



Thanksgiving Celebration Resources From The United Thank Offering



Note: The following prayers and information come from the UTO Liturgy booklet, however we have adapted them for use at home. If you would like the full service for Thanksgiving Day, which includes prayers before and after the meal, visit www.unitedthankoffering.com for the full booklet.



Explore <https://native-land.ca/> to discover whose Indigenous land you are on for the opening prayer. This liturgy incorporates a practice known as land acknowledgement, which requires reflecting on the history of the space you inhabit, naming the communities on the land that were harmed by colonization, and a recognition that those people continue to be our neighbors. Consider using this liturgy as a starting point for building relationships with Indigenous people, coming to know their true needs and how best to show gratitude for them.

Land Acknowledgement Prayer

On this feast of gratitude, I/we begin by giving thanks for the people whose land I/we stand on: *[one designated participant names the Indigenous communities]*. May I/we be ever aware of the history of this place, the people who have loved its earth, their toil, and how we are bound to one another through our creation and belovedness. In our thankfulness for this current day, may we be aware of the truth of our history, the injustices that have occurred on this earth against those who first loved it, and the pains of the past that remain to this day. In this awareness, may our gratitude for Indigenous people make us committed to not repeating this history. **Amen.**

A Prayer to Name All of the Things We are Grateful For Today

Note: please pause after each line and allow people to add their words to the prayer as they feel called.

Today we especially offer prayers of thankfulness and gratitude:

For the past year, with its causes to be grateful and its hardships

For us as we try to help others and as we receive help from others

For those who work while others rest

For the people gathered here

For the meal we have prepared, for the sacrifices made for it and for the cleaning up that awaits us

For all the blessings of the past year for which we are thankful

For the gift of laughter, rest, and joy

For gratitude that warms our hearts and homes

For the abundant and saving love of God made known to us today and every day

For what else shall we give thanks for today?

Lord Jesus Christ, give us grace out of your heart, and remind us to be thankful. Be patient with us in our mistakes, and quick to bring us into your love. We give thanks for you, for creation, and for all of the blessings, joys, and thanksgivings named around this table. Continue to bless and uphold us until we gather again. **Amen.**