

Offertory Hymn VU 581 Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering. When we are giving, or when receiving, we belong to God, we belong to God.

Offertory Prayer **Generous God, remembering that you love a cheerful giver, knowing all that we have is yours, with joy and thanksgiving we give back to you our time, our talents, and our monetary gifts. May we be faithful, joyful stewards of all we are given. Amen.**

Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 517 Praise God for the Harvest

To Depart in Faith

Commissioning and Benediction

Go into our world, following Jesus and seeking his Way. Go into our world aware of the challenges that are present.

Live this Thanksgiving holiday, today and every day, allowing thanksgiving to shape and grow your life by the grace of God.

Closing VU 416 **Forth in Thy name O Lord I go, my daily labour to pursue. Thee only Thee resolved to know, in all I think or speak or do.**

Scripture readings for October 18 2026

Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:1-15-22

Meridian Pastoral Charge

October 11 2026 Thanksgiving

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Welcome and Announcements

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Acknowledging the Territory

Since people first travelled this land we now call Canada, it has been faithfully stewarded. Plants for medicine, animals for clothing and food, fish, forests, lakes, rivers, mountains and prairies. Fresh air to breathe. A great land of abundance. We give thanks to the First Nations of Treaty 1 and the Red River Metis. Together may we do our part to be good stewards of the land.

Introit: *VU 226 (Tune VU 81)* **For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies, God of all, to you we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.**

Call to Worship

Happy Thanksgiving as you come into this space—from a digital distance or here in person—to celebrate the abundance with which God blesses us all.

When the leaves begin to turn colour and fall, when the temperature gets cooler and the days grow shorter, we lean into creation's cycle of life as God's gift.

Come as we worship the One who shows us the Way of self-giving love.

We come to rejoice that God has made us for one another and teaches us faithfulness when sharing from our abundance.

Let us commune with God in prayer:

In our listening, O Spirit, may we recognize your whispers of becoming.

In our praying, O God, may we discover our union in you.

**In our singing, O Christ, may we delight in life's possibilities.
In our living in your name, may we dedicate ourselves to your purpose.**

Christ Candle

We were made in Creator God's love. Jesus came to us to teach us God's love. The Spirit of God abides with us, fueling our love. In love, we light this candle recalling how all we all begin in love, live in love, and continue in love, for God is love.

Prayer of Approach:

**Generous God, We thank You for daily bread,
for shelter and friendship,
for those who care for others quietly,
and for every sign that Your love is still at work in the world.
We thank You for the promise of Your kingdom,
for the table You spread,
for the peace You give,
and for the hope that does not fail.
Receive our gratitude,
and make us grateful people in the way we live;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN: VU 516 Come, You Thankful People, Come

Prayer of Confession

**We confess that we do not always trust Your goodness.
When we are afraid, we cling tightly to what we have.
When others are in need, we can look away.
We have not always welcomed others as You have welcomed us.
We have allowed harshness, pride and tiredness
to shape our words and actions.
Forgive us. Renew us.
Teach us again the way of kindness,
justice and generous love;
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

After Confession: *MV 115* O Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today. Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the way!

Words of Assurance

God loves each of us for who we are and for who we are becoming, blessing us with grace upon grace for new life, new possibilities. Thanks be to God.

Response: *VU 100v5* **We praise you, God, source of all life, we praise you, Christ, eternal Word, we praise you, Spirit, gracious gift; your Triune presence fills our world.**

Story Time

Hymn: VU 227 For the Fruit of All Creation

Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

This is the story of God's people. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 65 VU 782

Reading: Luke 17:11-19

This is the story of Jesus **All: Thanks be to God.**

To Respond to the Word of God

Reflection

Hymn: VU 236 Now Thank We All our God

Minute for Mission

Offertory Invitation The Apostle Paul urges us to think on things that on things that are honourable and just, commendable and true. To share what we have is honourable. Our gifts can help create justice and work for truth to prevail. So trust your gifts to God and know they are pleasing to God.