

HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 2025

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
Ministry of Pastoral Care & Worship: Rev. Peggy Bartlett
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“Celebrating Family, Church Family, and God’s Everyday Gifts.”

A simple thought for today.... You see, being thankful isn’t just for one day a year. It’s something we can carry with us ... like a rhythm that keeps our hearts dancing with joy. So, this week, every time you hear someone say “Happy Thanksgiving,” remember to say a quiet *thank you* to God too ...for everything from mashed potatoes to warm hugs, from laughter to love.

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Every gift we share ... a prayer, a smile, an offering ... becomes part of God’s harvest of hope. Let us give with thankful hearts.

People: Generous God, For all that we have and all that we are, we give you thanks. Bless these gifts, that they may bring comfort, joy, and hope to others, and bless our lives, that they may be a living thanksgiving to you. Amen.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, people of God, bring your hearts full of thanksgiving.

People: We come to remember God’s goodness and celebrate the blessings of this life.

Leader: Families gather, friends reconnect, and the church family joins in praise.

People: For love, for laughter, for daily bread and shelter, we give thanks.

Leader: Let our worship overflow with gratitude.

All: We give thanks to God, from whom all blessings flow!

OPENING HYMN: #516 Come, Ye Thankful People Come

- 1 Come, you thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
safe before the storms begin;
God, our maker, does provide
for our needs to be supplied:
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home!
- 2 All the world is God's own field,
harvests for God's praise to yield;
wheat and weeds together sown,
here for joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear:
Harvest-giver, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.
- 3 For our God, one day, shall come,
and shall take this harvest home;
from the field shall in that day
all offences purge away;
giving angels charge at last
in the fire the weeds to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store
in the garner evermore.
- 4 Even so, God, quickly come
to your final harvest home!
Gather all your people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin;
there for ever purified,
in your presence to abide:
come, with all your angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, You have given us so much — the warmth of family, the joy of friends, the faithfulness of community, and the beauty of creation. Today we pause to say “thank you.” Open our eyes to see your gifts all around us, our hands to share your goodness, and our hearts to live in gratitude every day. Bless this time of worship, that it may renew our spirits and draw us closer to you and to one another. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us come before God, honest and open.

People: God of mercy, we confess that we often take your blessings for granted. We forget that all we have comes from your generous hand. Forgive us when we are quick to complain and slow to give thanks. Renew in us a spirit of gratitude and generosity, that our lives may reflect your love and goodness. In Christ we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE – Rev. Peggy

God’s grace overflows like an abundant harvest.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S TIME

CHILDREN’S VIDEO

LITANY OF GRATEFUL GRACE

Leader: Today we give thanks for all we have — our homes, our families, our work, our church.

People: We worked hard for these things... or so we tell ourselves!

Leader: But who gave us hands to work, minds to think, and hearts to love?

People: God did! So maybe we didn’t earn quite as much as we thought.

Leader: For paycheques, pensions, and pocket change —

People: We give thanks to God, the true source of every blessing.

Leader: For gardens that grow, farms that flourish, and food on the table —

People: We give thanks to God, who makes the sun shine and the rain fall.

Leader: For family who love us, friends who support us, and church folk who feed our spirits —

People: We give thanks to God, who brings us together in community.

Leader: For laughter, for surprises, for second chances, and for the breath that fills our lungs —

People: All are gifts from God, freely given and joyfully received.

Leader: So today, we rest from striving, we stop counting, and we simply say —

All: Thank you, God! Everything we have, and all that we are, comes from you. Amen.

VIDEO

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 100

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his^[a];
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Luke 17:11-19

Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy^[a] met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

MESSAGE: “A Thankful Heart is a Living Heart”

There’s a difference between *being alive* and *really living*.

We all know what it means to go through the motions ... wake up, work hard, check the list, pay the bills, get supper on the table. We can do all those things and still feel like something’s missing. But when gratitude enters the picture, when we stop long enough to see God’s hand in the ordinary and suddenly, life feels full again. A thankful heart doesn’t just beat; it lives.

In Luke 17, Jesus heals ten people with leprosy. Ten lives are restored, ten families reunited, ten new beginnings granted. But only one person, just one, turns back to say “thank you.”

Jesus asks, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?”

That one grateful man wasn’t just healed on the outside ... his heart was alive on the inside. Gratitude made him whole.

Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking, “*I worked for this, I earned that, I deserve what I have.*” And yes, we do work hard. But the breath in our lungs, the mind that can learn, the hands that can serve, the people who love us ... all of these are gifts from God. Gratitude is what opens our eyes to see that truth.

A thankful heart doesn’t wait for everything to be perfect. It gives thanks even when things are hard, because it trusts that God is still at work. It finds joy in small moments:

- In the laughter of family around a Thanksgiving table,
- In the beauty of autumn leaves falling like confetti,
- In the warmth of a church family that shows up, prays, and cares.

When we live with a thankful heart, something changes. We begin to notice God not just in the blessings, but in the BEING. Gratitude wakes us up to life. It helps us live with purpose, compassion, and joy.

So, this Thanksgiving, may we remember:

A thankful heart is not just polite ... it’s powerful.

It’s not just nice ... it’s necessary.

Because a thankful heart is a living heart ... one that beats in rhythm with God’s love.

May our lives be our “thank you” to God ... every breath, every kindness, every day. Amen.

HYMN: #520 We Plough The Fields

1 We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by your almighty hand;
you send the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

[Refrain:]

All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
we thank you, God, O holy God,
for all your love.

2 You only are the maker of all things near and far;
you paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star;
the wind and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children, you give us daily bread. **[Refrain]**

3 We thank you then, O Maker, for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
accept the gifts we offer for all your love imparts,
and, what from us you long for, our humble, thankful hearts. **[Refrain]**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, For the blessings of home, family, and community, we thank you. For laughter around the table, for stories shared, for memories made—we thank you. We pray for those for whom this season is hard, those who are lonely, grieving, or without enough. May they know your comfort and find love through caring hearts. We pray for our church family, for all who serve, give, and pray, that we may continue to be a place of welcome and belonging. We pray for our world, that generosity might replace greed, and that peace and justice may grow in every land. For all these things, spoken and unspoken, we offer our thanks and our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: #291 All things Bright and Beautiful

**R: All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.**

1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings. **R**

2 The purpleheaded mountains,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky; **R**

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one. **R**

4 The rocky mountain splendour,
the lone wolf's haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall; **R**

5 God gave us the eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God our maker,
who has made all things well. **R**

SENDING FORTH

Leader: Go out with grateful hearts, for the God who gives every good gift.

People: We go to live thankfully and to share God's love.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always!

All: And again, we will say ... rejoice!

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

Sunday, October 19th: Hagersville United 156th Anniversary Joint service & the town of Hagersville 150th special service at 2pm with guest speaker Rev. Douglas Mitchell. Light lunch to follow. Wear vintage attire if you wish. ***Please note: There will be no morning services at either church***

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!

Thanksgiving Humour

A little boy was asked to say the Thanksgiving blessing
at dinner.

He began his prayer by thanking God for all his friends,
his parents, his grandparents, and his teacher. Then he
thanked God for the turkey, the mashed potatoes, the
gravy, the stuffing, and even the cranberry sauce.

After a long pause, he added, "And thank you, Lord, for
the pumpkin pie — even though I haven't tasted it yet.

I'm just trusting You on that one."

