

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
November 9th, 2025
'Remembrance Sunday'**

Praise Medley: Standing on the Promises
Let There Be Peace On Earth

Our National Anthem: "O Canada"

Two minutes of silence

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE:

They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
we shall remember them.

Response: We will remember them

Welcome:

Welcome, everyone, to this service of remembrance. We have gathered here with gratitude to recognize the sacrifices of our Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP members who have offered themselves in service to our country. Through world wars and regional conflicts, at home and abroad, they have demonstrated courage, loyalty, integrity, and service to Canada before self. The freedoms we enjoy today would not be possible without them. And so, on this Sunday before the 11th day of the 11th month, we remember them.

Candle Lighting:

Jesus said: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." We light this candle as a reminder that we are not alone. May its flame warm our hearts and inspire us to live the message of the gospel.

Sharing the Peace

Introit There Is Room for All

Call to Worship:

From east and west, north and south, we gather on this day of remembrance to give thanks and praise.

We come to be inspired by the Word of God and honour the sacrifices of those who have committed themselves to service before self.

In times of peace, in times of conflict, and in times of uncertainty,
we remember that we are not alone.

We are the people of God, connected across time and space, from generation to generation.

We are united by the love of the One who said: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

As we gather to remember, let us sing and pray.

Let us worship God together!

Opening Prayer: (unison)

God of our past, present, and future, we have come to this place as a people of hope. We hope for a future without war and a world that lives together in peace. In years past, and in the present day, members of our armed forces have put their lives at risk for this hope, with some paying the ultimate cost. May what we do here today strengthen our resolve to work together so that this hope may be fulfilled. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: Let There Be Light **VU 679 vs 1-4**

A Time of Confession:

"God shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Holy One, when our lives are comfortable and we live in relative safety, it can be all too easy to forget that what we enjoy today has come at a great cost. For some, the price was their last breath. For others, it was wounds to body, mind, or spirit. Our inability to resolve conflicts through peaceable means has caused harm beyond measure. Forgive us for using violence as a way to resolve

our differences. On days like this, we remember those who defend our freedoms and we say “Lest we forget.” Yet, too often we forget that the wounds to mind and spirit can last a lifetime. Forgive us for not remembering once the poppies have been put away. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers,” but we have often focused on what divides us rather than on what can bring us together. Forgive us for our reluctance to do the hard work of peacemaking. For all these things, and for those which we name before you now in the silence of our hearts, forgive us... (silent reflection)

Words of Assurance:

Jesus said: “God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” Receive the Good News: in Christ, you are forgiven! Our loving God desires that all people, indeed the whole world, be restored to right relationship with God and one another, so that we might live together in peace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: God! As with Silent Hearts **VU 527**

A Time for All Ages

Invitation to Giving:

Each day of our lives we are presented with opportunities to respond to God’s love and give of ourselves in faithful service. There are many ways to give, each according to our own abilities, with all gifts working together for the sake of the mission and ministry entrusted to us by God. You are now invited to give, as you are able, to support the work of this community of faith.

Offertory: For the Gift of Creation **VU 538**

Offering Prayer: (unison)

God of abundance, we thank you for the gifts that we present to you now. We ask that you receive them and bless them. May they enable us to serve the world in ways that inspire hope and make your love known. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Ephesians 6: 10-18, 23-24

Luke 7:1-10

Hymn: Draw the Circle Wide

Meditation: ‘We Will Remember Them’

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Prayer Response: Maranatha

Hymn: Make Me A Channel of Your Peace **VU 684**

Commissioning and Benediction:

Remember the sacrifices of those who have gone before us. Take up the whole armour of God and remain steadfast. Fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. Put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. May the grace of God, the love of Christ, and the hope of the Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

‘Ode to Newfoundland’