

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



60 West Avenue, St. Thomas
519- 631-4558

e-mail: standrewsucgra@rogers.com

website: www.standrewsunitedchurch.com

Ministers: The people of St. Andrew's

Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton

Ministry of Music: Lynn Sloan

April 3, 2022

5th Sunday of Lent

WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome! Come into God's presence even with so many burdens and concerns on your hearts. May we be open to God's words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to God. Enabling us to discern God's will for us that we may serve God more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.

Acknowledging Our Territory

One: For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on their traditional territory and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. Help us to become better neighbours so that we might live together in better ways.

All: For we are all kin in Christ, "All My Relations," with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

Extinguishing the Candle:

Loving God, we open our hearts to you. We invite you into our inmost being, only to find you already there. Strengthen us in our quiet places and then lead us into the work of justice and peace. Amen.

Call to Worship

Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

Come and let us worship with great joy!

Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!

God is about to do something new in our lives!

Let God's will become strong in our lives. AMEN.

Gathering Hymn: Jesus Christ is Waiting - 117 VU

Prayer of Confession and Approach -

Patient Lord, we find it easy to blame others and other circumstances for the things which happen in our lives. We hear the words “if only” and wonder why things didn’t happen differently for us. Too often we want you to be a “magic” presence which will, with the wave of a wand, cure our ills, give us success and happiness; but we don’t necessarily want to take responsibility for our attitudes and actions. Life is. Things happen which we didn’t plan for and events swirl around us over which we have no control. But to place blame and not to find ways in which we can work through the situations is detrimental to everyone, especially ourselves. Forgive us when we are so busy placing blame that we don’t recognize your presence and love for us. Free us from placing our own desires first and foremost. Help us to look at the many ways in which you are working in the world for peace and justice, and enable us to be part of that ministry. In Jesus ’ name, we pray. AMEN.

All Children of God:

Hymn - Breathe on me Breath of God - 382 VU

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading: John 12: 1-8

Meditation: *A Fly in the Ointment*

Hymn of Meditation: Said Judas to Mary - 129 VU

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering

Dedication

What we have, we freely share, loving God.

Blessed by your love,

may we be a blessing in your world. May what we offer always

be used in service of your grace,

your peace, and your love.

Amen!

A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

God of love hear the cry of those who yearn for love;

fractured families, broken homes neglected, unwanted, alone.

God of love hear our prayer

God of justice hear the cry of those who yearn for justice;

persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken.

God of justice hear our prayer

God of peace hear the cry of those who yearn for peace;

in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious

God of peace hear our prayer

God of healing hear the cry of those who yearn for healing;

physical and spiritual hurting, weakened, depressed

God of healing hear our prayer

God of mercy Hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy;

convicted, in need of your Grace, contrite, humble, bowed down,

God of mercy hear our prayer

May you know The peace of God, The love of God, The justice of God
The healing and mercy of God This day and all days, Amen

Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness - 375 VU

Blessing and Commissioning

Go in peace and may God's peace go with you. Bring hope and healing to all whom you meet. AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Services

April 6th - Yoga Prayer for Beginners

April 13th - Taize Worship

April 15th - Good Friday service - 10:30 a.m.

April 17th - Easter Sunday

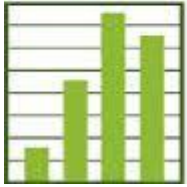
All Mid-week services start at 1:00 p.m. Please be sure you have proper attire for Yoga Prayer.



Potluck

Annual Meeting will be April 24, 2022!

A pot luck after church will be enjoyed by all and the meeting will follow.



Annual Report will be available for

everyone on April 12, 2022!



Board members don't forget to check through your rough copy of the annual report. Let Susan or Cheryl know if you find any errors.



UCW meeting on April 12 at 11am. A chairperson is needed for this meeting.



On Palm Sunday, April 10th, there will be communion. All are welcome.