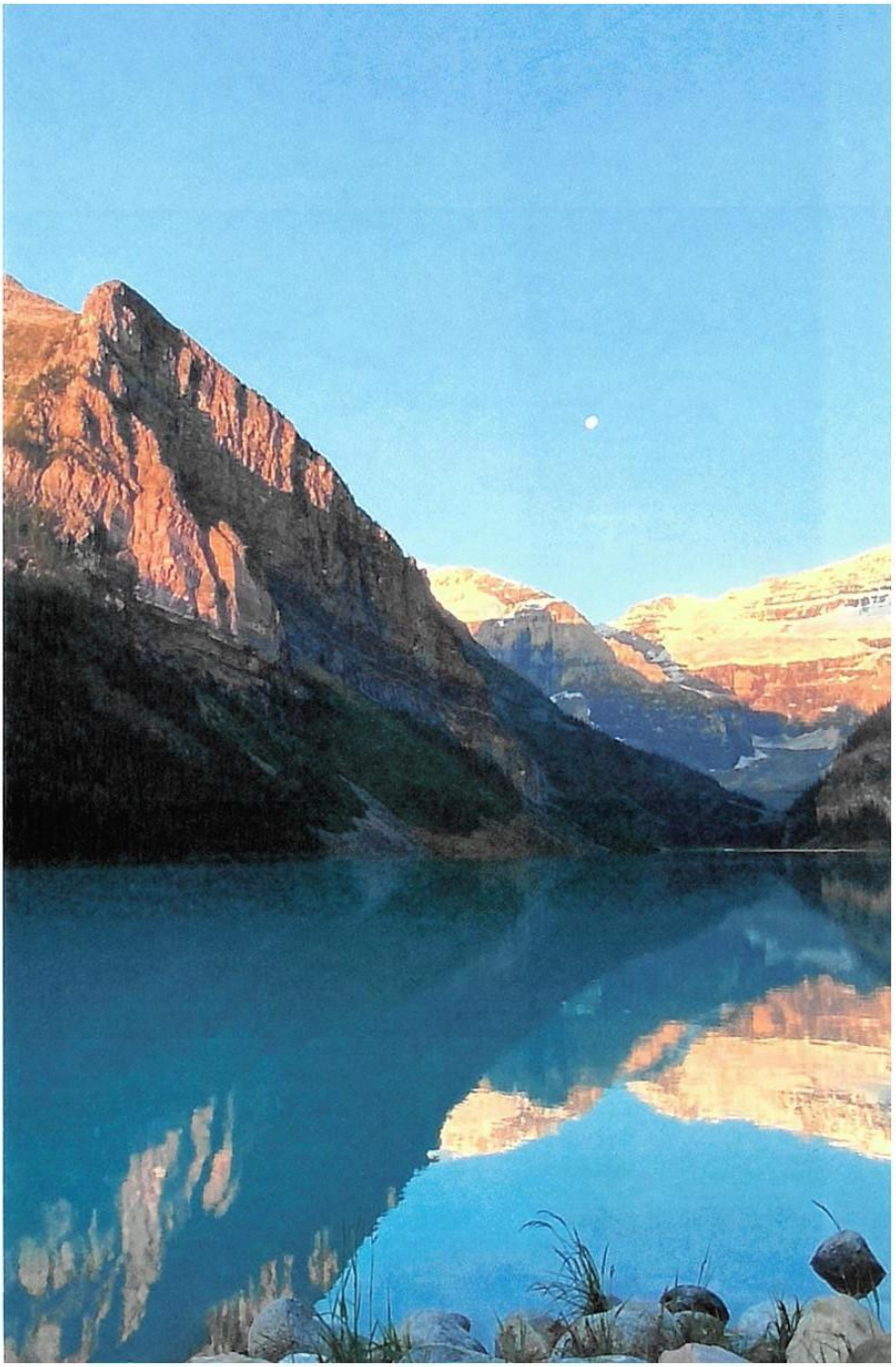


CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

November 15th, 2026 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Minister: Rev. Daniel MacDonald
Minister of Music: John Scott
Lay Reader: Shelley Mann
Greeters: Ivan & Sherrie Carey
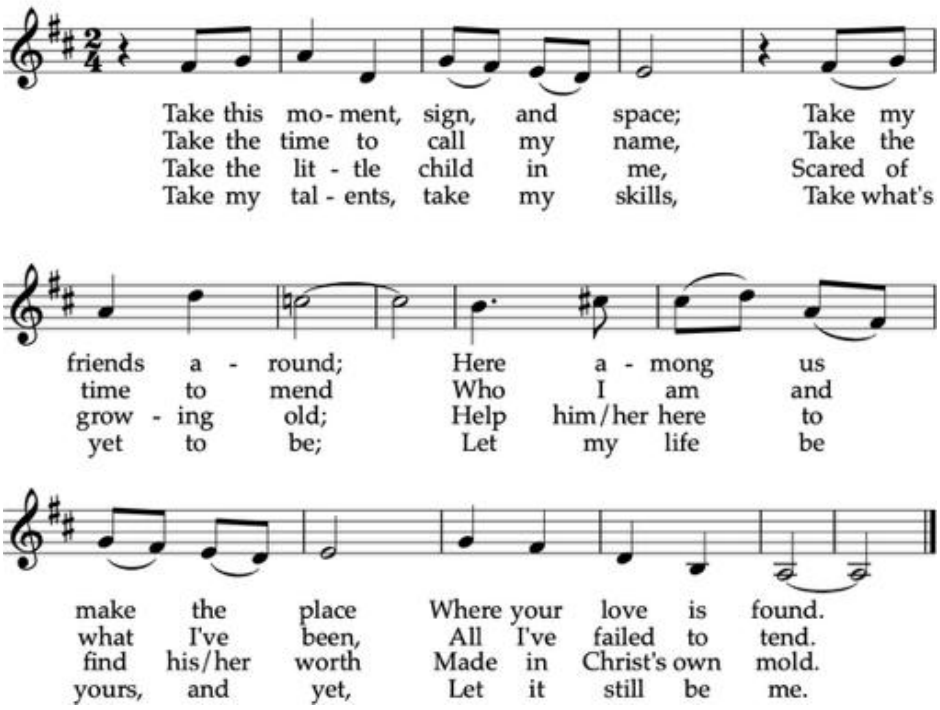
Email: **centralsecretary@bellaliant.com** Website: **www.centralunitedlunenburg.ca**
VU: Voices United (red book) **MV:** More Voices (spiral-bound book)

We welcome and celebrate human diversity - including spirituality, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. Here, people of any faith or none can question and discover the sacred in life through openness, struggle, laughter, prayer and music.

Prelude

Gathering Music: *"Take This Moment"*

words and music: John Bell
Iona Community



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:
Some of us are creative…
Some of us are curious…
Some of us are patient…
Some of us are passionate…
All of us are gifted.

Some of us are writers…
Some of us are singers…
Some of us are thinkers…
Some of us are pray-ers…
All of us are gifted.

Some of us can bake…
Some of us can listen…
Some of us can paint…
Some of us give the best hugs…
All of us are gifted.

Some of us know things…
Some of us feel things…
Some of us dream things…
All of us are gifted.

Come, beloved, gifted people of God,
and remember you all have something wonderful to share.
Come, let us worship together.

Hymn: *"God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"*

1. God, whose giving knows no ending,
   From Your rich and endless store:
   Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
   Costly cross, grave's shattered door,
   Gifted by You, we turn to You,
   Off'ring up ourselves in praise;
   Thankful song shall rise forever,
   Gracious donor of our days.

(Cont'd next page)

2. Skills and time are ours for pressing
Toward the goals of Christ, Your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom,
Races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
Lest we strive for self alone;
Born with talents, make us servants
Fit to answer at Your throne.

3. Treasure, too, You have entrusted,
Gain through pow'rs Your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred,
And to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
As we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
Serving You by loving all.

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgement of Land

A Prayer for Renewal:
In a world that seems to prioritize only certain types of gifts,
it is easy, Loving One, to diminish our own giftedness,
to discount our own abilities, to believe that
because we cannot do one thing, we cannot do anything.
Yet, the truth is you call us to be a blessing
and have gifted us with all that we need to be one.
Within each of us are a wealth of gifts, and skills and abilities
that are uniquely ours to use
in service of others and this world.
So, when our inner critic speaks loudly,
let your Spirit speak louder still.
Then, help us to listen,
that we may never forget who we are,
and find within ourselves, the confidence and courage
to be who we are called to be.
Amen.

A Time for Silent Reflection and Prayer
Words of Assurance

Hymn: *"In Loving Partnership We Come"* **VU #603**

Scripture Reading:
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-29

Sermon

Hymn: *"Take My Life and Let It Be"* **VU #506**

We Celebrate the Life and Work of our Community

We Share Our Offerings
Offertory Hymn: *"What Can I Do"* **MV #191**

Dedication of Our Gifts:
Brother Jesus, who taught us that when we feed the hungry,
when we comfort the hurting,
when we show kindness to strangers,
we embody the Holy,
be present with us now as we bring forth our gifts
of time, talent and treasure this morning;
that through the sharing of these and all our many gifts,
your love and compassion may continue to flourish and grow
and we might be reminded of all the many ways
we embody Good News together.
Amen.

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: *"Sent Out in Jesus' Name"* **MV #212**

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

Some of our prayers today have been inspired by materials first written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes. Used with gratitude and permission.
www.unfoldinglight.net

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Sunday, November 15th, 2026

Please send your announcements to the church office by Wednesday.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Monday, November 16th: Float building at 6:30pm
- Wednesday, November 18th: Choir practice at 6:30pm
- Thursday, November 19th: Handbell practice at 10:00am
- Thursday, November 19th: Community drop-in/coffee hour 10am-12pm
- Thursday, November 19th: Harbourview Haven Service at 2:00pm
- Sunday, November 22nd: Anniversary Sunday & Blessing of the Blankets

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Let's Get Building & Crafting! - The Lunenburg Christmas Parade

Calling all carpenters, crafters and carollers! Central is putting together a float for this year's Lunenburg Christmas Parade (November 28; parade starts at 2pm) and we are ready to start building and crafting!
What we NEED to get started:

- One gallon of White Paint (to cover wood)
- Santa Hats
- Builders/Crafters: If you are interested in helping build and/or decorate the float please stop by 15 Kissing Bridge Road, Lunenburg on the following dates and stay as long as you can:
    - Monday November 16 - 6:30pm (Builders/Crafters)
    - Sunday November 22 - immediately following the anniversary celebrations. (Builders/Crafters)
- Carollers - Parade Participants (need to be in place by 1:30pm)
    - We are looking for a maximum of 6 children, or small adults, to sit on the float.
    - Want some exercise? Walk alongside the float, sing some songs and hand out some candy!

For other ways you can help, please see the sign-up sheet at the back and/or speak with Natasha, Meghan or Christy. Donations accepted until November 22.

A HUGE thank you to Miriam and Graham Pearson for their generosity with the use of their heated garage and workshop to build and store the float.

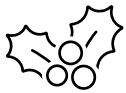
2027 Calendars: Celebrate United Churches across Canada! Focusing on the theme of 65 years of United Church Women, this bilingual calendar features colourful photos from communities of faith across the country. Calendars are available for purchase at the back of the sanctuary for $10 each.

A Note to our Knitters/Crocheters: Please bring your blankets in by this Wednesday, November 18th, in preparation for the Blessing of the Blankets happening next Sunday, November 22nd. Blankets may be placed in the fellowship room.

Anniversary Sunday - Nov. 22nd: Join us next Sunday, November 22nd, as we celebrate the 212th anniversary of our community of faith! Thelma Blinn will be sharing her reflections on what this church has meant to her, and her hopes and dreams for its future. We will also be taking time during this service to bless all the blankets that have been knitted over the summer and fall, before they are sent to those in need in our community. Folks are invited to stay after worship for a time of refreshment, with cake and sandwiches at the back of the sanctuary. We hope to see you there!

Community Drop-in: Join us this Thursday between 10:00am-12:00pm for a morning of games, coffee/tea, and fellowship. All are welcome!

Decorating the Sanctuary: Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 26th at 7:00pm. We will be gathering to decorate the church for Christmas. Come help if you can – the more elves the merrier!



In the Community:

On **Saturday, November 21st** there will be a Pottery, Vintage & Thrift Market taking place right here in the church hall from 10am-4pm.

You're invited to join us for live music with the band Runnin' on MT in support of renovations at Sherbrooke Lake Church Camp on **Fri, Nov.27th at 7:00pm** at **St. John's United Church**, 5540 HWY332, Middle LaHave. Free will donations accepted and light snacks provided.

On **Wednesday, December 2nd**, Trinity United Church in Mahone Bay is hosting the third annual **Youth Arts & Crafts Market from 4:30-7:00pm.** All ages are welcome to attend and admission is free. Vendors and musicians are in grades 6-12. Hot drinks and treats will be sold in support of the youth group program. Come support local young crafters and artists while you shop for the holidays! (Artists/crafters in grades 6-12 can book a free table by emailing mahonebayyouth@gmail.com)

Rev. Daniel MacDonald: 902-634-7165, centralminister@bellaliant.com
Rev. Daniel is at the church Tuesdays from 10-2pm or by appointment

Carrol Heinsma (office): 902-634-4035, centralsecretary@bellaliant.com
~ Office Hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 10:00am-1:00pm
CentralUnitedLunenburg.ca