

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, JULY 26th, 2026**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
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Coffee House Sunday

"Brewing Faith... One Conversation at a Time."

Isn't it interesting? Something as simple as coffee can be prepared a hundred different ways. Faith can look like that too. We all come from different experiences... yet we gather around one table... one Lord... one faith... one family.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and welcoming God, we thank you for gathering us around Your table today, not simply to share coffee and conversation, but to share faith, hope, laughter, and love.

As we offer these gifts, we remember that every act of generosity becomes another way of welcoming others into your family. May these offerings help create places where strangers become friends, where burdens are shared, where hope is renewed, and where Your love is experienced in practical ways. Bless these gifts and bless those who give them. Use them to serve our community, strengthen Your church, and remind all who encounter them that there is always room at Your table.

In the spirit of Christ, who welcomed everyone with open arms, we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Welcome, friends. Today there are no strangers here, only people gathering around God's table.

People: We come with our stories, our questions, our laughter, and our faith.

Leader: Some of us arrive with hearts overflowing.

People: Others come carrying worries and weariness.

Leader: There is room for every story.

People: There is room for every person.

Leader: Like good friends sharing coffee, Christ meets us in ordinary moments.

People: May our conversations deepen our faith, our laughter lift our spirits, and our worship draw us closer to God.

All: Come, let us worship together.

OPENING 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.

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, Today we gather differently. Not simply to sit in rows, but to gather as friends around the table. You have always met people in ordinary places, on hillsides, around fishing boats, at dinner tables, along dusty roads, and in quiet conversations. Meet us here today. Pour into us the warmth of Your Spirit, the comfort of Your love, and the joy of being together. May every conversation remind us that You are present wherever people gather in Your name. Open our ears to hear one another. Open our hearts to receive Your wisdom.

Open our minds to discover something new. And may this time together strengthen us to love You and love our neighbours more deeply.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***TIME TO GATHER AT TABLES**

HYMN: #603 In Loving Partnership We Come

- 1 In loving partnership we come,
seeking, O God, your will to do.
Our prayers and actions now receive;
we freely offer them to you.
- 2 We are the hands and feet of Christ,
serving by grace each other's need.
We dare to risk and sacrifice
with truthful word and faithful deed.
- 3 Loving community we seek;
your hope and strength within us move.
The poor and rich, the strong and weak
are brought together in your love.
- 4 In loving partnership, O God,
help us your future to proclaim.
Justice and peace be our desire,
we humbly pray in Jesus' name.

REFLECTION: Faith Is Brewed in Conversation

Talk about how Jesus rarely rushed people. He stopped. He listened.
He asked questions.

"Who do you say that I am?"

"What are you discussing?"

"What do you want me to do for you?"

Even God asks questions, not because God needs information, but because questions invite people to reflect, grow, and discover. Faith often deepens not through having all the answers, but through being willing to explore the questions together. Sometimes churches think faith grows only from the pulpit. But often it grows around tables. Over coffee. Over pie. Through listening. Through sharing.

Through praying together. Just like today. Just an ending thought.....Coffee eventually grows cold. The conversation ends. The chairs are put away. But hopefully what God begins around these tables today... will continue in our homes... in our community... and in our hearts. Because Christian faith has never been about simply attending worship. It has always been about walking together. One conversation... one act of kindness... one cup... one day at a time.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let Us Pray...

Gracious and welcoming God, Today You reminded us that faith is not only something we hear, it is something we share. Thank You for the conversations around our tables... for the stories that made us smile, for the memories that touched our hearts, for the questions that made us think, and for the wisdom we discovered in one another. Thank You for reminding us that every person has a story, every life has value, and every voice deserves to be heard. As we leave this place, may the conversations continue. Help us to listen more carefully... to speak more kindly... to encourage more freely... and to offer the same welcome to others that Christ offers to each one of us. May our homes become places of hospitality. May our coffee tables become places where friendships grow. May our words build others up. And may our lives reflect the love we have experienced today. Keep us curious about Your presence in ordinary moments. Help us to recognize You in shared laughter, quiet conversations, simple acts of kindness, and in every opportunity to love our neighbour. Thank You for gathering us around Your table today. Now send us into the week with grateful hearts, open minds, and willing spirits, ready to continue the conversation You have begun among us. In the name of Jesus, who is always present wherever people gather in love and faith, we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN: #664 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us? Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness, and we'll find new courage
there.

SENDING FORTH

Friends, our coffee cups may soon be empty, our conversations may come to an end, and these tables will be cleared away.
But God's work among us is only beginning. Go now, sharing the kindness you have received, offering the welcome you have experienced, and carrying the hope of Christ into every conversation.
Go into the world remembering that wherever people gather in Christ's name, around kitchen tables, on front porches, in coffee shops, at family dinners, or beside a neighbour in need, God is already there.
Go in peace. Go in friendship. Go in faith. And may the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, rest upon you, remain with you, and inspire you, today and always.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

July 27th-31st: Join us this year for VBS at Springvale United as we learn about God's Creatures Great & Small from 9am-12pm. Ages 4-11 welcome to participate, and we welcome ages 12+ to join in as helpers. Bring your sense of wonder, and maybe your favourite stuffed animal friend, as we discover how God's love is woven through every wing, paw & footprint. Email Emily at info@hsupc.ca with your child's information to register.

Sunday August 2nd & 9th: No church—Peggy on holidays! If needed in an emergency, she will be available.

VBS is almost here, and we are looking forward to welcoming another wonderful group of children as we celebrate God's Creatures Great and Small! If you are able, we would be very grateful for donations of snacks and refreshments for the week. You are welcome to drop them off during bible school, 9am-12pm. Items we are looking for include:

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| -Fruit (watermelon, grapes, oranges) | -Kielbasa |
| -Veggies (celery, carrots, cucumber) | -Cheese |
| -Crackers | -Chips/cheesies |
| -Cookies (homemade or store bought) | -Bottled water |

When we return to church on August 16th, our worship theme will be "Packing Light: A summer of simplicity—Letting go of what weighs us down."

Please bring in paper products for the Hagersville Food Bank ☺

