

**Immanuel United Church**  
**October 13th, 2024**  
**“Thanksgiving Sunday”**

**PRELUDE**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES (Announcement)**

**One:**

Called to live with respect in Creation  
as Indigenous, Métis, Settler and Newcomer people,  
we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn and serve,  
and the water which sustains life on this land,  
is of God, Creator,  
and in the farthest reaches of memory  
was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land,  
and to their descendants.

**One:**

With the coming of colonizers,  
treaties were made,  
but again and again the colonizers disregarded and broke the treaties,  
causing grave and lasting harm to the historic caregivers of the land,  
to the generations that followed them,  
and to the land itself.

**All:**

**Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation,**  
**we who gather here on Treaty One territory**  
**commit ourselves to finding faithful ways**  
**of honouring the treaties, the land and one another**  
**in a spirit of openhearted respect.**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING STATEMENT AND PRAYER**

In worship, Thanksgiving is part of our prayer every week. For many of us it is a conscious part of every day at least at meals. For our forebears, Harvest was a huge blessing because it meant the family and the community had the means to survive the winter. In our milieu Thanksgiving means also attending to the wider community, so that everyone has the means to celebrate life and to be secure.

Let us Pray:

**Creator,**

**Help us to be grateful for our blessings, of harvest and safety nets, of support networks and employment. Help us also to remember those the community has forgotten, has no place for, will not support.**

**In Jesus name we pray,**

**AMEN**

**Hymn : VU# 227 For the Fruit of All Creation**

### **MOMENT TO PONDER**

On this Thanksgiving weekend in 2024, many of our neighbours experience gratitude as a hope, but not a reality. Many are angry for many reasons. Many are hungry, many are unhoused. In the Middle East thousands of lives have been lost, families uprooted, and in the midst of trauma, many feel abandoned by the world. In the Southern U.S. storms and hurricanes have killed hundreds and destroyed property.

May we, who live in relative comfort, relative security, relative stability, embrace gratitude, yet not lose sight of our responsibility to the creation and to the human beings who cry out for justice in these challenging days.

**HYMN: VU# 516 Come You Thankful People Come**

**SCRIPTURE:**

Joel 2:21-27

Matthew 6:25-33

**CHOIR ANTHEM: Thanks Be To You O Lord**

**REFLECTION:**

**HYMN: VU# 520 We Plough the field and Scatter**

**OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER**

Invitation:

The ancient peoples brought the first fruits of the harvest to offer to God. Let us too bring our gifts and offerings as signs of gratitude and support for our neighbours.

Song of Thanks: **VU# 541 Praise God From Whom All  
Blessings Flow**

**Let us Pray:**

**Holy One,**

**The Harvest is yours, and we are the  
receivers. Bless the gifts entrusted to us,  
bless those with whom we share, may the  
world be changed by our presence.**

**AMEN**

Musical Meditation

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER (spoken)**

**"Our Father-Mother who is in the heavens....." VU p. 916**

**HYMN: VU# 296 This Is God's Wondrous World (3X)**

**COMMISSIONING:**

**CHORAL AMEN**

**A-a-men, A-a-men, Hallelujah, A-a-men (VU # 974)**

**POSTLUDE**