

Sunday, October 11 2026
Creation Time 6
Thanksgiving

Welcome and Acknowledgements

Welcome to Roxboro United Church.

Before we can begin our worship,

we need to acknowledge that the land we live on is God's land.

Called Turtle Island for thousands of years by the people in this region:

Abenakis, Algonquin, Eeyou, Huron-Wendat, Innu, Kanien'kehá:ka, Mi'kmaq
and others, who were and are faithful stewards to the Creator's land.

We worship together today seeking reconciliation, justice and well being
for all the beings, flora and fauna, who live here.

We also acknowledge that the Church has made itself the gate keeper of the faith,
excluding many for their gender, sexuality and ability.

Roxboro United is an Affirming Ministry of The United Church of Canada
and has made public declaration of the past and ongoing sin of the Church
in denying membership and participation, and openly seeking to dehumanize
those who identify with the 2SLGBTQ+ communities.

At Roxboro you find a place of welcome, sacredness, affirmation and community.

All are welcome here.

Now we can worship God.

Centring Music Come, Ye Thankful People *arranged by Tedd Smith, performed by Wayne*

Call For Awareness *by Rev. Darryl Macdonald, loosely based on Psalm 65*

Awake my body, awake my soul!

It's time to be thankful;

for answered prayers, for generous hope, for foundational strength.

God is watering the earth, growing the grain, setting the table and inviting us to a feast.

Awake my sacred being.

Song

For The Beauty Of The Earth **VU226**

Candle Lighting

A Time of Centring

Take this moment to centre yourself deeply in the love of God
and prepare yourself for an encounter with the Holy.
Begin with your breath.
Feel the air pass your nostrils and glide down your throat to fill your lungs.
Drop your diaphragm and let your belly and back expand.
Notice the rhythm of your breathing, and the spaces between your breath.
The air you breathe is sacred for it is the breath of God.
Your body is sacred for it manifests the Holy One in substance and form.
Be aware of your body and how you are sitting.
Let your hands fall open and your feet feel grounded.
Ask of God what you need at this moment and give space for the response.
Take some time to reflect on your relationship with God,
the world, your sacred centre.
Honour your connection to God's creation.
Offer something of yourself.
Be open to receiving God's gift to you this day.
Now, return to your body.
Imagine there is a light that softly glows from your heart,
through your limbs and head,
and radiates out into the world, connecting with people,
animals, fish and birds, with water, soil and even rock,
and give thanks to God for the experience of life.

Song

For The Fruit Of All Creation **VU227**

Scripture

2 Corinthians 9.6-15 *New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition*

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6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. 9 As it is written, "He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor;

his righteousness endures forever."

10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, 12 for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 13 Through the testing of this ministry

you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, 14 while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you.
15 Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Other Voices

“This is a wonderful day. I have never seen this one before.” Maya Angelou

“I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness - it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude.” Brene Brown

"Gratitude is riches. Complaint is poverty." Doris Day

“In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“It's up to us to choose contentment and thankfulness now — and to stop imagining that we have to have everything perfect before we'll be happy.” Joanna Gaines

“'Thank you' is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding.” Alice Walker

“Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude.” A.A. Milne

Song

Give Thanks, My Soul, For Harvest **VU522**

Minister's Reflection

Flourishing in Gratitude

Invitation

Isaiah 25.6-9 *New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition.*

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On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
**“See, this is our God; we have waited for her, so that she might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”**

Offering Time

Musical Reflection

A Simple Song by Leonard Bernstein, performed by Irene and Wayne

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sacred Abundance, we come to your table for you have invited us.

The sacred story tells us that table fellowship was an essential part of Jesus' ministry,
and he sat at many tables with different people.

It all started when he was placed in a feeding trough after he was born
and was visited by shepherds and magi.

He later attended a wedding where he made the best wine out of water
and told his mother to be in the moment.

He sat at Peter's table where Peter's mother-in-law made sure that all were well fed
after Jesus gave her another lease on life.

He invited himself to the table of Zacchaeus
where he praised the tax collector's generosity.

He dined with a Pharisee where a woman broke open
an expensive bottle of perfume and anointed Jesus,
who then told us to remember her love poured out.

He held a picnic and thousands were filled to the brim,
showing us that the earth is filled with the Creator's abundance.

He hosted a final meal in an upstairs room
where he shared bread and wine and asked us to remember him.

**Welcoming Host, you spread a table before us; the Great Feast of Heaven,
where the invitation is open to all, with no conditions
except that we sit at table as we are able.**

We see you as the host and the guest, the familiar and the stranger.

You bless us with your presence, your awakening of love.

As hosts with Christ, we bless and break our bread.

As guests with Christ we pour and share our wine.

As welcomed strangers, united in Christ's life, death,
and embodied liberation, we hear these sacred, simple words:

Jesus shared bread and said: take and eat to remember me.

Jesus poured wine and said: take and drink to remember me.

Living Ground of all being, we remember.

Breathe your Spirit into us, the bread, the wine, and into the very fabric of creation.

Restore and heal all that is wounded,

be present in the stillness of the waiting,
shine your light on our prejudice and fear,
release in us the signs of hope and love.

Breaking And Pouring

We gently break this bread of sacred life;
our breaking down becomes our breaking through.

We freely pour this wine of embodied love;
our pouring out becomes our 'flowing with'.

**As we eat this living bread and drink the new wine of thanksgiving,
we celebrate the abundance of the Great Feast of Heaven spread out for all.**

Communion

God, with divine tenderness, you remake us;
by transforming pain, you heal us - your passionate energy is our sacred centre.
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Prayer After Communion

Jesus, after you were crucified, and the disciples went back to fishing,
you appeared on the shore of Galilee and served them fish on a campfire.
You continue to dine with us,
inviting yourself into our confused and troubled lives,
bringing us hope and wisdom, healing and awareness, love and trust.
Feed us with the food we need.

Song

We Plough The Fields **VU520**

Closing Responses

by The Wild Good Resource Group

Now may God
who gives seed to the sower
and corn to the reaper,
give to us all that we need
to produce a good harvest.
**May God make us fertile
in faith, hope and love,
and take us out with joy
and lead us on in peace,
as signs of the fruitfulness of heaven.**
Amen.

Music to Send Us On Our Way

Domine Deus *by Vivaldi, performed by Irene & Wayne*