

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, MAY 17th, 2026**

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

Loving God, we thank You for gathering us together today.
In a world filled with uncertainty, You remind us that Your love is
steady and true. When doubts creep into our hearts, You offer
reassurance. When fear overwhelms us, You speak peace.
Help us today to hear again the promise of life found in Christ.
Open our hearts to hope, joy, and confidence in Your presence.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHILDREN'S VIDEO

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

“Some days faith feels held together with coffee, prayers,
and sheer determination.”

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, everything we have comes from You.
Receive these gifts and use them to bring hope, compassion, and life to
others. May our giving reflect the confidence and joy we have in Christ.
Amen.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come with questions, worries, and hopes.
People: And God welcomes us with love.
Leader: We come searching for peace in uncertain times.
People: And Christ reminds us we are never alone.
Leader: God's promise is greater than fear.
People: God's gift is greater than doubt.
Leader: Come and worship the One who gives life.
All: We come with grateful hearts to worship God.

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.

LITANY: “Things We Wish Came with Guarantees”

Leader: We wish weather forecasts were always correct.

People: Especially before outdoor events!

Leader: We wish our GPS never sent us the wrong direction.

People: “Recalculating” sometimes feels like the theme of life.

Leader: We wish passwords were easier to remember.

People: And we could use the same one over and over...

Leader: We wish recipes always turned out like the pictures.

People: Yes, so true, but we try, and they never look like the pictures.

Leader: We wish socks always came out of the dryer in pairs.

People: We are sure that somewhere there is a mountain made entirely of missing socks.

Leader: We wish aches and pains disappeared as quickly as they appeared.

People: And that getting out of bed didn’t sometimes sound like popcorn popping.

Leader: We wish life came with guarantees, no heartbreak, no worries, no uncertainty.

People: But life does not always work that way.

Leader: Even faith can sometimes feel uncertain.

People: We wonder, we question, and we search for reassurance.

Leader: Yet God’s promises remain steady.

People: God’s love does not change.

Leader: God’s mercy does not expire.

People: God’s grace does not run out.

Leader: Christ comes to us again and again saying:

People: “Do not be afraid.”

Leader: In a changing world, God remains faithful.

People: In uncertain times, Christ gives us peace.

Leader: God has given us hope and life through Jesus Christ.

All: And in that promise, we place our trust. Amen.

RESPONSIVE HYMN: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus—no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me,
the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me—
no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow, though none go with me,
I still will follow, though none go with me, I still will follow—
no turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
No turning back, no turning back.

SCRIPTURE READING**1 John 5:9-13**

⁹ We accept human testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. ¹⁰ Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Isaiah 41:10

¹⁰ So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

MESSAGE: “Living with Confidence”

There are not many things in life we can be completely certain about anymore. Weather changes. Plans change. People change. Technology updates itself before we even learn how to use it. Some mornings we wake up confident... and by lunchtime we’re wondering what happened. We live in a world filled with uncertainty. And honestly? Many people carry that same uncertainty into their faith.

Questions like ...

“Am I doing enough?”

“Does God really love me?”

“Am I truly forgiven?”

“Will everything really be okay?”

That’s exactly why John wrote these words. This scripture from the book of First Epistle of John is actually meant to be comforting and reassuring, not frightening or condemning. John is writing to early Christians who were struggling with doubt, confusion, and uncertainty. He wants them to *know* they belong to God and to *trust* that life in Christ is real and secure. John writes “I write these things to you... so that you may know...” Know. Not guess. Not wonder. Not hope you squeak by somehow. **Know.**

That word matters. Because faith is not meant to be lived in constant fear. God does not stand over us waiting for failure. God stands beside us offering life. And notice something important:

John says eternal life is not only something waiting far off in heaven someday. He says: “God has given us eternal life.”

Present tense. That means eternal life begins now. It begins whenever love replaces bitterness. Whenever hope rises again. Whenever forgiveness heals wounds. Whenever Christ brings peace into fearful hearts. That is life. And perhaps that’s the message many people need most today. Not more fear. Not more guilt. Not more pressure.

But reassurance. The reassurance that Christ walks with us, holds onto us, and gives us life even when we feel uncertain. And honestly, we all need reminders. Because sometimes faith feels strong...

and sometimes faith feels held together with coffee, prayers, and sheer determination. Some days we sing “Blessed Assurance.” Other days we mumble: “Lord... I’m trying.” And still... God stays faithful.

That is the good news. Not that we hold perfectly onto God, but that God holds faithfully onto us. And because of that, we can live with confidence, hope, and peace. Not because life is perfect. But because Christ is present. Amen.

HYMN: #288 Great is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou has been thou forever wilt be.

[Refrain:] Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. **[Refrain]**

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow --
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. **[Refrain]**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, We thank You for the gift of life and hope found in Christ.

When we are uncertain, remind us of Your promises.

When fear creeps into our hearts, give us peace.

When doubts arise, help us remember that Your love never changes.

We pray for those who are anxious today...

those facing illness...

those carrying grief...

those overwhelmed by life’s burdens.

Surround them with comfort and strength.

We pray for our churches, our communities, and our world.

Help us become people who share hope instead of fear, kindness instead of division, and encouragement instead of discouragement.

Thank You for the assurance that we never walk alone. In Jesus’ name, we pray ...

LORD’S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: #292 Because He Lives (from Hymns for the Family of God)

1 God sent His son, They called Him, Jesus;
He came to love, Heal and forgive;
He lived and died To buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there To prove my Savior lives!

Chorus Because He lives, I can face tomorrow!
Because He lives, All fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

2 How sweet to hold A newborn baby,
And feel the pride And joy he brings;
But greater still The calm assurance:
This child can face
Uncertain days because He Lives! **Chorus**

3 And then one day, I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final War with pain;
And then, as death Gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory And I'll know He lives! **Chorus**

SENDING FORTH

Go now with confidence and peace.
When doubts arise, remember God's promises.
When life feels uncertain, remember Christ walks beside you.
And when hope feels distant, remember that God has already given you
life and love that never ends. Go in peace, and live with joy.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

Tuesday, May 26th: Coffee Tuesday at Springvale beginning at 9:30am.
All are welcome!

Friday, May 29th: Movie Night at Hagersville United featuring "A
Turtles Tale". 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.

Thursday, June 4th: Springvale UCW invite you to their June meeting
at Springvale United Church at 7pm. Guest speaker Andy Gibb, the
public education coordinator for dementia, will be speaking on
conditions that present like dementia and dementia. Refreshments to
follow. RSVP to Cathy by May 29th at 289-921-1794.

Wednesday, June 10th: Unified Board meeting at Springvale at 12pm.
Official Board at Springvale at 1:30pm. Church council meeting at
Hagersville at 6:30pm.

Sunday, June 28th: Join us at the Waterford Legion Pavilion at 2pm to
celebrate the life of Debbie Kozicki. There will be a memorial service
followed by a gathering with refreshments.

BROADVIEW

It is time to renew or subscribe to Broadview for 2026-2027. Cost is
\$30.00. Pick up a sample copy of Broadview magazine. Envelopes
available at the back of the church; place on the offering plate or e-
transfer at barbzdunich@gmail.com

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

