

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &  
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH  
SUNDAY, MAY 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**OPENING HYMN: #395 Come in, Come in and Sit Down**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God  
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**REFRAIN:** Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.

**“Love That Nurtures ... Honouring All Women”**

Mother’s Day brings many emotions.

Today, we give thanks for women who have nurtured, guided, supported, and loved us. We also hold space for those who grieve, those who long, and those whose stories are complex. Today, we honour all Women and the many ways God’s love is reflected through them.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Loving God, we bring these gifts in gratitude for all the love we have received. Bless these offerings, that they may nurture others as You nurture us each day. Amen.

**PRELUDE AND WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, all who carry love in your hearts.

**People: We come with gratitude and with honesty.**

Leader: Come, all who nurture in ways seen and unseen.

**People: We come to honour love in all its forms.**

Leader: Come, those who celebrate...

**People: And those who grieve...**

Leader: Come, those who remember...

**People: And those who still hope...**

Leader: God gathers us all in tenderness and grace.

**All: And we come to worship with open hearts.**

1 You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

2 God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. **R**

4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, You who create, nurture, and sustain all life, we gather today with a mix of emotions, joy and gratitude, memory and longing, celebration and quiet reflection. On this day, we give thanks for women, for mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, friends, mentors and for all who have shown us love in ways that shape who we are. Hold gently those who carry grief today. Surround with peace those who feel the ache of absence or longing. And remind each of us that we are known, loved, and held by You. In Your holy name we pray, Amen.

**ANTHEM**

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**CHILDREN'S TIME:** "The Wisdom Clothes Line"

### CHILDREN'S VIDEO

#### LITANY ... We Give Thanks

Leader: For the women who raised us...

**People: We give thanks.**

Leader: For the women who guided us without being called "Mom"...

**People: We give thanks.**

Leader: For the women who showed up with meals, hugs, and listening ears...

**People: We give thanks.**

Leader: For the women who prayed for us...

**People: Even when we didn't know it... we give thanks.**

Leader: For the women who are tired...

**People: God, give them rest.**

Leader: For the women who feel unseen...

**People: God, remind them they are valued.**

Leader: For the women who grieve today...

**People: God, hold them close.**

Leader: For the women who hoped for children...

**People: God, honour their love.**

Leader: For the women who mother in many different ways...

**People: God, bless their care.**

Leader: For laughter shared, wisdom given, and love poured out...

**All: We give thanks for the gift of women in our lives. Amen**

#### \*CHORUS: #113 "IN MOMENTS LIKE THESE"

In moments like these, I sing out a song,

I sing out a love song to Jesus.

In moments like these, I lift up my hands,

I lift up my hands to the Lord.

Singing, I love You, Lord. Singing I love You, Lord.

Singing I love You, Lord, I love You.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Isaiah 66:13** – "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

#### Proverbs 6:20-22

20 My son, keep your father's command  
and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

21 Bind them always on your heart;  
fasten them around your neck.

22 When you walk, they will guide you;  
when you sleep, they will watch over you;  
when you awake, they will speak to you.

#### Proverbs 31:25-31

25 Strength and honor are her clothing;  
She shall rejoice in time to come.

26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
And on her tongue is the law of kindness.

27 She watches over the ways of her household,  
And does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed;  
Her husband also, and he praises her:

29 "Many daughters have done well,  
But you excel them all."

30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing,  
But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.

31 Give her of the fruit of her hands,  
And let her own works praise her in the gates.

#### MESSAGE: A Mother's Wisdom

There comes a moment in life that is both wonderful... and slightly terrifying. There comes a terrifying moment in adulthood...

when you hear yourself say something...

and realize your mother said the exact same thing 30 years ago.

It's that moment you suddenly realize... "Oh no... I've become my mother."

You say things like:

"Don't forget your jacket."

"Money doesn't grow on trees."

"Text me when you get home."

“Life isn’t always fair.”

“Be careful who you trust.”

Or the classic:

“If all your friends jumped off a bridge, would you?”

And somewhere along the way, we realize our mothers may have known a thing or two after all.

When we’re young, we often think our mothers repeat themselves too much. We think they worry too much. We think they give too much advice. Even ... we think that moms know nothing about life.

But as the years go by, we begin to understand what sounded like nagging... was often wisdom wrapped in love.

The book of Proverbs says:

“Do not forsake your mother’s teaching... when you walk, they will guide you.” Proverbs 6:20–22

That is such a beautiful image. The wisdom of a mother guiding us long after childhood.

Because even when mothers are no longer physically beside us... their words often still travel with us.

Sometimes we hear them in funny moments.

You open the fridge and hear ... “Close the door, you’re letting all the cold air out!”

You look at the thermostat and suddenly become emotionally invested in the cost of the heating bill.

You catch yourself reminding your own children or grandchildren to eat properly, drive carefully, or send a thank you card.

And suddenly... there they are again. Mom’s words...

Still teaching. Still guiding. Still shaping us.

And the truth is, some of the greatest wisdom in life is surprisingly simple. The things that our mom’s taught us...

Be kind. Work hard. Tell the truth. Treat people fairly. Say you’re sorry.

Pray when life gets hard. Help others when you can. Don’t give up.

Simple wisdom. But life-changing wisdom.

Proverbs 31 says of a wise woman, “She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.”

I love that phrase, “the teaching of kindness.”

Because true wisdom is not only intelligence.

It is kindness. Compassion. Patience. Grace.

And many women have taught those things quietly for generations.

Today, we celebrate mothers... but we also celebrate all women who have shared wisdom and love. Some became mothers through birth. Some through adoption. Some became “church mothers,” mentors, teachers, grandmothers, neighbors, caregivers, and friends. Some women have nurtured hearts of many, even if they never raised children of their own. And today we honour them too. We also recognize this day can carry many emotions.

For some, Mother’s Day is joyful. For others, it carries grief. Some miss their mothers deeply. Some carry the pain of strained relationships.

Some grieve children they have lost. Some hoped to become mothers and never did. And so today we hold all of those feelings gently before God. Because the wisdom of love is not limited to one path in life.

And perhaps one of the greatest truths mothers teach us is this ... Love keeps showing up. Even when tired. Even when worried. Even when life is difficult. Love just keeps showing up. And isn’t that also the wisdom of God? God continues to guide us with patience. Again and again.

Even when we do not listen the first time or the fifth time.

God keeps teaching. Keeps loving. Keeps guiding. Much like a mother standing at the door saying, “Drive carefully.”

“Be safe.” “Call when you get there.”

Maybe that kind of love gives us a glimpse of God’s love for us.

A love that never really stops caring. So today, may we give thanks:

For mothers. For grandmothers. For women of wisdom.

For lessons learned years later. For words we once rolled our eyes at...but now carry in our hearts. And may we also remember that the greatest wisdom is not perfection. It is love. Patient love. Faithful love.

Kind love. The kind of wisdom that stays with us for a lifetime.

Amen.

**HYMN: #602 Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

- 1       Blest be the tie that binds  
          our hearts in Christian love;  
          the unity of heart and mind  
          is like to that above.
- 2       Before our Maker’s throne  
          we pour our ardent prayers;  
          our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
          our comforts and our cares.

3 We share each other's woes,  
each other's burdens bear;  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.

4 The glorious hope revives  
our courage on the way;  
that we shall live in perfect love  
in God's eternal day.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Gracious God, Today we lift before You all women,  
those who nurture families, communities, and friendships,  
those who lead quietly and those who stand boldly.  
We pray for mothers, for their strength, patience, and love.  
We pray for those who have lost mothers,  
may memories bring comfort and peace.  
We pray for those who have lost children,  
hold them in Your deep compassion.  
We pray for women who long to be mothers,  
honour their hopes and their hearts.  
We pray for women who have chosen different paths,  
bless their journeys and their contributions.  
We pray for those who feel forgotten or alone,  
remind them they are never beyond Your care.  
God, help us to be a community that reflects Your nurturing love,  
where all are seen, valued, and embraced.  
We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
who taught us to love one another.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN:** #556 Would You Bless Our Homes and Families  
Would you bless our homes and families, source of life who calls us  
here; In our world of stress and tension teach us love that conquers fear.  
Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays;  
Teach us when we face our troubles, love's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding, let us use the time that's ours  
To delight in simple pleasures, sharing joys in gentle hours.  
When our way is anxious walking and a heavy path we plod,  
Teach us trust in one another and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured, with the love that shapes us  
there, Teach us, God, to claim as family everyone whose life we share.  
And through all that life may offer, may we in your love remain;  
May the love we share in families be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries of our daily though and care  
Till the family you have chosen spills its love out everywhere.  
Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays;  
Teach us when we face our troubles love's expressed in many ways.

**SENDING FORTH**

Go now in the strength of God's love, a love that nurtures,  
a love that comforts, a love that never lets go. May you honour the love  
you have received, and may you share that love with others. And may  
the grace of God, the compassion of Christ, and the gentle presence of  
the Holy Spirit be with you, today and always.

**CHORAL AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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**Announcements**

**Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>:** Plant Sale at Grace United Church from 10am-  
2pm in the church parking lot. 174 Caithness St. E., Caledonia.

**Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>:** Movie Night at Hagersville United. Arrive at 6pm,  
with movie beginning at 6:30pm. Snacks and drinks will be provided.  
Bring your pillows & blankets to cozy in for a fun evening. Movie title  
to be determined.

**\*Please bring paper products for the  
Hagersville Food Bank\***

