



Happy Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his
love endures forever. Psalm 107:1

West River United Church

Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

Andrea Rogers

and all members of West River United Church

Word Wide Communion Sunday & Season of Creation

October 7, 2018

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

ONE: As we gather to worship let us pause to remember that on Prince Edward Island we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded and traditional territories of the Mi'kmaq people. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.

PRE- SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE (*in unison*)

ALL: We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us, here in this community of faith and that we are not alone.

(The Christ candle is lit.)

♪ 'Alleluia, Praise to God' MV 59 vs 1 (*projected*)

WELCOME

ONE: We share the peace of Christ with one another as a sign of grace and welcome.

(Please share the peace of Christ with each other.)

♪ 'Alleluia, Praise to God' MV 59 vs 2 & 3 (*projected*)

CALL TO WORSHIP *please stand, as you are able**

ONE: Let us come into God's presence with praise and thanksgiving, for God is our creator and worthy of our praise.

ALL: We give thanks and praise to God. Amen.

♪ 'All Creatures of Our God and King' – VU 217 vs 1 (*projected*)

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER ** (*in unison*)

ONE: For a good meal after a long day, a star-filled sky, a hug from a loved one, an unexpected smile,

ALL: thanksgiving flows naturally to you, O God.

ONE: Thanks for the things we need: food, clothes, warmth, and shelter.

ALL: Thanks for the people we love: parents and grandparents, friends near and far.

ONE: Thanks for a time to play: for basketball, curling, hockey, yoga, and computer games.

ALL: Thanks for a time to dream: of faraway places, of luscious desserts, of family reunited, of freedom from worry. (*...lover*)

ONE: Thanks for harvest gathered in and for useful work on the farm, at the office, in our homes.

ALL: **Thanks for our communities of love and faith: for prayer shared and offered, for comfort, and joy.**

ONE: Thanksgiving in all things: when life is testing,

ALL: **in times of celebration,**

ONE: in times of sorrow.

ALL: **Thanksgiving to you, gracious God: faithful yesterday, faithful today, faithful all the days. Amen. We say the pray that Jesus taught us saying,**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by thy name
thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

ONE: When we share gifts in thanksgiving, we proclaim God's deeds for all to hear. May we give generously so that others may know the wonderful works of God.

PRESENTATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

♪ **'Grateful' – MV 182 refrain only** (*projected*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER * (*in unison*)

ALL: **Holy God, thank you for your many gifts and your loving deeds in our lives. As we bring our gifts to your altar, send your Spirit through these offerings, that others may know your loving deeds, experience your abundant grace, and see your miraculous strength. With thanksgiving and hope, we pray.**

HYMN VU 467 **'One Bread, One Body'** chorus vs 1 chorus (*projected*)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

ONE: Come to the table, children of God, for all are welcome here.

ALL: We seek to be fed and nurtured!

ONE: Bring your doubts and fears and leave them here at this table!

ALL: Christ meets us here and accepts each one of us just as we are!

ONE: With all Christians everywhere, we are invited to satisfy our hunger and deepen our faith.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

ONE: Brothers and sisters, the table that is set, is set for all;
around it there are no divisions.

As bread is not made from one grain, but from many,
and as wine is not made from one grape, but from grapes,
so too, though we are many, are made one in Christ.

This is a sacrament of unity; come all of you;
taste and see that the Lord is good.

We do this and we remember
that as we were welcomed at the table, we must make room for everyone.

We do this and we remember
that as we have been fed, we must ensure that others do not go hungry.

We do this and we remember
that as we have been served, we are called to serve others.

We do this and we remember
that as we have seen God's goodness, we are sent into the world to show
it.

This is the meal lovingly set.

This is where bread and wine
for bodily nourishment and spiritual hunger
are given and received.

This is food for
the sinner and the saint,
the rich and the poor,
the weak and the strong.

It is a blessing for
the proud and the humble,

(...lover)

the lost and the wise,
the bold and the meek.

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts;

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

ALL: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

ONE: It is our greatest calling and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord, our God, creator and sustainer of heaven and earth.

You spoke, and at your word all things took shape and came into being:
the sun and moon and stars, the sky and earth and waters, and all they
contain. At your instruction, your Spirit swept over creation, bringing
order out of chaos and life out of the formless void.

From the elements of the earth you created us as unique and distinct
people but all in your holy image. You breathed life into us and called us
to love and serve you and to live with you and one another in covenant
and community.

But we turn away from you and we have tried to live apart from you and
one another; but, you never turn from us. Through the prophets you call
us back to you and to your ways. In the fullness of time, you sent your
son, the Way, Truth, and Life, who was born of a mother's flesh to reveal
the full extent of your grace and love. Again and again you welcome us
and receive us with the open and welcoming arms of a loving father.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with those from every time
and place, to proclaim with them your glory, in the unending hymn:

ALL: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are
full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

ONE: Holy is your son Jesus. Walking this earth, feeding the hungry, calling the
lost, seeing the forgotten, touching those in need of healing, teaching those
who sought out wisdom, and loving all, he showed your *(...lover)*

kingdom in your world. In breaking bread and sharing wine with your people here and in all places we recall the mystery of our faith:

**ALL: Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

ONE: Pour out your Spirit upon us and upon these offerings of bread and wine. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom where peace and justice are realized, so that with all your people we share the banquet you have promised and provided.

SHARING THE MEAL

BREAD

ONE: The bread of life, shared with you.

CUP

ONE: The cup of blessing shared with you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*** (*in unison*)

ALL: Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.

We are fed by your love;

we are strengthened by your life.

We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts.

We are now commissioned to:

feed as we have been fed,

forgive as we have been forgiven,

love as we have been loved.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

HYMN VU 467 'One Bread, One Body' chorus vs 2 chorus vs 3 chorus (*projected*)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.³ This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, (*...lover*)

⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all — this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

MATTHEW 6:25-33 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

SERMON – Rev. Barbara J. Cairns

HYMN MV 37 'Each Blade of Grass' (*projected*)

♪ **'Deep in Our Hearts'** – MV 154 vs 1& 2 (*projected*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN VU 356 'Seek Ye First the Kingdom' (*projected*)

BENEDICTION **

ONE: Go into the world with a daring and tender love. Serve God with patience and passion.

ALL: Let us go with thanksgiving in our hearts to change our world as God has changed our lives.

ONE: And may the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the nurture of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

ALL: Amen.

♪ **'Go Out & Serve Him'** (*projected*)

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