

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



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November 6, 2022

WE GATHER

Welcome -

Welcome, everyone, to this service of remembrance. We have gathered here with gratitude to recognize the sacrifices of our Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP members who have offered themselves in service to our country. Through world wars and regional conflicts, at home and abroad, they have demonstrated courage, loyalty, integrity, and service to Canada before self. The freedoms we enjoy today would not be possible without them. And so, on this Sunday before the 11th day of the 11th month, we remember them.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle -

We light this candle as a reminder that we are not alone. May its flame warm our hearts and inspire us to live the message of Christ's Good News.

Acknowledging Our Kinship -

One: For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on their traditional territory and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.

One: As we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways.

All: For we are all kin in Christ, “All My Relations,” with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

Gathering Hymn - This is God’s Wondrous World - 296 VU

Call To Worship -

One: On this Remembrance Sunday we gather to pray

All: for a world where no one will learn war anymore.

One: On this day when the guns once fell silent,

All: we gather to pray for peace to reign in every heart, home and nation.

One: On this day of hope,

All: we come before you, God,

to remember all those who gave their lives so we could be free.

One: In this time of story, song, and prayer,

help us to catch a vision of how the world could live together.

All: And so, let echo the old prayers—make us channels of your peace.

One: In that spirit, let us join our hearts in song.

Time of Remembrance

Hymn - “O Canada,”

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Words of Remembrance

One: They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old.

**All: Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.**

One: At the going down of the sun and in the morning.

All: We will remember them.

Reading of the Names of Local Heroes

Last Post

Minute of Silence

Rouse

Words of Remembrance

One: Eternal rest grant unto them, O God,
and may perpetual light shine upon them.

**All: May the souls of the righteous, through your great mercy,
rest in peace. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise - Make Me a Channel of Your Peace 684 VU

Prayer of Confession

One: Almighty God,
We thank you for bringing us together this Remembrance Sunday

to recall with tenderness and respect
those who lost their lives from this community
and the many thousands farther afield in the wars
of the last century.

**All: We pray for all those still caught up in conflicts across the
world**

**and acknowledge what may be our own confusion about war
and how we might participate in creating an enduring peace.**

One: Help us to meet with you in these moments of worship,
Make us ever mindful of your goodness toward us,
and strengthen us to be aware of the needs of others.

As we pray for peace, may it start with peace in our hearts.

Time of Silent Prayer and Reflection

Words of Assurance

One: Almighty and eternal God,

from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or
life,

**All: Hear our prayers for all this day, and help us to live in love and
service. Amen.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading - Micah 4: 1-5, Luke 7: 1-10

Meditation - *Peace and Freedom*

Hymn - For the Healing of the Nations - 678 VU

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

There are opportunities to give every day, certainly through gifts of dollars and cents, but also through courageous action, faithful service, and loving devotion. Let us share of ourselves and of what God has so graciously given.

Offering Prayer

One: Gracious God, bless these gifts and these givers. May they be used well to foster peace and joy in this world and in the lives of those who cross our paths.

All: May real and lasting change start now, with us, through us, and with God's blessing. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern -

Holy One, we come before you now with praise and thanksgiving, as well as sorrow and concern, in our hearts. With gratitude on this Remembrance Sunday, we call to mind the soldiers, sailors, air personnel, and RCMP who have paid the ultimate price that we might live in freedom. We remember those who died in distant wars and those more recent. By sacrificing their lives, they left us the responsibility and the duty to continue their work on the things that make for peace. From generation to generation, may their valour and selflessness never be forgotten.

We are especially mindful today of the effects of military life on the body, mind, and spirit. Give courage, comfort, and healing to all those who suffer wounds, both visible and invisible. Help us to remember that the effects of conflict reach far beyond the battlefield and can last a lifetime. Enable us to provide the support our service members need to live happy and healthy lives. May our commitment to them be as full and complete as their commitment to serve Canada before self.

Lest we forget, the families and friends of our service members that share in the burdens of military life. Bring comfort and strength to the relatives and friends of those who serve. When they are grieving the

loss of their loved ones, may they know your compassionate and comforting presence. When they are separated from one another due to deployments or other operational requirements, may their bonds be strengthened. When their lives are uprooted because they are posted to a new location and everything is new all over again, may they be upheld by the constancy of your steadfast love. Accompany them in their daily joys and protect them in difficulties.

May our act of remembrance this day honour those who have put themselves in harm's way for the safety of others. May we never forget their sacrifice, the families who grieve for them and support them, and their example of integrity, loyalty, courage, and duty.

As people of faith, we re-commit ourselves to work together for peace in our world. May the hope that we carry in our hearts lead us to seek new and creative ways to resolve our differences. We look forward to that day when your reign is fully realized among us and swords are turned into plowshares and nation no longer lifts up sword against nation.

We also long for the moment when mourning, suffering, and sickness are no more. Until that day comes, we ask that you respond to us when we lift before you in the silence of our hearts the names of those people, places, and situations that are in need of your tender loving care this day...(*moment of silent prayer*)...Restore them to health and wholeness, O God.

We ask all these things in the name of the One who came to show us your ways and who taught us to pray together, saying:

The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn -

Commissioning and Benediction

Remember the sacrifices of those who have gone before us.
Take up the whole armour of God and remain steadfast.
Fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.
Put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.
May the grace of God, the love of Christ, and the hope of the Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

STYC performance during worship on November 13, 2022.



Just a reminder to check your mailboxes in the main hall, and if you don't have a mailbox can you please let Susan or Cheryl know!