## 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

August 15th, 2021

#### **WE GATHER**

#### Welcome -

Come, and praise God! In the company of the God's people, let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

#### Announcements

#### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

#### Acknowledging Our Kinship

- 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.
- All:Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.
  One: As we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours 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.

Gathering Hymn - God of the Living VU 492

#### Call To Worship

L: Welcome to worship!

P: We come seeking healing and hope.

L: You have come to the right place. God awaits you.

# P: Even though we have not always followed the ways God would have us go;

L: God loves, forgives, and awaits you.

P: Praise be to the patient, steadfast love of God. AMEN.

#### Young at Heart Children's Time

(If you could ask God for anything what would it be and why?)

Hymn of Praise - Holy Spirit, Come into Our Lives - 6 MV

Prayer of Confession You must shake your head in wonder at our ways, Keeper of the Covenant. How can we say we want wisdom, when we foolishly squander the knowledge we have

of your ways?

How can we claim to follow you, when we walk the slippery roads of the world not caring where they lead us? How can we desire your great and steadfast love, when the simple seductions of our society are in full view every day?

How can you have mercy on such unwise and unfaithful people, Perfect Wisdom? Yet, that is exactly what you do: and our greed turns to gratitude, our pettiness to praise, our tantrums to thanksgiving, as hope and joy become our blessing through the One we call our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### Words of Assurance

In Christ, God sent redemption for all.

In Christ, God feeds our hungry souls.

In Christ, God gives the cup of salvation to thirsty people.

We give thanks to God for everything: forgiveness, hope, new life. Amen.

#### WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

**Scripture Reading -** 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14;

**Meditation -** "Knowledge speaks, Wisdom Listens"

**Hymn -** Come & Seek the Ways of Wisdom - 10 MV

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

#### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Eternal God, we thank you today for your goodness. You have given us beautiful days. You bless us richly with goodness daily. We thank you and praise you.

We live in a time of considerable confusion. We ask today for your wisdom as Solomon asked for wisdom.

We are often fearful as was Solomon. We live in a time of peril, war, and world unrest. Different and competing interests strive for our attention and loyalty. Help us, O God, to pray for wise and discerning spirits.

- Give us wisdom to know good from evil.
- Give us wisdom to assess the clamouring voices and concerns with which we are daily bombarded.
- Give us wisdom so that we might learn to be accepting of all the diverse people you have created.

• Give us wisdom to be peacemakers and mediators of understanding where there is conflict.

• Give us wisdom when we are in conflict to make it possible both for us and for those with whom we differ to save face and win and move forward hand in hand.

• Give us wisdom not to violate any of your creatures by discriminating against them.

• Give us wisdom to discern what is of ultimate value for our souls and to make wise choices.

O God, give us wisdom.
O God, give us discernment.
O God, give us the will to be faithful.
O God, give us the power to love. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn - Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring - 328 VU

#### **Commissioning and Benediction**

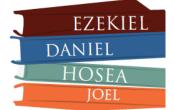
Go, blessed and filled with the wisdom of God, blessed and nourished by the life of our Lord Jesus Christ and blessed and directed by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### BOOKS OF THE BIBLE WORD SEARCH



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OLD TESTAMENT 2



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Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel Hosea Joel

Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi

