

Stouffville United Church
34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3
www.stouffvilleuc.ca
Sunday October 8, 2023
Thanksgiving Sunday

Music Prelude

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land

We are gathered on the treaty territory of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people and their ancestors. May we honour their history, spirituality, culture and teachings and uphold our responsibilities as treaty partners.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

L: Come, let us celebrate the wondrous gifts that God has given us.

P: Throughout all our lives, God has blessed us with love and hope.

L: Praise be to God who provides for us.

P: May our hearts be truly grateful, and may we show our gratitude by the ways in which we live and care for others.

L: Hallelujah!

P: AMEN.

Hymn: #227 'For the Fruit of All Creation' (VU)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Bounteous God, you have lavished your finest gifts on each one of us. We thank you for the many ways in which you have blessed our lives--with love, hope, friends, our church, and so many other things that we cherish. Help us be a blessing for others--that they may come to know you and rejoice in your love. Give us hearts of courage and confidence to step out into the world in service, bringing hope where there is doubt, peace where there is strife, love where there is discord.

Forgive us when we grumble and gripe about the work and do not relish the delight in having family and friends together. Remind us that there are those for whom this day holds little delight and hope. Help us reach out to them with love, listening to their hearts and trying to meet their needs. Cause us to be people of Passion about the love you have given to us and about the joy of serving you by helping others. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

Words of Assurance:

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not counting our trespasses against us. Therefore be assured and believe you are loved and you are forgiven.

Music Ministry: 'We Bring Thanksgiving'

A Time Of Silence

Offertory 'I Can Only Imagine' song with Lisa, Daniel and John on guitar

Offertory Doxology #537 'Your Work O God Needs Many Hands' (VU)**Offertory Prayer**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: *1Thessalonians 5:12-18*

Hymn: #522 'Give Thanks, my Soul, for Harvest' (VU)

Sermon "**Mark Twain's Favorite Word**"

Prayers of the People

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
Forever and ever. Amen

Hymn: #236 'Now Thank We All Our God' (VU)

Blessing

Closing Response AMEN #974

Music Postlude