



Order of Service
October 11, 2026 – Thanksgiving Sunday

*Hymn and anthem texts reprinted under
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unless otherwise indicated*

Bold type indicates congregational response. * indicates to stand in body or spirit

Singing Solidarity:

Chris Fischer (they, them) & Congregation

1. TLUS #2 “A Strand in the Web of Life Let Me Be” Maria Case
2. TLUS #1 “Simply to Be” Darryl Dewalt
3. TLUS #50 “As the Moon” Christopher Grundy

Gathering (Candle lighting) Hymn: MV #187 “Reamo leboga”/ “We Give Our Thanks”

Sung 4 times – Tswana, English, French, Tswana Traditional song, Botswana

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence (he/him)

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** VU #217 “All Creatures: Let Your Voices Ring!*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Alternate text by Bruce Harding

Children leave for Worship & Wonder

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Paul Merritt

One: A Word of God for all people,

ALL: thanks be to God.

Musical Reflection: “Sing Joyfully”

William Byrd

Ensemble: Sonja Gustafson & Rebecca Neaves, sopranos; Lesley Andrew & Chris Fischer, altos; Roland Beach, tenor; Alex Neaves, baritone

Sing joyfully unto God our strength.
Sing loud unto the God of Jacob.
Take the song, and bring forth the timbrel,
the pleasant harp and the viol,
Blow the trumpet in the new moon,
Ev’n in the time appointed, and at our feast day.
For this is a statute for Israel,
and a law of the God of Jacob.

***Scripture:** Luke 17: 11-19

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sermon: “Reframing Generosity”

***Hymn:** VU #518 “As Those of Old Their First-fruits Brought”

FOREST GREEN

Prayers of the People:

One: Holy God, in your mercy...

ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer of Jesus: *from the First Nations Translation of the Bible*
(unison)

**O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.
Provide for us day by day--
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.
The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.
Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.
Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.
Aho! May it be so!**

Musical Offering: “In Beauty May I Walk”

Jonathan Dove

Choir

In beauty may I walk, All day long may I walk,
Through the returning seasons, may I walk.

Beautifully joyful! Beautifully will I possess again,
Beautifully joyful birds, Beautifully joyful!

On the trail marked with pollen may I walk.
In beauty may I walk,
With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk.
With dew about my feet, in beauty may I walk,
All day long may I walk, in beauty may I walk.
Through the returning seasons, may I walk.

With beauty before me
With beauty behind me
With beauty above me
With beauty all around me.
It is finished in beauty.

Gratitude

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** VU #236 “Now Thank We All Our God”

NUN DANKET

*Please use alternate text (vs. 1) – change “mother’s” to “parents’ ”

Blessing:

**The light of God surrounds us;
The love of God enfolds us;
The power of God protects us;
The presence of God watches over us;
Wherever we are, God is!**

Sending Music: “Improvisation on LASST UNS ERFREUEN”

Gilles Leclerc

Chris Fischer (they/them), organ

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Steve & Payton Elson

Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson

Service Support: Paul Merritt

Tech Team: Robin Neaves, Jim Silcox, Kathryn Skelly, Chris Wood and Allison Wyant

Coffee and Conversation: Music Committee

Gift Card Table: Margo Christodoulou & Winifred Wake

We thank God for all those who share their gifts and talents.

First-St. Andrew's United Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence Minister of Worship and Congregational Life

Rev. Anne-Louise Jannaway Minister of Pastoral Care

Chris Fischer Minister of Music

Christina Lindsay Children's & Youth Program Coordinator

Kathryn Skelly Office Manager

Rev. Karen Low Voluntary Associate Minister

Rev. Dr. David McKane Minister Emeritus

Paul Merritt Organist Emeritus

Dr. Jo Ann Silcox Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer

Steve Elson, George Jolink, David Wardlaw Co-Chairs of Council