

Woodslee United Church
Sunday, October 12, 2025
“Thanksgiving Sunday” - Luke 17:11-19
Minister: The Rev. Carl Emke
Pianist for Today: Diana Dennis



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP – PRELUDE

PRE-WORSHIP SINGING – (Starting at 9:50 a.m.)

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

QUIET TIME REFLECTIONS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

We rejoice that this is a year full of the promise of God’s guidance and the blessing of God’s presence. We light the Christ candle to remind us that we want the light of Christ to shine on our time of worship; and that the words that the Pastor shares would point us to that light. This is the understanding of the symbolism of the lighted candle in front of the pulpit.

Jesus said in John 8:12, **“I am the Light of the World: the one who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”**

Each day is filled with promise, plans and possibilities. We look forward to God’s guidance in the living of our lives. The light

from the Lord, symbolized by the Christ candle, is the light that we are following. The Christ candle reminds us that God's light is before us.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: "Come, Children, Join to Sing"

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

Heavenly Father, thank You that we have so many freedoms to worship You openly in this country. Help us to never take this attitude of gratitude for granted. With this in mind, O God, help us not to allow a brick wall to be erected in our hearts, so that what we receive from You, we do not pass on to others. Help us to be like a squeezable sponge that oozes out what it contains. Teach us how we can allow Your Spirit to work in us, so that others can see Your Spirit to be evident in what we say and do as we live our daily lives. Help us to learn from You this morning, so that we can serve You.

We bring our prayer to You, for we come in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 17:11-19 (p. 852 in the Bible in the pew.)

HYMN: "To God Be the Glory" (# 363 in Hymns for the Family of God.)

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

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 them that trespass against us. And

lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – A NEW CREED: We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PREPARATION FOR PRAYER: Please remain seated as the pianist plays # 400 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (sung twice)

PASTORAL PRAYER

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Diana Dennis is playing the piano today.
What song from Voices United are you thankful for?

HYMN: # 242 "Let All Things Now Living"

SERMON: "Thanksgiving Is a Continuing Action Word."

OUR GIFTS IN SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH:

The Bible tells us: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits."

We read in Deuteronomy, “No one shall come into the presence of the Lord empty-handed. Each of you shall bring such a gift as he can in proportion to the blessing which the Lord your God has given you.” The ushers will now receive the offering.

HYMN OF DEDICATION: MV #191 “What Can I Do?” (2 X)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN: # 520 “We Plough the Fields”

COMMISSIONING: “He Keeps Me Singing” (# 587 in Hymns For the Family of God)

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Go Now In Peace”

POSTLUDE

Woodslee Pastoral Charge CCLI # 465534

Right after the service, everyone is invited to stay for a time of coffee, tea and refreshments in the Hall. You can enjoy friendship and fellowship as you share this casual time with each other. The friendships are a blessing, and the time together is a treat. **TREAT YOURSELF!!!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for all those on our church family prayer list. Please also pray for family members of individuals who are facing the challenges of depression and the struggles that come with that. Pray for all of the people who are trying to understand their own feelings of loneliness and discouragement – that they may allow God to surround them with His love.

Antler River Prayer Cycle: The church for this week in the Antler River Region is the NORWICH UNITED CHURCH. It is located close to Scotland (Ontario, that is). The minister is Janice Pow. This year, they are celebrating **205 years of ministry** in that town! They are a very active church. Pray that they will continue to be a shining light in their community.

The church family expresses their caring and love to Fran McKim, whose sister Barb Stanley has recently passed away. Funeral arrangements are being handled by the immediate family. We pray that Barb's family, extended family and friends will feel the presence and love of God surrounding them at this time.

CAN YOU SMELL THE COFFEE?? Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m., the coffee is brewing and **YOU** are invited to join in as we munch, mingle and mindfully mull over most topics – **EXCEPT POLITICS!!!** We are here to extend friendship to each other. **During the coffee time, the only agenda is to appreciate one another's company.** We'd love to have you join us!!! We are here to share the love and comradery that God has shared with us.

THE KNOTTY BLANKETEERS!!!

Yes, they chose that name for themselves! This peace-loving group of willing volunteers meet on Tuesdays from 1 – 4 p.m. here in the Hall. You will be surprised at what they can do when they get all tied up in knots! Come on Tuesday and join in.

Normal part-time weekday working hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. When involved in visiting, counseling, funeral, course, or taping, you may leave a message at the church (519-975-2252) or home (226-275-2118). Hours may change for meetings or appointments to a later time or another day. ~ Rev. Carl.

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE – about what is going on in the wider United Church as a denomination, please check out the United Church of Canada website. You will be able to find out what mission causes are supported and what our official response is to various issues that arise in different parts of the globe.

Woodslee United Church

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