

# The Morning Star

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## “Thanksgiving”

*Dr. Andrew Witt, Adjunct Faculty*



As an American, when I hear the word ‘thanksgiving’ I get a bit of nostalgia—anticipation for snow, the gathering of family for a big meal, Christmas music, and big sales for the holiday season. Of course, our holiday comes close to the end of November, while the Canadian holiday is a more proper harvest celebration, coming in

early October. Nationally, the holidays have also spurred on different traditions, and here we’ll briefly consider an American one.

Each year the sitting president will issue a thanksgiving proclamation announcing the official day of Thanksgiving, including words of assessment and encouragement to the American people. While Washington, Adams, and Munroe each offered their own proclamations in the early years of the nation, it wasn’t until Lincoln’s moving Civil War proclamations that the annual tradition truly began. You can read every proclamation [online](#), a fascinating exercise in the changing sentiments of American culture.

One interesting fact I uncovered was that the holiday had not been originally associated with early European settlers and their first “thanksgiving” meals with indigenous nations. Only in the 1930s, under Hoover, was there a connection made to “the garnering of the first harvest by our forefathers in the New World.” By the time you get to Gerald Ford’s 1974 address, an exceptionalism, now familiar, had settled in: “[Since] the first thanksgiving 353 years ago...we have grown into the mightiest, freest nation in human history....But the fundamental meaning of Thanksgiving still remains the same. It is a time when the differences of a diverse people are forgotten and all

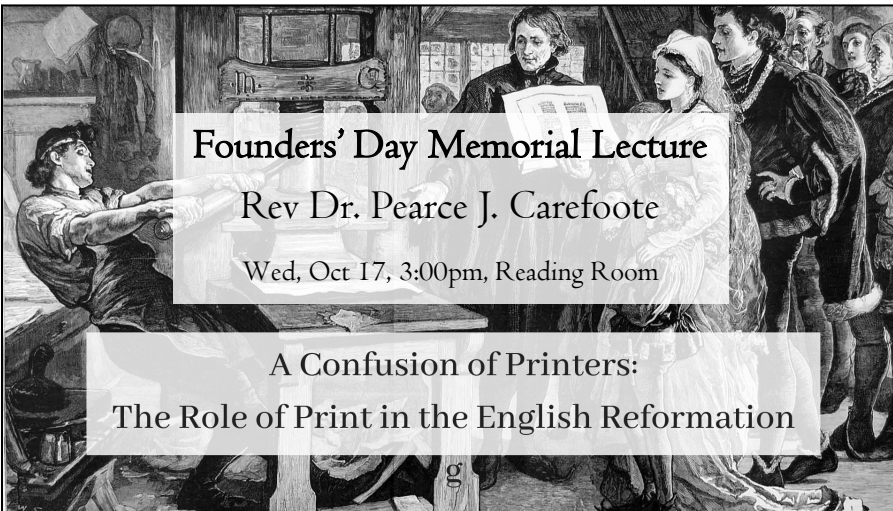
Americans join in giving thanks to God for...the blessings of freedom, opportunity and abundance that make America so unique.”

Replacing this exceptionalism, the [2016](#) Obama proclamation invites Americans to give thanks for contemporary Western virtues, that by common creed within great diversity we might have “enduring confidence in the power of faith, love, gratitude, and optimism,” forces of unity which have “sustained us as a people.” Replacing the call to divine thanksgiving normally found, we find only an encouragement to “the people of the United States to join together—whether in our homes, places of worship, community centers, or any place of fellowship for friends and neighbors—and give thanks for all we have received in the past year, express appreciation to those whose lives enrich our own, and share our bounty with others.”

However one might analyze these changing cultural landscapes, what seems clear is that the proclamations give us a glimpse into the fundamental beliefs and ideas that have united a people together. As part of the divine kingdom, the same is true of the Church; how we pray, for what we pray, and to whom we give thanks matter. I pray that together we would recognize the hand of divine providence in causing the rain to fall on the just and the unjust, in giving seasons of plenty and drought, fire and flood, sunshine and snow; that the raw power and splendor of creation, and our infinite smallness within it, might remind us of the ineffable transcendence of God, while the life and breath of infants allow us to reflect on vulnerability and immanence of God in Jesus Christ. May we give thanks to our God for the splendor of creation, the mystery of love, and the blessings of families, friends, and care which surround us; but more, may our faith blossom into good works, that our service and care would become the cause of thanksgiving for those without and in need. Amen.

### From the Registrar's Office:

- SSHRC application deadline is 4:30 PM (EST), October 12, 2018. Click [here](#) for application and eligibility information, and check out the [TST Scholarship and Bursaries page](#) for more information. An application guide is also available [here](#).
- The U of T service charge for outstanding fall fees is now in play. All accounts were assessed on Sept 30 and the first charge should be on your invoice on Oct 15. For more info about service charges, please see [here](#).
- For students looking to stretch those dollars there are a couple of programs offered by the UTSU that can help. These are available to any student in a conjoint program (awarded by both Wycliffe and U of T), and range from discounted tickets for AGO, Ripley's Aquarium, Absolute Comedy, Cineplex to Printing and Photocopying. See <https://www.utsu.ca/services/> for a full list of what's on offer. For students with families you can sign up to newsletter from the Family Care Office by sending an email to [family.care@utoronto.ca](mailto:family.care@utoronto.ca) and include your full name and U of T affiliation.
- There is also a Food Bank at the U of T located at the U of T Multi-Faith Centre, 569 Spadina. The site is wheelchair accessible and operates on Fridays from 12-3pm, although you need to collect a ticket as early as 9:00 am to secure the time you can collect the food. Please take your own bags. For more information contact UTSU.
- **New for the 2019 winter session:** Dr. Mangina will be offering his 'Bread Wine and Water' course WYT3/6406HS on Wednesday mornings next term from 11:00 to 13:00. This is a new addition to the course offerings for Winter 2019.



## Founders' Day Memorial Lecture

Rev Dr. Pearce J. Carefoote

Wed, Oct 17, 3:00pm, Reading Room

A Confusion of Printers:  
The Role of Print in the English Reformation

## Wycliffe Writing Series with Rachel Lott

Oct 31, 1:45-3:15  
*Preparing for Work  
& Ministry*

*Register via  
email at*  
[rlott@wycliffe.utoronto.ca](mailto:rlott@wycliffe.utoronto.ca)

### Are you interested in representing Wycliffe?

Wycliffe is now hiring student ambassadors to represent us at events. Student ambassadors will get an honorarium in the form of a bursary for \$300 per semester for about 20 hours of work. Student ambassadors can polish their professional skills and gain valuable experience in recruitment, program information, networking, and general knowledge of higher education practices. To apply please send an e-mail with a resume to:  
[admissions@wycliffe.utoronto.ca](mailto:admissions@wycliffe.utoronto.ca).

### WYCLIFFE SPORTS UPDATE

vs. Victoria 1:1  
vs. The Gene-luses 3-0

Next two games:  
Mon, Oct 15th  
@ Varsity Center  
6.30pm vs UTESA  
7.30pm vs Nursing

### STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

First Year Rep  
Cole Miller

Sports Representative  
Amber Tremblett

Secretary—Vote This Week!



**SCRIPTURE  
& THEOLOGY  
COLLOQUIUM**  
**Martyrdom and  
Its Scriptural Shape**

Fri, Oct 19, 2018  
Leonard Hall—9:00am-4:00pm

Presentations by:

Dr. Catherine Sider-Hamilton (Wycliffe)  
Dr. Brian Butcher (TST/Sheptytsky Inst.)  
Dr. Joseph Tse-Hei Lee (Pace Univ)  
Dr. Charles Pinches (Univ of Scranton).

#wycliffesermons

#thursdaymorningprayer

THE VISIBLE SHAPE OF  
**CHRIST'S LIFE IN US**

Oct 11: Marion Taylor  
"Peace"

Oct 18: Joseph Mangina  
"Patience"

Nov 1: Andy Witt  
"Kindness"

Nov 8: Thomas Power  
"Generosity"

Nov 15: Ephraim Radner  
"Faithfulness"

Nov 22: Judy Paulsen  
"Gentleness"

Nov 29: Peter Robinson  
"Self-Control"

Dec 6: David Kupp  
"Good and Evil"  
(Mt 7:17-19)



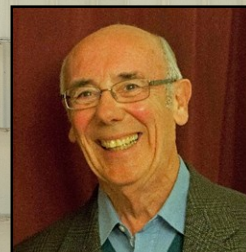
# This Wednesday

**3:00 Book Launch!**

*Several Wycliffe Professors and grad students have published books over the past year. Listen to hear what is on offer!*

**4:45 EUCHARIST (homilist: Harold Percy)**

**6:00 COMMUNITY DINNER (Refectory)**



# Mark Your Calendar!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
7	8 THANKSGIVING DAY  COLLEGE CLOSED (No Classes)	9 Morning Prayer: Jordan Duerrstein	10 3:00 Wed. Event: Faculty Book Launch 4:45 Eucharist: Harold Percy 6:00 Community Dinner	11 Morning Prayer: Marion Taylor  Evening Prayer: Glen Taylor	12 <i>Student Council Movie Night: Unbroken</i>	13
14	15	16 Morning Prayer: Alex Fung	17 3:00 Wed. Event: Founders' Day Lecture 4:45 Eucharist: Joanna LaFleur 6:00 Community Dinner	18 Morning Prayer: Joseph Mangina  Evening Prayer: Craig Love	19 <i>Scripture &amp; Theology Colloquium</i>	20 <i>CATA Conference</i>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>READING WEEK—COLLEGE CLOSED</b>						
				<i>Principal's Dinner</i>	<i>Theology in the Pub</i>	
28	29	30 Morning Prayer: James Sholl	31 3:00 Wed. Event: Sadleir Lecture: +Mwita Akiri 4:45 Eucharist: +Mwita Akiri 6:00 Community Dinner	<b>NOV 1</b> Morning Prayer: Andrew Witt  Evening Prayer: Glen Taylor	2 <i>Student Council Movie Night</i>	3

## Chapel Service Schedule

	Service	Sacristan	Officiant / Homilist	Readers, Servers, etc.	Greeters
Mon	MP	N/A Thanksgiving			
	Taize	N/A Thanksgiving			
Tue	MP	L. Hurst	P. Robinson; J. Duerrstein	B. Jenkins; C. Love	J. Henderson
	Evensong	S. Lawley	E.-R. Teel	J. Mangina	
Wed	MP	B. Poole	+SGWA	C. Love; R. Henderson	D. Butorac
	Eucharist	B. Poole	Officiant: G. Taylor Homilist: H. Percy	D. Chambers; D. Butorac; B. Tshin	D. Butorac
Thu	MP	J. Loew.-Samuels	T. Power; M. Taylor	J. Henderson	J. Loewen-Samuels
	P&P	Z. Bartkus	R. Bartlett; G. Taylor		C. Miller
Fri	MP	J. Loew.-Samuels	A. Brownlee	M. Taylor	C. Miller
	Inform. EP	L. Hurst	Z. Bartkus		C. Miller

### CHAPEL SERVICE TIMES

Morning Prayer  
Mon-Fri, 8:30a

Wine Before Breakfast  
Tue, 7:22a

Taize Evening Prayer  
Mon, 5:30p

Sung Evensong  
Tue, 5:30p

Community Eucharist  
Wed, 4:45p

Prayer & Praise  
Thu, 5:00p

Informal Evening Prayer  
Fri, 5:30



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