

October 9, 2011

## THANKSGIVING

### Welcome to Ellesmere United Church


Unit 160-8960 University High Street, Burnaby, BC, V5A 4Y6

If this is your first time with us, thank you for coming. Your presence is a blessing for us.

We hope you find a community for worship and a place for personal prayer.

If you have any questions about the order or nature of our community worship, feel free to ask your greeter today, the minister, or the people around you.

We want you to be comfortable and unburdened in our midst, and at peace in your experience of God in worship.

\*  Indicates the community standing as able.

@ Indicates the text the minister is reading and reflecting on this Sunday.

### **What's Happening in Our Faith Community (from 9:45 until 10:00)**

#### **Thought for the Day**

Do you still say a blessing at the table, why?

#### **Opening of Worship**

Leader: Fire is the centre of the home in many cultures it provides heat, light, and the means to prepare our food. Fire, then, is an all encompassing symbol of God's providential care. (Lights Christ Candle)

**Community: May this simple flame honour the glory of the Holy One as it shines in our worship this day.**

### **Silent Prayer of Centering**

(Let the sounding of the singing bowl lead you into a time of silent centering prayer and with its second sounding bring you back to community.)

### **Holy Greeting**

Minister: The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Community: **And also with you.**

♪ **Song VU #517 *Praise God for the Harvest***

### **Prayer (VU #311)**

O God, the only source of life and energy and wealth,  
defend our planet earth.

Teach us to conserve and not to squander the riches of nature,  
to use aright the heritage of former generations,  
and to plan for the welfare of our children's children.

Renew our wonder, awaken our concern,  
and make us better stewards and more careful tenants  
of the world you lend us as our home.

Hear us, O God, our creator and redeemer,  
in the name of Christ. Amen.

### ♪ **Invitation to the Scriptures:**

**VU # 540 *Grant Us, God, the Grace***

## **Epistle:**

2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Lay Reader: This is the witness of the Early Church.

Community: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm:** 65 VU p. 782

**Read responsively with refrain sung at places marked 'R'.**

**@Gospel:** Luke 17: 11-19

Minister: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Community: **Write these words on our hearts dear God!**

## **Musical Reflections**

**Theological Reflections – Back to the Future**

♪ *Song VU #300 God, Whose Firm Is All Creation*

## **Invitation to Give**

♪ **Song of Praise and Dedication**

*In gratitude and humble trust*

*We bring our best today*

*To serve your cause and share your love*

*With all along life's way.*

*O God, who gave yourself to us*

*In Jesus Christ, your Son,*

*Teach us to give ourselves each day*

*Until life's work is done!*

**Prayers of the Community – Voiced and Silent**

(If Voiced)

**Individual:** God hear our prayer.

**Community:** And in your love answer.

**Prayer of Jesus (Ecumenical Version)**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen and Amen.**

♪ **Song VU #520 *We Plough the Fields***

**Closing of Worship**

Leader: May the symbol stay with you even as this light is extinguished!

May the spirit of thanksgiving be seen in you even when this day is done!

May a reverence for God's creation mark your days in all your ways. (Puts out Christ Candle)

Community: **Amen and Amen.**

**Closing Blessing**

**♪Choral Amen.**

