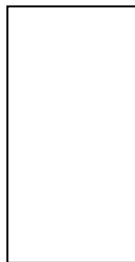


**Welcome to  
The Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge  
Woodhouse United Church and  
Grace United Church  
Worship From Home Service  
Sunday, October 31, 2021**



**Port Dover – Woodhouse Pastoral Charge  
Box 814, 18 Chapman St. West,  
Port Dover, ON N0A 1N0  
Church Office: 519-583-0342**

**Email: [graceunitedportdover@gmail.com](mailto:graceunitedportdover@gmail.com)**

**Website: <http://www.graceunitedportdover.org>**

**Ministers: All People of the Community of Faith**

**Woodhouse Organist: Pat Tiller**

**Grace Pianist: Cheryl Copeman**

**Office Administrator: Jackie Misner-Hilton**

**Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Frank Walker, OM**

**Licensed Lay Worship Leader: Heather King**

**Volunteer Associate Minister: Rev. Sheena Riley-Marini**

**Pastoral Charge Minister: Rev. Kathryn Vance, DM**

**Cell: 519-717-7426 or [kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca](mailto:kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca)**

**Office Hours 9:00 am – 11:30 am (Mon. – Thurs)**

*October 31, 2021*

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Reformation Sunday October 31, 2021**  
**Heather King, Licenced Lay Worship Leader**

**We Gather for Worship**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge our Creator and the world around us and our place within it. We acknowledge the many nations who call this land home. We acknowledge the Indigenous and non-Indigenous brothers and sisters who walked this land in the past and those who walk it today, this, the tra-ditional and treaty lands of the Anishinaabek (Ahnish-in-nah-bek), Neutral, and Haudenosaunee (Ho-deh-no-show-nee) peoples.

**Open the Bible and Light the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship: (Responsive)**

**L:** The community of faith has gathered.

**P: We rejoice in the praise and prayer we offer together**

**L:** We rejoice in the tradition of worship that has formed and reformed us over the years

**P: We rejoice in service to the neighbourhood, the wider church and the world that this faith community has made possible**

**L:** The community of faith has gathered

**P: We rejoice in Jesus the Christ who has called us together. Jesus, whose words and life's pattern sustain us.**

**L:** Come, as those of the Reformed tradition, let us worship God.

*Source: David Sparks, Okanagan U. C., Okanagan Falls, B. C.*

## **VU # 245: Praise the Lord with the Sound of the Trumpet**

Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,  
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,  
praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute.

Praise the Lord in the field and forest,  
praise the Lord in the city square,  
praise the Lord anytime and anywhere.

Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,  
praise the Lord in the dark of night,  
praise the Lord in the rain or  
snow or in the morning light.

Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,  
praise the Lord on the highest hill,  
praise the Lord, never let your voice be still.

Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,  
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,  
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.

Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,  
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,  
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.

Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,  
praise the Lord in the time of joy,  
praise the Lord every moment,

nothing let your praise destroy.

Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,

praise the Lord in your work or play,

praise the Lord everywhere in every way!

### **Opening Prayer**

Holy God, Gracious Teacher, Loving Leader... we have come to be with you, as a community bound together by our faith and trust. Raise our hearts to be joyful. Lift our souls to discover. Replenish our spirits with light enough to share. We are here to worship you and to explore and hear your truth. Be present among us creator God. Amen. *Source:*

*Barb Jardin, Rolling River P.C. Forrest, Man.*

### **We Listen for God's Word**

**Time for the Young at Heart:** How is God like a pumpkin?

#### **VU: 316: Praise our Maker**

Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:

God is love, God is love!

Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:

God is love, God is love!

Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:

God is love, God is love!

Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:

God is love, God is love!

Care for others, children of the Spirit:

God is love, God is love!

Care for others, children of the Spirit:

God is love, God is love!

## **VU # 868: Psalm 146 ( Responsive)**

Praise God, O my soul. As long as I live I will praise God.

**Yes, as long as I have life I will sing praises to God.**

Put not your trust in princes, nor in any mortal,  
for in them there is no help.

**When they breathe their last they return to dust;  
then their plans come to nothing.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

**whose hope is the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them,**

the One who keeps faith for ever,

**who gives justice to the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry.**

God sets prisoners free, restores sight to the blind.

**God straightens those who are bent;  
loves those who are just.**

God cares for the stranger in the land,  
and sustains the widow and orphan;

**but the way of the wicked God turns to ruin.**

God shall reign forever, O Zion,

**your God for all generations.**

## **Prayer for Illumination: VU # 502**

Eternal God,

open our minds to hear your word,

our hearts to love your word,

and our lives to be obedient to your word,

through the power of your Spirit

and the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Ruth 1: 1 – 18 (New Living Translation)**

### **Elimelech Moves His Family to Moab**

**1** In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him. **2** The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife was Naomi. Their two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. And when they reached Moab, they settled there.

**3** Then Elimelech died, and Naomi was left with her two sons. **4** The two sons married Moabite women. One married a woman named Orpah, and the other a woman named Ruth. But about ten years later, **5** both Mahlon and Kilion died. This left Naomi alone, without her two sons or her husband.

### **Naomi and Ruth Return**

**6** Then Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had blessed his people in Judah by giving them good crops again. So Naomi and her daughters-in-law got ready to leave Moab to return to her homeland. **7** With her two daughters-in-law she set out from the place where she had been living, and they took the road that would lead them back to Judah.

**8** But on the way, Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back to your mothers' homes. And may the LORD reward you for your kindness to your husbands and to me. **9** May the LORD bless you with the security of another marriage." Then she kissed them good-bye, and they all broke down and wept.

**10** "No," they said. "We want to go with you to your people."

**11** But Naomi replied, "Why should you go on with me? Can I still give

birth to other sons who could grow up to be your husbands? <sup>12</sup> No, my daughters, return to your parents' homes, for I am too old to marry again. And even if it were possible, and I were to get married tonight and bear sons, then what? <sup>13</sup> Would you wait for them to grow up and refuse to marry someone else? No, of course not, my daughters! Things are far more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD himself has raised his fist against me."

<sup>14</sup> And again they wept together, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye. But Ruth clung tightly to Naomi. <sup>15</sup> "Look," Naomi said to her, "your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods. You should do the same."

<sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. <sup>17</sup> Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!" <sup>18</sup> When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.

### **Mark 12: 28-34 (New Living Translation)**

#### **The Most Important Commandment**

<sup>28</sup> One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. <sup>30</sup> And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>31</sup> The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'<sup>[b]</sup> No other commandment is greater than these."

<sup>32</sup> The teacher of religious law replied, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other. <sup>33</sup> And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbour as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law."

<sup>34</sup> Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

**Anthem: What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**Message:** What would you do for a friend?

**VU# 589: Lord Speak to Me**

Lord, speak to me that I may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let me seek  
your straying children lost and lone.

O lead me, so that I may lead  
the wandering and the wavering feet;  
O feed me, so that I may feed  
your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, so that I may teach  
the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing my words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many a heart.  
O fill me with your fullness, Lord,  
until my very heart o'erflows  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.



## **We Respond to God's Word**

**Offering:** God calls us to serve those around us in word and in deed. Let us offer our gifts as part of our service to the church of Jesus Christ. Let us join together in our morning offering.

### **VU# 541: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures high and low;

Give thanks to God in love made known:

Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

**Prayer of Dedication:** Loving God, we pray that you will accept these gifts, as you have accepted our lives in service to you. Amen.

### **Minute for Mission:**

Today's update and story is about how your Mission and Service dollars help groups, families and individuals locally.

Church Out Serving is a community-focused, faith-based charity serving Simcoe and surrounding Norfolk County. Food programs are a big part of Church Out Serving.

Twenty-two raised garden beds in 5 Simcoe locations form COS's Gathering Food Gardens network. 11,000 plus veggie servings have been harvested so far this year to feed local residents with limited access to fresh, healthy food. This produce is used for food hampers and fresh meals and any surplus produce is donated to local food banks and soup kitchens.

In the past 17 months, Church Out Serving has provided curb-side pick-up of about 18,000 warm, healthy take-out meals through their First Serving Meals Program. This program supports individuals and families who struggle to cook for themselves.

Over 6,000 home-style frozen meals have been prepared and delivered to residents County-wide who are not able to cook for themselves and cannot come to First Serving due to age, illness, mobility or other issue.

Every week, food hampers are assembled and delivered to individuals

and families in the county who are experiencing food insecurity. Since March of 2020, over 7,000 hampers have supported 450 individuals and families.

Each box contains an abundance of healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables, sourced locally whenever possible, through the Gathering Food Gardens and local farmers.



This is one of the programs Jim and Lynda Simpson support by delivering hampers every Friday.

In support of all these programs and more, Church Out Serving is developing Riverside 83 which will soon open as a community food hub on Sydenham St. in

downtown Simcoe. This one-of-a-kind facility will feature a café, food marketplace, meeting and event space, as well as two community kitchens for meal prep, food demonstrations and workshops.

Renovations are progressing well once again, after many COVID-19 delays, with many volunteers working to complete this major construction project. This is where you will frequently find Jim Simpson and Bob Faint honing their construction skills.



The Board of Church Out Serving is grateful to Grace United Church for their financial support and the support of volunteers.

Thank you for your support to Mission and Services.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Concern:**

### **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,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

### **We Take Christ's Message Into the World**

#### **VU# 574: Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love**

Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you:  
wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell  
joyfully came, joyfully came,  
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,  
sharing their sorrow and shame,

seeking the lost, seeking the lost,  
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.

Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;  
why do they roam? why do they roam?  
Love only waits to forgive and forget;  
home, weary wanderers, home!  
Wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!  
Come and abide, come and abide,  
lifting my life till it rises above  
envy and falsehood and pride:  
seeking to be, seeking to be  
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

**Benediction: (Together)**

**May the Christ who walks on wounded feet  
walk with us on the road.**

**May the Christ who serves with wounded hands  
stretch out our hands to serve.**

**May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart  
open our hearts to love.**

**May we see the face of Christ in everyone we meet,  
and may everyone we meet  
see the face of Christ in us**

**Parting Song: VU # 649: Walk With Me ( refrain only)**

***Walk with me, I will walk with you***

***And build the land that God has planned***

***Where love shines through.***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFICE IS OPEN**

Office Hours Monday-Thursday

9:00 am-11:30 am

Feel free to call and leave a message or send an email at any time and we will respond during office hours.

**519-583-0342**

**graceunitedportdover@gmail.com**

**For Pastoral Care, please contact**

**Rev. Kathryn Vance**

**519-717-7426**

**kathrynvance55@yahoo.ca**

### **Announcement reminder**

Please submit announcements by end of day Tuesday  
for inclusion in the weekly bulletin. Thank you!

### **October 31, Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Telling inspiring stories of how we are doing our mission  
helps shape a culture of generosity.