

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, JUNE 28th, 2026**

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Leader: The lakes sparkle with His beauty.

People: The fish swim in waters He created.

Leader: The people of this nation are invited to know His love.

People: We come to worship the Creator of heaven and earth.

Leader: Cast your worries aside.

People: Open your hearts to God's call.

All: Let us worship together!

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"Casting Hope Across This Land"

Celebrating Canada Day & Gone Fishing Sunday

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, every good gift comes from Your hand.
As we return a portion of what You have entrusted to us,
may these offerings help cast Your love farther than we could ever go
alone. Use them to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, encourage
the discouraged, and share the Good News throughout our communities.
In Christ's name. Amen.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

WELCOME!

Today we celebrate two wonderful gifts.
We give thanks for the country we call home, its lakes, forests, fields,
rivers, and the freedom we enjoy as Canadians.
We also remember that many of Jesus' first disciples were fishermen.
They knew that fishing requires patience, hope, perseverance, and trust.
As followers of Christ, we too are called to cast our nets, not for fish,
but for kindness, compassion, and the love of God.
So today we celebrate Canada... and the One who created it.

PLEASE RISE FOR O CANADA

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is God's country.
People: The mountains, rivers, forests and oceans belong to Him.

OPENING HYMN: #296 This I God's Wondrous World

1 This is God's wondrous world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings, the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, God's hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is God's wondrous world: the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world: God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass, God's voice speaks everywhere.

3 This is God's wondrous world: O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring: God reigns, let earth be glad!

OPENING PRAYER

Creator God, today we thank You for this beautiful land we call Canada.
Thank You for its wide-open skies, its peaceful lakes, its forests, its
wildlife, its farms, and the people who call this nation home. Thank You
for the freedom to gather openly in Your name. As fishermen cast their
lines with hope, help us cast kindness, compassion, forgiveness, and
Your love into the lives around us. May this service remind us that
every good gift comes from You. Bless our nation. Bless our
communities. Bless our churches. And bless each heart gathered here
today. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S TIME

LITANY: Casting Hope Across This Land

Leader: Today we give thanks for Canada, this beautiful land of lakes, rivers, forests, fields, and small-town neighbours.

People: Thank You, God, for the land we call home.

Leader: We give thanks for fishing rods, tackle boxes, quiet shores, and stories about “the one that got away.”

People: Thank You, God, for simple joys and peaceful moments.

Leader: Jesus called ordinary fishermen and invited them to follow Him.

People: Lord, help us follow too.

Leader: He called them to cast nets of hope, kindness, mercy, and love.

People: Lord, teach us to cast Your love wherever we go.

Leader: When the fish are not biting and life feels discouraging,

People: Help us keep trying.

Leader: When our nets feel empty,

People: Remind us that You are still working beneath the surface.

Leader: Bless our country, our communities, our churches, and all who call this land home.

People: May we be people of compassion, welcome, and faith.

Leader: Send us out as fishers of people.

All: Casting hope across this land, one act of love at a time. Amen.

HYMN: #605 Jesus Teacher Brave and Bold

- 1 Jesus, teacher, brave and bold,
let us serve you, young and old.
Let us faith-filled workers be,
all around, your wisdom see.
Let us play and dance and sing,
your goodness find in everything.
- 2 Jesus, friend, so strong and true,
show us good, brave work to do.
Show us those who need a friend,
all things broken help us mend.
Free our minds and stretch our care,
teach us to serve you everywhere.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 24:1, Psalm 95:4-5, Matthew 4:18-22**Psalm 24:1**

- 1 The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psalm 95:4-5

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. ⁵The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Matthew 4:18-22

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

MESSAGE: "Fishing in Canadian Waters"

Canadians love fishing. Some spend hundreds of dollars on boats. Thousands on fishing equipment. They own seventeen different fishing rods. A tackle box with enough lures to stock Bass Pro Shops. Then they come home proudly saying... "I almost caught one." Or... "They just weren't biting today." Yet next weekend... They're back again. Why? Because fishermen are people of hope. They believe the next cast might be the one. Jesus found ordinary fishermen. Not kings. Not scholars. Not politicians. Fishermen. Because fishermen understand something important: You cannot force a fish to bite. You simply keep showing up. You keep casting. You remain patient. Faith works much the same way. We cannot force someone to believe. We cannot argue people into faith. But we can keep showing up. Keep loving. Keep encouraging. Keep forgiving. Keep inviting. Keep praying. Some days it feels like nothing is happening. But every fisherman knows... Fish are often moving where you cannot see them. God is always working beneath the surface. This week Canadians celebrate our nation. We are blessed with lakes

that stretch farther than the eye can see. Forests. Mountains. Prairies. Small towns. Friendly neighbours. These are gifts from God. But perhaps Canada's greatest treasure isn't found in its landscape. It's found in its people. People helping neighbours. Volunteering.

Welcoming strangers. Supporting one another.

This is exactly how Christ calls us to live. So, I challenge you this week, instead of only celebrating Canada, let's celebrate being Christian Canadians. Let's cast hope into our neighbourhood. Kindness into someone's difficult day. Forgiveness where there's hurt. Encouragement where there's discouragement. Because every smile...

Every visit... Every invitation... Every prayer... is another cast of God's fishing line. And you never know which cast God will use.

A good fisherman never leaves home without the tools he needs a rod, a tackle box, a net, perhaps even a favourite lucky lure. As followers of Jesus, we too are called to carry what we need wherever we go. Carry your faith as faithfully as a fisherman carries his gear. Pack kindness in your heart, compassion in your words, patience in your spirit, forgiveness in your pocket, and hope wherever your feet may lead you. Then, wherever you find yourself this summer, on the dock, around the barbecue, visiting neighbours, camping by a lake, or simply walking through your community, you'll always be ready to cast the love of Christ into someone's life. And who knows? The smallest act of kindness may become the greatest catch of all. May God bless this beautiful land we call Canada, and may He bless each one of us as we go out to be fishers of people. Amen.

HYMN: #567 Will You Come and Follow Me

- 1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

- 3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God, today we thank You for the beauty of Canada. For sparkling lakes. Quiet rivers. Rolling farmland. Towering forests. And communities where neighbours still care for one another. We pray for our nation. Grant wisdom to our leaders. Peace to our communities.

Justice for those who suffer. Hope for those who feel forgotten. We pray for fishermen and all who enjoy the outdoors.

May they always respect and care for the gift of creation You have entrusted to us.

We pray for Your Church. Help us never grow tired of casting Your love into the world.

Give us patience. Give us courage. Give us compassion.

We pray for those who are ill, those recovering, those grieving, those feeling lonely, and those carrying burdens only You know. May they discover that You are already waiting beside the shore.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #560 O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

- 1 O Master, let me walk with Thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me Thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.
- 3 Teach me Thy patience, still with Thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sure and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong.

- 4 in hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only Thou canst give,
with Thee, O Master, let me live.

CLOSING BLESSING

Go now... into this beautiful land God has created.
Walk its trails. Enjoy its lakes. Celebrate its freedom.
Love its people. And wherever life takes you this week,
keep casting the line of God's love. You may never know whose life will
be changed by one simple act of kindness. May the Creator who formed
this land, the Son who called fishermen, and the Holy Spirit who still
fills our hearts, go with 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!

Please bring in paper products for the Hagersville Food Bank ☺

Next Sunday's worship theme will be Beach Sunday! We invite you to wear your shorts, Hawaiian shirts, sunhats & sunglasses—

☂ Please, gentlemen, no speedos! ☀

