



Richmond Hill United Church
An Affirming Ministry



October 10, 2021

The following resource is offered to help you worship at home, either on your own or online. The worship will be livestreamed on Zoom. Log-in details are sent weekly by email to those on RHUC's contact list. For a recording of the service, click the following link: www.facebook.com/RichmondHillUnitedChurch/. This will take you to our Facebook page. We may be apart physically but we are still a community of faith spiritually, and digitally.

Prelude: we begin with welcoming slides

Words of welcome: Happy Thanksgiving! Welcome to worship today, my name is Rev. Ruth Noble and it is my pleasure to be with you today. Today as we continue in the season of Creation, today we celebrate the harvest that feeds us mind and soul.

Announcements

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Lighting the Community Candles: As people of faith, we are people of the Trinity, the three aspects of the Creator. Today we light these three candles: the candle of reconciliation, may we continue to walk a path of mending broken covenants, the candle of our faith in Jesus, the radical who calls us to live a life of acceptance and challenging the status quo and the candle of affirmation, that all are welcome in this place.

Acknowledgement of the Land: Let us now take a moment to acknowledge the land that we are on today, Richmond Hill United is on the land of the Anishaabeg and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River, this land is part of Treaty 13 also known as the Toronto Purchase, if you know the territory and treaty where you are I invite you to silently reflect on whose territory you are on, as we strive to walk the way of reconciliation.

Call to Worship: Please join me in the call to worship that is projected on your screen

In God's love we can find abundance!

In Jesus' love we are welcomed.

In the Spirit's love we are inspired.

We come to love one another and share together our faith.

Our faith in the One who comes in three.

The One who calls to us "you are enough"

Enough for a world in need, come let us worship

We come ready to worship together in faith and love.

Opening Prayer:

Holy One, all around us the leaves are changing, animals are preparing for the coming winter, it is Autumn again.

This Thanksgiving the world is cautiously waking up to new possibilities of sharing Thanksgiving with family and friends, large gatherings have given way to smaller

gatherings, outdoor BBQs, sharing a meal via zoom. Thank you God for the creativity of people to find ways to be together.

When we gather let us remember those who have no family, those who struggle to put food on the table, those who struggle to find hope in a world that seems hopeless.

God of love, remind us again that we have the gifts needed for a world in need. Use us and our creativity to change the world. Amen.

Hymn: Come, O Thankful People, Come

1. Come, O thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
All the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky.
All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land.
All that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er flowing shores
3. These to you, our god, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;
And for these our songs we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

Reflecting Together as a Community

Prayer: Loving God, you speak to us in so many ways, Speak to us now. Help is to hear your voice and follow in the way. Amen

Reading: Joel 2: 21-27 The Message Translation

Gordon Saul

Fear not, Earth! Be glad and celebrate!

GOD has done great things.

Fear not, wild animals!

The fields and meadows are greening up.

The trees are bearing fruit again:

a bumper crop of fig trees and vines!

Children of Zion, celebrate!

Be glad in your GOD.

He's giving you a teacher

to train you how to live right—

Teaching, like rain out of heaven, showers of words

to refresh and nourish your soul, just as he used to do.

And plenty of food for your body—silos full of grain,

casks of wine and barrels of olive oil.

"I'll make up for the years of the locust,

the great locust devastation—

Locusts savage, locusts deadly,

fierce locusts, locusts of doom,

That great locust invasion

I sent your way.

You'll eat your fill of good food.
You'll be full of praises to your GOD,
The God who has set you back on your heels in wonder.
Never again will my people be despised.
You'll know without question
that I'm in the thick of life with Israel,
That I'm your GOD, yes, *your* GOD,
the one and only real God.
Never again will my people be despised.

Anthem: Simple Gifts of Thanks

Message "Attitude of Gratitude"

Ruth Noble

Hymn: All Beautiful March of Days (Voices United #530)

- 1 All beautiful the march of days,
as seasons come and go;
the hand that shaped the rose has wrought
the crystal of the snow,
has sent the silvery frost of heaven,
the flowing waters sealed,
and laid a silent loveliness
on hill and wood and field.

- 2 O'er white expanses sparkling pure
the radiant morns unfold;
the solemn splendours of the night
burn brighter through the cold;
life mounts in every throbbing vein,
love deepens round the hearth,
and clearer sounds the angel hymn,
good will to all on earth.

- 3 O God, from whose unfathomed law
the year in beauty flows,
yourself the vision passing by
in crystal and in rose;
day unto day declare thro' speech,
and night to night proclaim
in everchanging words of light
the wonder of your name.

Sharing in a Spirit of Gratitude

Prayers of the People

Esther Collier

The Prayer of Jesus primary school version from Winchester UK

Our Father in heaven, you are awesome! Show us who you are and how you want us to be. Make earth more like heaven. Please give us what we need to keep going each day. Help us when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside. Help us to let other people off and move on. Keep us from bad stuff. You're in charge! You're strong and powerful and always there. Forever! Amen

Minute for Mission

Tracy Wixon

Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God (Voices United #236)

Now thank we all our God,
with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest
who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be, evermore.

Called beyond Ourselves to Minister to the World

Blessing and Sending Forth

You may be the only gospel your neighbour reads this week so write the vision and make it plain so that he who reads it may run

Go in peace, go in gratitude.

Amen

Postlude: "Dance" (Michael Praetorius)