Centennial United Church, Stayner

Sunday, November 8, 2026 10:30am

Remembrance Sunday

Unexpected Jesus Week 4 – "The Unexpected Prince of Peace"

Worship Leader: Jennifer Irving *Music Leader: Megan Arksey*

✧ ✧

Words of Wisdom: *"Let us love the world to peace." ~ Eileen Elias Freeman*

We Gather in Love

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Sharing Our Life & Work and Our Joys & Concerns

Lighting the Christ Candle & Placing the Wreath

Centering Hymn VU #684 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Call to Worship

One: We gather in this house of prayer to embrace
the peace Jesus came to offer the world.

**ALL: We gather in this house of hope to weave
the peace of Jesus into the everyday moments of our living.**

One: May our worship be a time where the peace moves in close.

**ALL: May our prayers for peace today
take root in our hearts and in our world.**

Opening Prayer

One: In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

ALL: God of Deep Peace, we gather this morning, in this time of prayer, and bring to mind those who knew, all too well, the roar of guns and the thunder of cannons. We remember those who sacrificed their safety that we might know safety; those who gave up their freedom that we might know freedom. God of Deep Peace this morning we come before You to say thank you.

One: We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie in Flanders Fields

ALL: God of Abiding Peace, we bring to mind the faces of family, friends, and neighbours, who willingly gave up the lives they had planned to join a battle they had not started. They were able to see a greater vision beyond their own existence. As we today are free to lift our prayers to You we honour them. We honour lives that were never the same again, we honour hearts that were broken, and loves that were lost. God of Abiding Peace, today we promise to cherish them and all they gave us.

One: Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep though Poppies grow, in Flanders Fields

ALL: God of Life Giving Peace, we pray for those men and women who continue to serve in our armed forces today. People who bravely rise up in the face of injustice that all Your children around this world might come to know security, hope, and peace. May those who serve feel the power of our prayers, may those who love them find hope in your Presence, and may we all work towards a time when Your deep, abiding and life giving peace will fall upon this world forever. Amen.

Special Music "In Flanders Fields" *Alice Grotolli & Jennifer Irving*

Prayer for Reconciliation (in unison)

The message our world offers is clear: power and might are the forces that drive all things. And yet in this place we are reminded of the One who Came in the name of Peace. Forgive us God for those times we fall in step with aggressive ways of living. Forgive us when we allow fear to guide our choices. Forgive us when we do not give the unexpected Peace of Christ the space it needs to grow in our hearts and our community. Hear our prayers of Confession guide us to a place of hope and healing. *(silent prayers of confession)* **Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

One: Jesus said "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. So do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid."

ALL: We cling to the words of Peace Jesus placed in our hands. May they heal us and empower us to help heal the world. Thanks be to God.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Sung Response MV #95 "How Deep the Peace" *(repeated)*

How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose wrongs are forgiven.
How deep the peace, the confidence,
of those whose hearts are healed.

We Listen in Love

Time of Wondering

A Time of Remembrance

VU #524 "O Canada" *(revised words)*

Words of Remembrance

One: They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old.

All: Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.

One: At the going down of the sun and in the morning.

All: We will remember them.

Reading of the Honour Roll and Those Who Served

Last Post

Minute of Silence

Rouse

Words of Remembrance

One: Eternal rest grant unto them, O God,
and may perpetual light shine upon them.

All: May their souls, through your great mercy,
rest in peace. Amen.

Choir Anthem *"It Is Time"*

Scripture Readings: John 16:33 *(NT p. 140);* **Matthew 5:9** *(NT p.7);* **Romans 12:18** *(NT p. 200);* **Colossians 3:15** *(NT p. 254);* **2 Thessalonians 3:16** *(NT p.262);* **Isaiah 52:7** *(OT p. 717)*

Reflection

We Respond in Love

Hymn MV 173 "Put Peace Into Each Other's Hands" *(see insert)*

Our Generosity at Work *(A Mission & Service Story)*

Responding with our Offering

Offertory VU #605 "Jesus Teacher, Brave and Bold" *(vs 2, adapted)*

Jesus, friend, so strong and true, show us good, brave work to do.
Show us those who need a friend, all things broken, help us mend.
Bless these gifts and stretch our care,
teach us to serve you everywhere.

Prayer of Dedication *by mihee kim-kort in A Rhythm of Prayer by Sarah Bessey, adapted*

Heart of my own heart, be my sight, be my song, be my light. Soften my heart that it would break for Your world. Lead my hands and feet to do work that is poured out for the sake of Your children. Bless what my hands offer here and through these gifts may Your Church be brave, may it be a sign of Your love in the world, in Jesus' sweet, sweet name I pray. Amen

Prayers of the People *by Rev. Emily Swan*

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn SFGP #128 "Let There Be Peace on Earth" *(see insert)*

Blessing and Sending Forth

Choral Blessing – "Go Now in Peace" *(Don Besig & Nancy Price)*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every 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 filled with love.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

✧ ✧

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning.
Greeting you today for worship is
Thank you to Neelah Irving for running our live-stream

✧ ✧

CENTENNIAL UNITED CHURCH
234 William Street, Stayner, ON L0M 1S0
Website ~ www.ucstayner.ca
YouTube Channel ~ Centennial United Stayner
Facebook Page ~ Centennial United Church –Stayner

Minister: Reverend Jennifer Irving
home: 705-517-0130 cell: 1-306-327-7776
email: jennifer@ucstayner.ca
Office Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays: 10:30am-2:30pm

Administrator: Pat Elson
email ~ office@ucstayner.ca phone: 705-428-3711
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9:00am-1pm

On-Line & In Person Worship: Sundays: 10:30am
Zoom: 862 4551 6433 pwd: WORSHIP

Our Land Acknowledgement Statement

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have lives, hunted and fished on this land and these waters, gifts of the Creator.

We acknowledge as a community of faith we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabe, Haudenosaunee, Tionontati and Wendat peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic and spiritual connection to this land. We gather in the light of that history and honour their ancestors and stories.

We also recognize the contributions that Metis, Inuit and other Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country. We acknowledge we are all treaty people and this land in particular is subject to Treaty 18 of 1818.

We commit to the journey of right relationship which includes ongoing learning and action with our lives and faith.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

SCENT SENSITIVE SPACE We ask that you please be mindful that we are trying to keep our church scent free and refrain from applying perfume or wearing scented deodorants in the building.

INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A UNITED CHURCH 2027 CALENDAR? Let Pat know if you would like to purchase by November 10. $ 12.

INTERESTED IN READING SCRIPTURE? Sharing an M&S story? Please sign up on the table in the entry way to the sanctuary.

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A BULLETIN to share a special event in your life? Please let Pat know (office@ucstayner.ca). Cost is $ 20.

OUR LITTLE FOOD CUPBOARD continues to be well used. We welcome food contributions Also welcome are volunteers to restock the cupboard. If you are able to help out please contact Geoff Allen.

CLEARVIEW-STAYNER FOODBANK Is requesting contributions of money to enable them to provide Christmas gifts for the children whose families are using the foodbank at this time. Donations can be marked "Foodbank Christmas Gifts" and placed on the offering plate.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 NEW LOWELL UNITED CHURCH is hosting a Roast Beef Harvest Dinner and Silent Auction at the New Lowell Legion (5357 Simcoe Rd 9). Dine in (begins 5:30 PM) or Take Out (5 – 5:30 PM). $ 30/person. Advance tickets call 705-424-1476.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Round Room.

CENTENNIAL CHOIR PRACTICES Thursdays at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary for anyone and everyone!

FINANCE, PROPERTY & STEWARDSHIP MEETING Thursday at 3:30pm in the Round Room. This is our budget meeting for 2027.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT REHEARSALS! Thursdays at 7:00pm at JUBILEE until the Concert-Sunday December 13th at 7:00pm! Join the mass choir at Jubilee Presbyterian Church to prepare for this special evening of celebration and song.

BRACELET WORKSHOP Saturday November 14 2:30 or 6:30. Create your own one of a kind, or a gift for that special person. Register with Jen Gerrior (gerriordutka@rogers.com, 705-888-1188). $40

AFFIRMING MINISTRY CELEBRATION Sunday November 15 10:30am Join us as we celebrate becoming an Affirming Ministry in worship followed by a Potluck Lunch and Rainbow Cake! Bring your favourite dish as we celebrate our individuality! Contribution to the Potluck is not a requirement - everyone is welcome to join in our celebration!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday November 21 9:30am-3:00pm. Lots of vendors, including a Sunday School Bake Table. If you would like to contribute to the Bake Table drop off goodies at the office or on the day of!

NOVEMBER 26 & 27, 6:30 PM. Outreach and Social Action Committee are organizing **Wreath Making Workshops**. Registration is limited to 30 people per night. Cost is $ 50 per person All supplies and goodies provided. Contact Geoff Allen to reserve a space. Geoff.allen.re@gmail.com or 519-546-3991.

CENTENNIAL WOMEN SAVE THE DATE! A Christmas lunch is planned for December 9. Stay tuned for details!

Other things to look forward to!

Saturday December 5 Centennial United will be participating in the Stayner Santa Claus parade. 9 AM at the church for those wanting to be in the parade. Parade starts at 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 6 10:30 AM White Gift Sunday

Sunday, December 13 7 PM Community Christmas Concert hosted by Jubilee Presbyterian.

Sunday, December 20 10:30 AM Carols and Comfort Food. A service of music and story followed by a soup lunch.

Monday, December 21 Longest Night Service (time TBD)

Thursday, December 24 3 PM Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 27 10:30 AM Breakfast Church (peameal bacon on a bun, and worship!)

REGIONAL PRAYER CYCLE This week regional prayers are for Knox United Church in Durham. Learn more about Knox United here https://knoxunitedchurch.weebly.com/

Song Insert

MV #173 "Put Peace into Each Other's Hands"

Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle flame,
with tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our life is meant for caring.

Give thanks for strong – yet tender – hands,
held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
the heights of love expressing.

Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
in touch with those around you.
Put peace into each other's hands;
the Peace that sought and found you.

Words: Fred Kaan © Hope Publishing Co., Music: Ron Klusmeier © www.musiklus.com

SFGP #128 "Let There Be Peace on Earth" *(sing twice)*

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God, our creator, children all are we;
let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,
with ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow:
to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Words & Music: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson, 1955 © Jan-Lee Music.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae was a doctor and soldier. He volunteered to serve in WWI at the age of 41 and wrote "In Flanders Fields" in 1915, the day after presiding over the funeral and burial of his friend Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, who had been killed during the Second Battle of Ypres. The poem was written as he sat upon the back of a medical field ambulance near an advance dressing post at Essex Farm, just north of Ypres. The poppy, which was a central feature of the poem, grew in great numbers in the spoiled fieds. Lt Helmer was buried in a makeshift grave with a simple wooden cross. Wild poppies were already beginning to bloom between the crosses marking the many graves.