



## **St. Paul's United Church Thanksgiving Worship Service**

**Sunday, October 8, 2023**

**Minister:** Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

**Music Director:** Victoria Warwick

**Singers:** St Paul's Choir

**Readers:** Louise Leck, Carol MacDonald

**Tech Team:** Glenn Erwin,  
Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

### **PRELUDE/WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO THE GATHERED**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

### **OPENING HYMN: "Come You Thankful People Come" VU#516**

1. Come, you thankful people,  
come, raise the song of harvest home!  
All is safely gathered in, 'ere the winter storms begin;  
God our Maker doth provide for our wants 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,  
fruit as praise to God we 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:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we,  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

3. For the Lord our God shall come,  
and shall take the harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day all offenses 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 forever purified, in your presence to abide:  
come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest-home.

**OPENING PRAYER:** read by Carol MacDonald, Written by Bill Steadman, Goulais River U.C. from Gathering Pentecost 2 2022 pg. 44

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** v. 1, MV 82

Bathe me in your light, O God of all, Creator:  
let it shine upon my soul with healing and with grace.  
Be to me a beacon bright through shadows of life's wounding,  
showing me the way to live in faith, in your embrace.

**THEME CONVERSATION:** Graces for Family Meals

**O the Lord is good to me and so I thank the Lord  
for giving me the things I need,  
the rain and the sun  
and the Appleseed,  
the Lord is good to me.  
Johnny Appleseed. (Clap) Amen.**

**God is great, God is good.  
Let us thank God for our food.  
We're gonna thank God morning, noon and night.  
Our God, our God is (clap) outta sight.  
Amen ( clap, clap) Amen ( clap, clap) Amen.**

**Bread is broken, friendship's token.  
In our sharing, God is known.**

The children leave for the Discovery Kids program at this time.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** LUKE 17:11-19 read by Louise Leck

**ANTHEM:** "God is My Shepherd" - St. Paul's Choir

## **SERMON**

## **PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** MV# 150 (v 3) "Loving God"

Loving God: be our voice, be our prayer.  
Reaching out, joining hands as we share,  
we seek your guidance through friendship and care.  
Loving God, be our prayer.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER:** Read by Carol MacDonald, *from Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada (UCPH, 2000)*



**CLOSING HYMN:** VU# 227 "For the Fruit of all Creation"

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

2. In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BENEDICTION:** VU#429 "May the Blessing of God be Upon You"

May the blessing of God be upon you.  
May God's love light all your way.  
May the grace of Christ enfold you  
and peace around you stay.  
May the Spirit of God dwell within you.  
May you live in joy each day.

**POSTLUDE**

Thank you to the Worship committee for decorating the chancel in the Sanctuary for this Thanksgiving worship service.

