are gone,  
Three acts of loving faith remain  
When days are slow, and work is done.
- 6 Revive and guide me, Living God,  
as day by day, until my death,  
I bless your Name, and cling to Christ,  
and listen for the Spirit's breath.

## **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

### **HYMN MV 214 "May God's Sheltering Wings"**

[We shall sing this piece through twice, using "her" the first time and "his" the second time]

- 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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