



St. James United Church

An Affirming Ministry

Worship Leader: Rev. Don Uhryniw

Weekly Service Bulletin – September 13th, 2026

Living fully, intentionally and compassionately

221 Romaine St, Peterborough, ON K9J 2C3 • 705-742-2222 • stjamesunitedchurch.ca
More Info: affirmunited.ca • united-church.ca

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

PRELUDE / WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH / INTROIT

WE GATHER

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Iris Muir

"We respectfully acknowledge that St. James is located on the Treaty 20 Michi Saagiig territory and in the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations, which include: Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations. Our St. James congregation respectfully acknowledges that these Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters, and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come."

Curve Lake First Nation Land Acknowledgement (adapted slightly for use)

CALL TO ACTION

Cora Muir

A Land Acknowledgement is a single act of reconciliation. As an Affirming Ministry that is part of the United Church of Canada, we commit to learning from, listening to and supporting Indigenous people. One way we can do this is through the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action**.

Call to Action #51

We call upon the Government of Canada, as an obligation of its fiduciary responsibility, to develop a policy of transparency by publishing legal opinions it develops and upon which it acts or intends to act, in regard to the scope and extent of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Maeve O'Neill

One: We gather together surrounded by the promises of faith,
and open to opportunities yet to be experienced.

May the light and life of Jesus guide us in everything we do.

May the light of the rainbow candle remind us that we are all tenderly
created in the image and likeness of God and that there is a place for everyone here
at St. James. May the peace candle inspire us to strive for peace in our hearts, in
our homes and communities, and in our world.

GATHERING SONGIt's a Song of Praise to the Maker***MV#30**

Words: Ruth Duck, 1992 Music: Ron Klusmeier, 1992 Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 723161. All rights reserved.

1. It's a song of praise to the Maker,
The thrush sings high in the tree
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
The gray whale sings in the sea

Refrain:

**And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too**

2. It's a call of life to the Giver
When waves and waterfalls roar
It's a call of life to the Giver
When high tides break on the shore **R**
3. It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
The bumblebees hum along
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
The summer breeze joins the song **R**
4. It's the chorus of all creation;
It's sung by all living things.
It's the chorus of all creation;
A song the universe sings **R**

GATHERING WORDS *(responsive)*

One: You have seen the wind.

All: Our souls have been cleansed by holy rain,

One: the sun has given us light and love

All: it is the gift of the Divine to support life and to light our way.

One: May the holy wind blow through us

All: that we may be truly inspired.

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

All: Calm us into your presence, disturb us into love, empower us for service, speak to us your love. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(in unison)***VU#921**

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 forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN**Water Flowing from the Mountains*****MV#87**

Words and music: Jim Hannah: arr. David Melhorn-Boe, 2006. Words and music copyright © 2003 Jim Hannah. Arrangement copyright © 2006 David Melhorn-Boe. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-723161. All rights reserved.

1. Water flowing from the mountains
Water flowing o'er the earth
Water comes to us, so precious
Living water gives us birth

Refrain:**Drink deep this source of life****Drink deep and know****For living water sings, and living water brings****The love that makes our spirit grow**

2. Water rushing down the rivers
Water rushing to the sea
Water comes to us, so precious
Living water makes us free **R**
3. Water springing from the dry place
Water springing in the sun
Water comes to us, so precious
Living water for each one **R**

THEME CONVERSATION *God's Story: Seeds and a Farmer*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtvCJmMZbt0>

(Crossroads Kids' Club – March 2021)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Teach us faith, teach us caring. Teach us love, teach us sharing.
Help us love your whole creation. Make our lives a celebration. Amen.

WE REFLECT**MINUTES FOR MISSION****MUSIC MINISTRY****SCRIPTURE READING****Rev. Jim Feairs***Psalms 8*

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Mark 4:26-32

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

Revelation 21:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

***HYMN**

O Beautiful Gaia

MV#41

© Carolyn McDade Music; Arrangement © 2006 by Lydia Pedersen. 1992 Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-723161.

Refrain:

O beautiful Gaia, O Gaia, calling us home

O beautiful Gaia, calling us on

1. Soil yielding its harvest, O Gaia, calling us home
Soil yielding its harvest, calling us on **R**
2. Waves crashing on granite, O Gaia, calling us home
Waves crashing on granite, calling us on **R**
3. Pine bending in windstorm, O Gaia, calling us home
Pine bending in windstorm, calling us on **R**
4. Loon nesting in marshland, O Gaia, calling us home
Loon nesting in marshland, calling us on **R**

REFLECTION

WE RESPOND

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY MUSIC

***SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *What Can I Do?*

MV#191

Words and music copyright © 2005 Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy. Arrangement. copyright © 2005 Alan C. Whitmore.
Reprinted under Licensing Online #623941.

What can I do? What can I bring? What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer. I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** *(in unison)*

All: We offer these gifts and we offer ourselves to heal, to bring hope, to be faithful people. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Creator of new life

All: who brings beauty to creation...

WE GO FORTH

***HYMN**

I See a New Heaven

VU#713

Music copyright © 1979 and harmony copyright © 1991 Carolyn McDade. 1992 Reprinted with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A- 723161.

Refrain:

**I see a new heaven, I see a new earth as the old one will pass away
Where the fountain of life flows and without price goes
To all people who abide in the land**

1. There, there on the banks of a river bright and free,
Yielding her fruit, firm in her root,
The Tree of Life will be **R**
2. There, there where death dies and our lives are born again,
Body and soul, struggling but whole
Life flowers after the rain **R**
3. There, there where the darkness brings visions from above
There where the night, bearing new light,
Reveals the promise of love **R**
4. There, there where we work with the love of healing hands
Labour we must, true to our trust
To build a promised new land **R**

***BLESSING**

All: Walk in the service of Jesus; walk as the spirit blows us; for we are both created and creating.

SUNG BLESSINGYou Shall Go Out with Joy***VU#884**

Words: Steffi G. Rubin. Music: Stuart Dauermann. Words and Music: © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Company, administered by The Copyright Company - obo, P.O. Box 128139, Nashville, TN 37212-8139, tel.: 615-321-1096, fax: 615-321- 1099. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A- 723161. CCLI License No. 1918298. All rights reserved.

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands!

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap),
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap),
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.

POSTLUDE