

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 8, 2017 –Thanksgiving Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

Acknowledging the land

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Abenaki and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

Call to worship

Let us remember the goodness of God.

We remember, with thankful hearts.

God gave us the sun, the moon, the earth and all that it contains.

We remember, with thankful hearts.

Through the Bible and through history, God gave us children, youth, adults and seniors of faith and courage.

We remember, with thankful hearts.

God delivered us too from slavery and brought us to the promised land.

We remember, with thankful hearts.

God gave us new hope and new life in Christ.

We remember, with thankful hearts. Come all you people, let us praise our Maker!

*** Introit** Uyai mose (*Shona*) / **Come all you people**

MV 2

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari, (x4)

Uyai mose zvino.

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker, (x4)

Come now and worship your God.

***Opening prayer**

We thank you, God, with all our hearts

for your goodness throughout time and history.

We thank you for your goodness now,

for your ongoing creation, and for your never-ending love.

We thank you for all your blessings, great and small, which bring us joy.

We thank you that we can know the joy of giving as well as receiving.

We thank you that we can learn and grow from life's trials and sufferings.

We thank you for Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection show us the way to true and abundant life. Amen.

*** Hymn**

Now thank we all our God

VU 236

Prayer of confession

Loving God, we confess that we do not always remember you.

We forget that all we have and are comes from you.

We forget how much we owe to those who have gone before us.

We forget to be thankful for a drink of water, a flower, a breeze, a touch, a smile.

We forget that we are all alive in you. We are one in your love—all the people, plants, animals, rivers, oceans, and skies.

We forget that we are responsible to care for ourselves and others, and all that is in the earth.

We forget that following Jesus is the most challenging and joyous journey that we can take in life.

God, forgive us. Help us to remember and respond with love. Amen.

* Benediction

We have remembered God's blessings.

We have given thanks.

We will continue to experience and share God's blessings as we journey onward in our lives.

We will remember, and we will respond with our love.

God's Spirit be with us as we go in the name of Christ, Jesus.

We go in peace. Amen.

* Choral closing:

VU 468.3

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt
gives us love to tell, bread to share.
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Chorus:

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again
pass the Word around: loaves abound

Postlude

News

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today On this Thanksgiving Sunday, may the gentle winds of the Holy Spirit refresh our memories of the many blessings bestowed on us.

Bienvenue à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des **Bibles en français** se trouvent à l'arrière.

If you are a visitor, please join us for fair-trade coffee or a cold drink after the service and take a peace candle back to your church.

We thank our volunteers:

Reader: Kristi Roht

Ushers: Val Rawlings and Carol Smith

Sexton: Robert Stratton

Happy birthday to Stephan Elkas (October 14).

Bulletin covers: Inge Lunkenbein (819 346-7750) is collecting donations for the 2018 bulletin covers: \$10 a Sunday in memory of a loved one. Several people can be sponsors on the same Sunday. Sign-up sheets are on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Lecture by Alanis Obomsawin

Waban-aki: People from Where the Sun Rises

Thursday October 12, 2-4 p.m., Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University. An evening with **Abenaki leaders and filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin**

Honouring the traditional land stewards of Nikitotegwasis:

Truth telling, the spirit of Treaty, and the Path to Renewal.

Thursday, October 12, 6-9 p.m., Centennial Theatre, Bishops University.

Thanksgiving: Once again we will collect donations of fresh fruit and vegetables (apples, squash, carrots, etc.) for the local food bank, Moisson Estrie and special donations to Mission and Service.

Our harvest gifts will be collected by the children during the worship service. The food bank also gladly accepts cheques, made out to Plymouth-Trinity with a note they are for Moisson Estrie. Special Mission and Service envelopes will be available and donations to M&S should be placed with our regular envelopes and PAR cards on the offering plate.

500th Anniversary of the Reformation: The protestant Reformation was launched in October 1517 when Martin Luther, a monk and professor in the university at Wittenberg, in Saxony, gave notice that he wanted to dispute a bunch of church teachings which seemed to him far from the Gospels he was reading with his students. From that disputation came conflict between Christians, and new ways of thinking that reach far beyond the church. So as heirs of Luther and of the Reformation, we're taking time in October 2017 to reflect on how those events continue to shape not only our faith, but also the world we live in.

This important anniversary is the cover story in the October issue of The United Church Observer.

Come and join us at Plymouth-Trinity on Friday, October 27 at 5 p.m.; snacks will be provided.

We'll watch a film of Luther's life, and go on to discuss how his life informs our lives and our world.

Next week

Sunday, October 15: World food Sunday

Lectionary readings

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Le culte en français a lieu à 9 h.

English service at 10:30.

In the community

Silent Auction Service: Enjoy a 4-5 hour fall foliage tour through Sawyerville, North River, Island Brook and Gould. Janet McBurney is willing to take up to 3 passengers on a tour to enjoy the beautiful fall scenery. The tour will include a lunch stop. Confirm your interest before 6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11 either by phone at 819 565 9716 or e-mail j.mcburney@sympatico.ca. Donations to the UCW (targeted tour date is Saturday, October 14).

Congregational visioning meeting, October 22: As most of you know, or will read in a letter to be sent this week, we are entering a period of serious reflection about the future of our community of faith. We face financial issues as well as burnout of our volunteers. What do we want for our church family – how do we see our future?

To discuss these important issues there will be a meeting for the anglophone section of our congregation on Sunday, October 22, from approx. 1-4 p.m., following the 10:30 morning service and lunch. The Rev. Angelika Piché, a United Church minister designated to lead visioning conversations, will be the facilitator. If you are unable to attend the worship service, please still come to the meeting. And if you cannot be there in person, please send your remarks and reflections in writing to Jack Eby at jeby@ubishops.ca or c/o 380 Dufferin, Sherbrooke, QC J1H 4M7.

There will be a separate meeting of the French-speaking members of our congregation and a joint meeting at a future date. **Please mark October 22** on your calendars, and make every attempt to attend this meeting.

Gifts with Vision 2017: The new United Church “Giving catalogue” arrived with the October issue of The Observer last week. There will be copies available at the front and back of the sanctuary OR you can check the website www.giftswithvision.ca to choose gifts or make donations; tax receipts will be issued. The Gifts with Vision programme has given over \$1.7 million to United Church partners making a difference in people’s lives.

An example from the new catalogue: A gift of \$25 provides farming training and a package of seed for a Mayan woman, via the Guatemala Conference of Evangelical Churches.

Moisson Estrie: The local food bank has launched a new fundraising campaign: Club des nouilles or Pasta Club. Members are those who commit to donating at least \$5 per month for a year. These extra funds, which are tax-deductible, will enable Moisson Estrie to stock the precious macaroni, spaghetti and other forms of pasta which are essential items, especially for low-income families. The money will also go towards other basic ingredients which are always in short supply, such as flour, sugar, oil, peanut butter and canned fruit and vegetables.

Because of generous partners, \$5/month is multiplied by 12, i.e. for each \$5, \$60 of food is distributed.

Each week the food bank assists about 300 individuals or families as well as supporting around 30 community organisations and a dozen schools.

Please remember Moisson Estrie when you do your weekly grocery shopping, with a special thought on our Super Sundays. Or join the Club des nouilles at www.moissonestrie.com

Plymouth-Trinity United Church

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