



St. James United Church

Centre for Faith, Arts & Multiculturalism

An Affirming Ministry

Remembrance Sunday

Weekly Service Bulletin – November 9th, 2025

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More Info: affirmunited.ca • united-church.ca •

**Please stand as you are able*

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 #10

We call on the federal government to draft new Aboriginal education legislation with the full participation and informed consent of Aboriginal peoples and incorporate the following principles: provide sufficient funding to close identified gaps in education, improve education attainment levels and success rates. Develop culturally appropriate curricula; protect the right to Aboriginal languages and teach Aboriginal languages as credit courses. Enable parental and community responsibility, control, and accountability; enable parents to fully participate in the education of their children. And respect and honour Treaty relationships.

JESUS CANDLELIGHTING FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Maeve O'Neill

One: The Jesus candle reminds us that the light of Jesus shines on the road to peace and illuminates our most difficult hours.

All: We light the Jesus Candle.

One: The Rainbow candle reminds us that Jesus' love is for each one of us and that everyone deserves to experience peace in their lives.

All: We light the Rainbow Candle.

One: The Candle of Remembrance reminds us of the sacrifice of those who have defended and continue to defend our freedom and our peace.

All: We light the Candle of Remembrance.

***GATHERING SONG**

Put Peace into Each Other's Hands

MV#173 vs. 1-4

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1. Put peace into each other's hands and like a treasure hold it, protect it like a candle flame, with tenderness enfold it.
2. Put peace into each other's hands with loving expectation; be gentle in your words and ways, in touch with God's creation.
3. Put peace into each other's hands like bread we break for sharing; look people warmly in the eye: our life is meant for caring.
4. Give thanks for strong- yet tender hands, held out in trust and blessing. Where words fall short, let hands speak out, the heights of love expressing.

GATHERING WORDS *(responsive)*

One: In silent fields, poppies blow.

All: In empty streets, silence dwells.

One: In vacant rooms, photos sit.

All: War does not end with a pen or a parade.

One: Into the silence, the emptiness, the sorrow,

All: let us bring the peace, the song, the hope of Holy Love.

Robin Wardlaw, *Gathering - Pentecost 2, 2019*

OPENING PRAYER *(responsive)*

One: O God of many names, Lover of all nations, we pray for peace,

All: in our hearts, in our homes, in our nations, in our world.

One: For the peace that you willed, for the peace that passes all understanding,

All: we pray in Jesus' name and we say his prayer together...

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(a retranslation from the Aramaic - author unknown)*

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere!

Release a space to plant your Presence here.

Imagine your possibilities now.

Embody your desire in every light and form.

Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom.

Untie the knots of failure binding us,
as we release the strands we hold of others' faults.

Help us not forget our Source,
and free us from not being in the Present.

From you arises every Vision, Power and Song
from gathering to gathering. Amen.

***HYMN**

O Canada

VU#524

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
the True North strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

THEME CONVERSATION

We Remember

Written by Emily Murley, sung by Shelley Murley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaRsOPf3M5s>

WE REMEMBER

A CANDLELIGHTING LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

One: *(Light the first candle)*

We light this candle to remember those who died in service to our nation
in times of war, on peacekeeping missions, and in conflicts in other countries.
We remember especially those who suffer from the traumatic effects of their service.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning...

All: we will remember them.

One: *(Light the second candle)*

We light this candle to remember victims of war on all sides,
especially the most vulnerable. At the going down of the sun and in the morning...

All: we will remember them.

One: *(Light the third candle)*

We light this candle to remember the service animals who died in support
of the troops: the horses, the dogs, the carrier pigeons.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning...

All: we will remember them.

One: *(Light the fourth candle)*

We light this candle for the families of all service people.
We give thanks for the support and care they offered and continue to offer,
including when their loved ones have returned home.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning...

All: we will remember them.

One: *(Light the fifth candle)*

We light this candle for our earth and all creation, recognizing that it, too,
is a casualty of war. We acknowledge the ecological destruction
of the earth, the sea, and the air, and we pray that our Creator might
guide us to restore the ongoing devastation of our natural world.

All: Loving God, make us co-creators with you.

One: *(Light the sixth candle)*

We light this candle for the hundreds of thousands of refugees displaced by war
who must seek new homelands, a safe and peaceful place to live,

and a fresh start.

All: Loving God, make us generous, compassionate, and welcoming people.

One: *(Light the seventh candle)*

We light this candle as a candle of love to remind us that God commands us to forgive one another and to be reconciled to one another.

All: Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

One: *(Light the eight candle)*

We light this candle to symbolize that Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus' light shines in the in the most challenging of times, and nothing will ever extinguish his light.

All: Loving God, let the light of Jesus shine in and through our lives.

***HYMN**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

VU#684

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1. Make me a channel of your peace: where there is hatred, let me bring your love; where there is injury, your healing power, and where there's doubt, true faith in you:
2. Make me a channel of your peace: where there's despair in life, let me bring hope; where there is darkness, only light; and where there's sadness, ever joy.
O Spirit, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.
3. Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving to all that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

READING

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae

***TRUMPET SOLO**

Last Post and Reveille

performed by Marcus Venables

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKAZzogxusQ>

November 2023 – Salvationist Magazine

AN AFFIRMATION OF PEACE

One: Peace is not the product of terror or fear.

All: Peace is not the silence of cemeteries.

One: Peace is not the silence of violent repression.

All: Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all, to the good of all.

One: Peace is dynamism. Peace is generosity.

All: It is right and duty.

Oscar Romero

THANKING OUR VETERANS

WE REFLECT

ANTHEM

GOSPEL READING

Luke 7:1-10

Peggy Fillier

After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ² A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly and who was ill and close to death. ³ When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking

him to come and heal his slave. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, ⁵ for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us."

⁶ And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; ⁷ therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸ For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." ⁹ When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." ¹⁰ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

***HYMN**

God Is Passionate Life

VU#695

Words, Music: © 1985 Colleen Fulmer, c/o Loretto Spirituality Network, 725 Calhoun St., Albany, CA 94709 USA.

1. God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us as we seek justice for all people
2. God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us as we seek freedom for all people
3. God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us as we seek equality for all people
4. God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us as we seek dignity for all people
5. God is passionate life, strong and vibrant in us as we seek peace in our day for all people.

REFLECTION

WE RESPOND

OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC

***SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

What Can I Do?

MV#191

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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**

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Author unknown - it is thought to be either an adaptation of a Hindu prayer or hymn.

WE GO FORTH

***BLESSING**

***SUNG BLESSING**

May the God of Hope Go with Us

VU#424

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1. May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain:

**Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

2. May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **R**

POSTLUDE

**Heartfelt gratitude to our St. James Veterans: Bob Field, Jim Lowes,
and in loving memory of all St. James Veterans who have died**