



Thanksgiving Day - B
October 10, 2021

Key Scripture - Matthew 6:33

“But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

receive

Theme - Achieve or Recieve?

Welcome and Announcements

- † Newcomers please sign our guestbook
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
 - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † We continue to pray for those who were impacted by the legacy of Indian Residential Schools.
- † If you do not already track news and events in our larger Church Community, you may wish to [visit the United Church of Canada Website.](#)
- † [E-ssentials](#) is a helpful NewsLetter you may wish to consider.
- † **The Healing Pathway Ministry** is a form of prayer which recognizes that we are all One in the Source of Life. We open to the Sacred Spirit and to allow the Healing energy of the Spirit to flow.
 - If you wish to have a conversation and / or book an individual healing session, email -
 - trinitysmithsfallshealingpathway@yahoo.com

We have a new security system. If you regularly require access to the building after hours and require additional information, please contact the office.

Looking Ahead

11 October, 1:00pm - The Spiritual Leadership Team is hosting a book study, **Sensible Shoes: A Story about the Spiritual Journey**.

- [Video call link](#)

13 October, 9:30am - Bible Study. **Listen Up! Bible study** - the Gospel of Mark Part 1 - Mark 1-8

- [Video call link](#)

17 October, 10:30am - A Service of Remembrance and Reunion

- The Christian Community Team to host a form of Memorial Service for folk whom we lost during COVID and could not properly acknowledge as a congregation. We will remember in word, in prayer and fellowship.

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Interlude 242 "Let All Things Now Living" vs. 1

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.

Call to Worship

God blesses us with gifts of love,
with relationships that bring joy and gratitude.
God blesses us with talents and opportunities to serve,
all we need for faithful living.
God protects us in times of danger:
and guards us from the time of trial.
So, we gather to offer thanksgiving to the Lord our God.
Praise be to God for all good things, now and always!

Opening Prayer

God of all creation,
In this season of thanksgiving for the harvests of the earth,

we are struck by the beauties of autumn,
leaves in bright colours, birds flying south in formation,
fields ripe with produce.

Such beauty speaks of your goodness,
your desire to provide what each beloved creature needs.

As we gather this day,
renew our sense of thanksgiving for what you give to us
in the fruitfulness of creation,
and in Christ Jesus who teaches us how to walk wisely on
the earth you made.

For all your good gifts we honour you with thanks and praise,
now and always.

Hymn 520 "We Plough The Fields and Scatter"

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

Time With Children

Children's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Ever present God,

God of our lives,

**When we give thanks for your good gifts around us,
we know that we enjoy an abundance many cannot even
imagine.**

**Yet we confess we do not always see the blessings in which
we share.**

**We worry about the future,
if we can recover from the pandemic,
whether we will have enough for our families to
flourish.**

Forgive our fears of going without,

**and our failure to be grateful for how much goodness is
already ours.**

Words of Assurance

Be at peace this day.

Jesus, our High Priest, knows the temptations of the human heart. From the throne of grace, he offers us mercy in our weakness. His strength renews us in faithfulness. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Joel 2:21-27;
 Psalm 126 (VU850);
 1 Timothy 2:1-7;
 Matthew 6:25-33

Joel 2:21-27

Do not fear, O soil;
 be glad and rejoice,
 for the Lord has done great things!
Do not fear, you animals of the field,
 for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit,
 the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad
 and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
 he has poured down for you abundant rain,
 the early and the later rain, as before.
The threshing floors shall be full of grain,
 the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years
 that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
 my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.
You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Psalm 126 (VU850)

Refrain -

**We praise the One who gave the growth,
with voices full and strong.**

When God brought Zion's captives home,
it seemed to us like a dream.

**But then our mouths were full of laughter,
And our tongues uttered shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations:

“God has done great things for them.”

**Truly God has done great things for us,
And therefore we rejoice.**

Refrain -

**We praise the One who gave the growth,
with voices full and strong.**

Restore our fortunes, O God, as streams refresh the Negev.

Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,

**Shall come home with songs of joy,
bringing in their sheaves.**

Refrain -

**We praise the One who gave the growth,
with voices full and strong.**

1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
who gave himself a ransom for all

— this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Matthew 6:25-33

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not

clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Meditation "Turn, Turn, Turn" (Seeger)

Reflection Receive or Achieve?

Hymn 518 "As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought"

As those of old their first-fruits brought of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
so we today our first-fruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

A world in need now summons us to labour, love, and give;
to make our life an offering to God that all may live.
The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
not just to serve your cause, but share your love with neighbours too.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your son,
help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

Invitation to the Offering

At this time of harvest, we celebrate the gifts of God which sustain us. We know in some places, harvests will not be plentiful. In every community, people still struggle to recover from what has been lost during the pandemic. We offer what we have to share, grateful for God's gifts large and small, praying they will make a difference in difficult times, trusting that God goes with us, whatever we face.

Offering Prayer

Generous God, we bring our offering with thanksgiving for all the goodness we enjoy in Christ and in creation. Bless these gifts and use them to relieve the need and anxiety many feel these days. Use us, too, so that lives filled with tears may see signs of your love and joy in what we can offer in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our friend. Amen.

Hymn 559 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing"

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger, precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!

Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

Prayers of the People

EOORC Prayer Cycle Charge

South Mountain-Hallville Pastoral

Inkerman United Church
South Mountain United Church
St. Andrew's (Hallville) United Church
St. Andrew's (Heckston) United Church

WCC

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

A year-long prayer journey through every region of the world

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

We pray for -

- children and youth who are traumatized by violence and flee to other lands
- an end to gang violence and drug trafficking
- more just distribution of wealth that enables the millions who have been excluded to have access to a dignified life in these countries
- Christians to have the courage to live out the liberating gospel.

Loving God,

We offer ourselves to you.

May our minds think of you,

and our eyes see the needs of others.

May our ears hear the cries of the world

and our voices speak of you.

May our hands work for your reign

and our feet walk on your path.

May our life be used in your service
and our hearts love you more than anything else.
May the joy of the Lord be our strength
all the days of our lives. **Amen.**

Kind and Generous God,

On this Thanksgiving weekend,
we pause to give you thanks for all those things, both great and
small,
those moments of wonder and those ordinary exchanges
which fill our lives with meaning and offer us a sense of
well-being.

By your Spirit, O God,
May our friends see in us signs of a grateful heart.

Merciful and Generous God,

As we give thanks for the harvests of the earth and its goodness,
show us how to live respectfully in creation
and protect all that is precious to you.

In a year when harvesting has been disappointing in many places,
show us how to share what has been produced so that no one
goes hungry:

By your Spirit, O God,
May our friends see in us signs of a grateful heart.

Just and Generous God,

We pray for the good of your world and the common good in our community.

Where there is hostility between peoples or nations,
inspire leaders to show wisdom and courage in decision making.

We pray for areas hard hit by flood, storm, fire or earthquake,
and for all those struggling with the impact of the pandemic.

May neighbours with resources maintain generosity and compassion
for the long work of reconstructing lives and livelihoods

By your Spirit, O God,

May our friends see in us signs of a grateful heart.

Healing and Generous God,

We pray for all those facing health challenges or difficult times for any reason,

and we pray for family and friends under stress or in sorrow
whom we name in silence before you

Give us patience and understanding as we draw near to them
and help us reach out with compassion.

By your Spirit, O God,

May our friends see in us signs of a grateful heart.

In Jesus we have met your generous love and mercy.

Through our lives and by our prayers,

reveal his love and mercy in this generation,
for it is in his name we offer the prayer he taught us, saying

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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 236 "Now Thank We All Our God"

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, evermore.

Benediction

Rejoice always,
pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
Hold on to what is good,
reject every kind of evil.

**May God's own self, the God of peace,
sanctify us through and through.**

Choral Amen

Postlude "Toccata on 'Ein Feste Burg'" (arr. Young)