



CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
October 11th, 2026 – Thanksgiving Sunday

Minister: Rev. Daniel MacDonald
Minister of Music: John Scott
Lay Reader: Anne Tipler
Greeters: Carolyn & Oliver Levy

Email: centralsecretary@bellaliant.com
VU: Voices United (red book)

Website: www.centralunitedlunenburg.ca
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: *“In The Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”*

The musical notation is written on three staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is as follows:
Staff 1: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).
Staff 2: C4 (half), Bb4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).
Staff 3: C4 (half), Bb4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).
The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
joice, look to God, do not be a - fraid, lift up your
voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near."

Choir: *“For The Autumn Sky”* (R.E.Schramm)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

Crisp, crunchy leaves. The warmth of friendship and family.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

Salty, sea air. The fruit of the harvest.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

Cool autumn mornings. Compassionate service.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

Quiet leadership. Supportive community.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

Turkeys and pumpkins. Doers and dreamers.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

Sanctuary, security, hospitality, abundance.

Gifts to be shared! Reasons to give thanks!

For these, and all life's many gifts,

We come before God with thanksgiving!

Hymn: *"All Of Life Is Filled With Wonder"* (Tune:Hymn To Joy)

All of life is filled with wonder, so we thank you, God of love,
For the crash of evening thunder, clearing clouds, then stars above;
For the night that turns to glowing as we feel the morning mist,
God, we praise and thank you, knowing every day we're truly blessed.

For the joy of daily waking, for the gift of each new day,
For the smell of fresh bread baking, for the sound of children's play,
For the ways we seek to serve you as we work and volunteer,
God we humbly praise and thank you for your presence with us here.

For the ways we're blessed with plenty;
love and laughter, neighbours, friends,
Nature's wonders, seasons' bounty, life in you that never ends,
For the ones who've gone before us, giving witness to your way,
We rejoice in all you give us every moment, every day.

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgement of Land

A Prayer for Renewal:

**As we gather to celebrate the abundance of creation
and the abundance of our lives, Holy One;**

**Remind us of the purpose of abundance –
that all might have enough!**

**As we celebrate with feasts of food lovingly prepared,
in homes lovingly opened,
help us not to hoard our gifts, but to share them freely.**

As we reflect on the state of our world this year,
 help us not to lose sight of your abundance,
 even when we are anxious or afraid.
 Free us from the mistrust and worry
 that comes from a scarcity mindset
 And help us to live with confidence that we have all we need.
 In fact, we have more than enough!
 And we can do all our faith asks us to do.
 Renew our spirits, that we might live every day
 in gratitude and hope, trusting always in your manifold goodness.
 Amen.

Time for Silent Reflection and Prayer

Words of Assurance

Hymn: *"Sing Praises to God"* **VU #228**

Scripture Reading:

First Testament: Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Psalms: Psalm 65 (Choir; Refrain:ALL)

You are to be praised O God in Zion;
 to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come,
 because of their transgressions.

Our sins are stronger than we are,
 but you will blot them out.

Happy are they whom you choose,
 and draw to your courts to dwell there!

They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
 by the holiness of your temple.

Refrain: All

The musical notation is for a refrain in 4/4 time, written in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of a treble and bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, featuring a series of eighth and quarter notes with some triplets. The lyrics are written below the notes: "You crown the year with goodness and your paths flow with plenty." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O Hope of all the ends of the earth, and of the seas that are far away.
You make fast the mountains by your power;
they are girded about with might.
You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
will tremble at your marv'ulous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

Refrain: All

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain,
for so you provide for the earth.
You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

Refrain: All

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.
May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Sermon

Choir Anthem: *"All Things Bright And Beautiful"* (R. Sheppard)

We Celebrate the Life and Work of our Community

We Share Our Offerings:

Offertory Hymn: "A Place At The Table"



For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, for
 For wo - man and man, a place at the ta - ble, re -
 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble, a
 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble, a -
 For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble, to



ev - 'ry one born, clean wa - ter and bread, a
 vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share, with
 voice to be heard, a part in the song, the
 bus - er, a bused, with need to for - give, in
 live with out fear, and sim - ply to be, to



shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing, for
 whis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er, for
 hands of a child in hands that are wrink - led, for
 an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy, for
 work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship, for



ev - 'ry one born, a star o - ver - head.
 wo - man and man, a sys - tem that's fair.
 young and for old, the right to be - long.
 just and un - just, a new way to live.
 ev - 'ry - one born, the right to be free.



And God will de-light when we are cre-a - tors of jus-tice and



joy, yes, God will de-light when we are cre-a - tors of



jus-tice, jus-tice and joy!

Dedication of Our Gifts:

God of Community and Abundance,

As we gather in gratitude this Thanksgiving,

we pray that you would wrap us

in your spirit of shared love and welcome.

Bless those who receive our gifts and those who give.

Fill us with gratitude for connection,

for each gesture of kindness that meets a need,

and for the joy of gathering together.

May our abundance flow freely

and our tables remain open to all.

In the name and way of Jesus – Amen!



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We sing thanksgiving to God,

Creator and Source of all that we see,

and all that we cannot see....

We sing thanksgiving to God

who remembers promises in every generation...

We sing thanksgiving to God,
who, in the fullness of time,
became human and came to dwell among us
as the person of Jesus...

We sing thanksgiving to God,
who continues to come to us as the Holy Spirit...

We sing thanksgiving to God,
for the gift of God's church around the world,
and for our siblings in Christ in every place.

And so we join our song of thanksgiving to the song of all creation
as we proclaim God's glory, singing:

O holy, holy, holy God,
O God of time and space,
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

MV #203

As we gather here at this table,
we remember how Jesus, on the night before he died,
gathered with his friends around a table.

We remember how he took a loaf of bread
gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with everyone, saying:
"Take and eat. This is my body, given for you.
Each time you do this, remember me."

We remember too, that after the meal,
Jesus took a cup of wine
He gave thanks, and he shared it with everyone, saying:
"Take and drink. This is the cup of God's promise,
poured out for you and for the world.
Each time you do this, remember me."

We remember Jesus' life, death, and resurrection;
and we wait in hope for his coming again...

...and so with your church around the world,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith, singing:

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

MV #204

The Blessing of the Elements

The Lord's Prayer

We Share in the Feast Together

Hymn During Communion: *"Gather Gladly, All Who Hunger"*
(see back page)

Prayer After Communion:

**Holy God,
as we leave this table, we continue our song of thanksgiving.
We thank you for this meal that we have shared,
we thank you for your never-failing love,
we thank you for Jesus Christ, our eternal source of hope,
we thank you for the Holy Spirit who always draws us to you.
Keep the taste of the bread and the wine
on our lips and in our hearts
that today and every day,
in all that we say and do,
we might continue to sing thanksgiving.
Amen.**

Closing Hymn: *"Now Thank We All Our God"*

VU #236

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

*Our communion liturgy today was adapted for our use from materials first written by
Rev. Kate Jones. Used with gratitude and permission.*

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
Sunday, October 11th, 2026

Please send your announcements to the church office by Wednesday.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Wednesday, October 14th: Soup Luncheon 11:30am-1:00pm
- Wednesday, October 14th: Choir practice at 6:30pm
- Thursday, October 15th: Coffee hour drop-in from 10:00am-12:00pm
- Thursday, October 15th: Handbell practice at 10:00am
- Thursday, October 15th: Harbourview Service at 2:00pm

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Calling all gardeners and plant-lovers! Come help us prepare the Central United garden for the winter! Bring a pair of gloves, a trowel, a bucket, kneepads and any other tools you might want, and help us weed, relocate some plants and tidy up our Lincoln St. garden before the snow falls. All ages and abilities welcome! **Tuesday, October 20th:** 9:30am – stay for an hour, or the whole morning. Hope to see you there!

Worship Survey: The Worship and Music Committee at Central has been having discussions around our Sunday morning worship service and what “worship” means to us. Thank you to everyone who has taken time to fill out a survey; we appreciate your thoughts and feedback.

A Note to our Knitters/Crocheters: If you are looking for a project to keep your hands active, our friends at The Journey Room (Oncology Dept at SSRH) and Palliative Care Services are always looking for lap blankets. Remember, blanket sizes typically range from 32” to 48” (81-122 cm) wide by 35” to 40” (89-102 cm) in length. As we have done the last couple of years, we will collect the blankets later on in the fall and make our deliveries!

Join the Beyond Band-aids initiative and the 644 Revitalization Network for a special event to mark the **United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**. On Saturday, October 17th at the Anglican Hall, 5311 Hwy 10, New Germany. From 9:00am-10:30am, drop in to help the 644 with their community cook; from 10:30-11:30am is the official event; from 11:30am food, music and community connection. An event focused on poverty and how we can create change together.

Soup & Chowder Luncheon: Set up for the luncheon will be this Tuesday, at 6:30pm. Many hands make light work!

Rev. Daniel Away – October 12th-26th

A reminder that Rev. Daniel will be away on study leave from October 12th-26th, returning to the office on Tuesday October 27th. Rev. Vivian Moores will be leading worship on Sundays October 18th and 25th. If you have urgent need of a minister while Rev. Daniel is away, Rev. Heather Ferrier of Trinity United, Mahone Bay, will be available. Please call 902-634-7165 for her contact information.

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

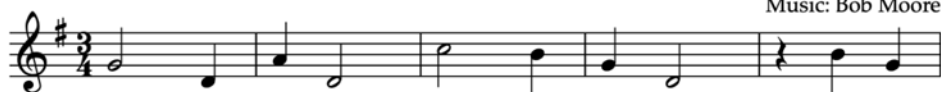
Carrol Heinsma (office): 902-634-4035, centralsecretary@bellaliant.com
~ Office Hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 10:00am-1:00pm
CentralUnitedLunenburg.ca



"Gather Gladly, All Who Hunger"

Words: Sylvia Dunstan

Music: Bob Moore



All who hun-ger, gath - er glad - ly, ho - ly
All who hun-ger, nev - er stran-gers, seek - er,
All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus



man - na is our bread. Come from wil - der -
be a wel - come guest. Come from rest - less -
Christ is liv - ing bread. Come from lone - li -



ness and win-d'ring Here, in truth, we will be
ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the
ness and long-ing. Here, in peace, we have been



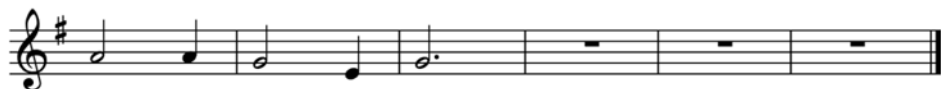
fed. You that yearn for days of full-ness,
feast. We that once were lost and scat-tered
led. Blest are those who from this ta - ble



all a - round us is our food,
in com - mun-ion's love have stood.
live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and



see that God is good.