

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 2025**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
Ministry of Pastoral Care & Worship: Rev. Peggy Bartlett
Cell: 905-317-5275 Email: info@hsupc.ca

Website: www.hsupc.ca

Church: Hagersville- 905-768-5863 Springvale- 905-768-1501

.....

Come to the Table ... All are Welcome

To come to the table is to be reminded:

- ❖ You belong.
- ❖ You are loved.

- ❖ You are part of God's family.

"All are welcome" means we do not earn our place here; it is given by grace. We are welcomed just as we are, and we are sent out from the table to welcome others in Christ's name.

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you fill our lives with good things.

As we bring our gifts to you,

may they be used to spread the welcome of your table—
to feed the hungry, to welcome the stranger,
to share your love with the world. Amen.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who are weary,

People: and find rest in Christ.

Leader: Come, all who hunger,

People: and be filled with God's goodness.

Leader: Come, all who thirst,

People: and drink deeply of God's Spirit.

Leader: Come to the table of grace.

People: We come with joy, for all are welcome here!

OPENING HYMN: #415 God, We Praise You for the Morning

God we praise you for the morning;
Hope springs for with each new day,
New beginning, prayer and promise,
Joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation,
Mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
In your bountiful hand.

God, we praise you for compassion,
All the loving that you show;
Human touching, tears, and laughter,
Help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
Restless searcher, gentle teacher,
Strength and courage you send.

God, we praise you for the Saviour,
Come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days!

OPENING PRAYER

God of abundance, you spread a table before us and invite us to come and feast. After summer's busyness, you gather us in, welcoming us with open arms and open heart. Bless this time of worship—
let it be for us a taste of your goodness, a reminder of your love,
and an invitation to share that love with others. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHILDREN'S VIDEO

POEM WRITTEN BY RITA MAC INTYRE ENTITLED "IF"

*CHORUS: #91 "GREAT ARE YOU, LORD"

Holy Lord, Most Holy Lord, you alone are worthy of my praise,
O Holy Lord, Most Holy Lord, with all of my heart I sing:
Great are You, Lord, worthy of praise;
Holy and true, great are You, Lord, Most Holy Lord. (X 2)

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 14:15–24

The Parable of the Great Banquet

¹⁵ When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

¹⁶ Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

¹⁸ "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

¹⁹ "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

²⁰ "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

²¹ "The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

²² "'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'

²³ "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. ²⁴ I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"

Psalm 34:8

8 Taste and see that Jehovah is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him!

MESSAGE: Come to the Table

Not long ago, I was at a family gathering where the dining table was stretched out as far as it could go, leaves added, extra chairs pulled in from the living room, and still we were squeezing in. You know that feeling, elbows bumping, passing the bread around, children running in and out. It was chaotic, but it was also beautiful.

What made that meal special wasn't just the food. It was the welcome. Everyone had a place, even the ones who arrived late, even the ones who hadn't RSVP'd, even the ones who were a little hard to get along with. There was room for all of us.

Jesus tells a story in Luke about a banquet where everyone is invited. Some of the "expected guests" make excuses, so the host throws the doors wide open: the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame ... all those usually left out are given a seat of honor. The story reminds us: God's table is bigger than we can imagine, and God's invitation is for everyone.

On World Wide Communion Sunday, this truth shines even brighter. Today, as we gather here, millions of Christians are gathering too... in tiny chapels and grand cathedrals, in homes and in open fields, in places of peace and in places of conflict. Bread is being broken. Cups are being lifted. And all of us, different as we may be, are part of one family of faith.

When we say "*all are welcome*," we mean the child with wide-eyed wonder and the elder who has walked with Christ for many years. We mean those who are filled with joy and those who carry heavy burdens. We mean the stranger and the friend, the seeker and the faithful. At Christ's table, there are no outsiders.

This meal reminds us of who we are and whose we are. We are God's beloved children, bound together in Christ across every border and every difference. And we are sent out from this table to live that welcome in our daily lives—to become people of hospitality, peace, and grace in a world that longs for unity.

So, come to the table. Come with your doubts and your faith, your hopes and your fears. Come hungry, come thirsty, come just as you are. For here, at Christ's table, all are welcome.

HYMN: #459 Verses 1,2&3 Here, O My Lord

- 1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
here would I touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon you lean.
- 2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with you the royal wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.
- 3 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table for me spread;
here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
the fellowship of living wine and bread.

LITANY: COME TO THE TABLE

Leader: This is not our table, but Christ's table.

It is set for all of God's children, in every place and every time.

People: We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: At this table, there are no walls, no boundaries, no divisions.

Here we are one body, one spirit, one family in Christ.

People: We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: Around the world today, bread is broken and cups are lifted.

In villages and cities, in grand cathedrals and simple homes,

God's people gather at this same feast.

People: We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: Come with your doubts and your faith, your joys and your sorrows, your hopes and your fears.

People: We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: Come, not because you must, but because you may. Come, not because you are strong, but because you are weak. Come, not because of any goodness of your own, but because of God's grace.

People: We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: So let us gather as God's beloved children. At Christ's table, there is a place for you, and there is a place for all.

All Together: We come to the table of grace. We come to the table of love. We come, for all are welcome here.

Leader: This table is not ours, but Christ's. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow, and you who have failed. Come, not because it is I who invite you—it is our Lord. It is Christ's will that those who love him should meet him here.

People: Today we remember we are not alone at this table. Around the world, in every language, with bread baked in every culture, with wine or juice poured in every land, the people of God gather at Christ's feast. We join this holy meal with Christians everywhere—one Body, one Spirit, one faith, one hope.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Holy God, From the rising of the sun in the East to its setting in the West, your name is praised among the nations. You created us in your image, to live in community and to love as you love. When we turned away, you called us back. Through prophets and teachers, through signs and wonders, you reminded us of your presence. And in the fullness of time, you sent Jesus—your Word made flesh—to dwell among us, full of grace and truth. And so, with your people on earth, and the great cloud of witnesses in heaven, with every culture, language, and tradition, we praise your holy name:

SANCTUS (spoken in Unison)

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.

HYMN: #467 One Bread. One Body x2
 One bread, one body, one Lord of all
 one cup of blessing which we bless
 And we, though many throughout the earth
 we are one body in this one Lord

WORDS OF INSTITUTION – Rev. Peggy

LET US PRAY TOGETHER ...

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
 and on these gifts of bread and cup.
 May they be for us the body and blood of Christ,
 that we may be the body of Christ for the world,
 redeemed by his blood, strengthened by his Spirit,
 united in love across all nations and cultures.
 Bind us together, O God,
 with all who share this meal today around your world.
 From this table of grace,
 may we go forth as one people,
 bearing witness to your peace,
 until that day when we feast at your heavenly banquet.
 Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
 now and forever.
 Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

The gifts of God for the people of God.
 Come, for all is ready.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
 in which you have given yourself to us.
 We thank you that at this table
 we have been fed with the bread of life
 and the cup of salvation.
 As we rise from this table,

may we rise strengthened for service,
 emboldened for witness,
 and united in love with sisters and brothers everywhere.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray saying...

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: #459 last 2 verses Here, O My Lord

- 4 Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear.
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 the bread and wine remove, but you are here,
 nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.
- 5 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.

SENDING FORTH

Leader: We have tasted the goodness of God.
 People: We go to share God's feast of love.
 Leader: We have been welcomed at Christ's table.
 People: We go to welcome others in his name.
 Leader: Go in peace, with joy, and with thanksgiving.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

.....

Announcements

Sunday, October 19th: Hagersville United 156th Anniversary service & the town of Hagersville 150th special service at 2pm with guest speaker Rev. Douglas Mitchell. More details to come.

Friday, October 24th: Soup lunch at Hagersville United from 11am-12:30pm. Takeout only. \$10/person. Includes your choice of chicken noodle, hamburger or butternut squash soup plus a bun & a cookie. Please call 905-768-3729 by October 23rd at 6pm to order.

Wednesday, November 12th: Official board meeting at Springvale at 1:30pm. Moved from Oct. 15th.

Wednesday, November 12th: Unified Board meeting at Springvale at noon. Please bring lunch with you.

Please bring your paper products for the Hagersville Food Bank!

October's Party

By: George Cooper

October gave a party; The leaves by hundreds came—
 The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples, And leaves of every name.
 The Sunshine spread a carpet, And everything was grand,
 Miss Weather led the dancing, Professor Wind the band.
 The Chestnuts came in yellow, The Oaks in crimson dressed;
 The lovely Misses Maple In scarlet looked their best;
 All balanced to their partners, And gaily fluttered by;
 The sight was like a rainbow New fallen from the sky.
 Then, in the rustic hollow, At hide-and-seek they played,
 The party closed at sundown, And everybody stayed.
 Professor Wind played louder; They flew along the ground;
 And then the party ended, In jolly "hands around."