**St.Andrews**

 **United Church**

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**60 West Avenue, St. Thomas 519- 631-4558 e-mail:** **standrewsucgra@rogers.com**

**Website:** [**www.standrewsunitedchurch.com**](http://www.standrewsunitedchurch.com)

**Ministers: The people of St. Andrew’s**

**Pastor: Rev. Cheryl Bolton**

**Ministry of Music: Brian and Lynn Sloan/**

 **Merna Edison/Thomas Bee**

**June 25, 2023 Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

# **WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Good morning and Welcome! We come here this day to praise our Holy God who created all that exists. We open our hearts and our spirits this day to God’s eternal love and forgiving mercy. May God be with us as we participate in this worship service. May we be reminded that Jesus Christ gave his life that we might fully understand the depth and breadth of God’s love. In all things and at all times we give praise to our Holy God.**

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

As we begin today, we acknowledge the history, spirituality, culture, and stewardship of the land of the Indigenous People of this region. We seek to live in respect, peace, and right relations as we live, work, and worship upon Traditional Territory. We are mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.

**Candle Lighting**

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world.

**May its light brighten our spirits, and may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.**

**Call To Worship**

L: Rejoice! God’s love is poured out for you!
**P: How awesome is God who showers us with love!**
L: This is a day of celebration!
**P: Let’s celebrate God’s mighty healing love.**
L: It’s time to worship!
**P: We are ready! AMEN.**

**Gathering Hymn - Be Thou My Vision - 642 VU**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of Justice and Mercy, we know that we have fallen silent when we should have spoken up. We have ignored the cries of the innocent and joined the crowds in calls of judgment. We have mistaken justice for revenge and have sought punishment to ease our pain. Forgive us, God, for not seeing our own faults, our own sins, and for not holding ourselves responsible for our inaction and injustice. Restore us, God, to the ways Jesus taught us, to drop our stones and instead seek forgiveness and restoration. Call us into the paths of love and reconciliation, knowing Your mercy extends to all of us, Your grace is a gift, and there is nothing we can do to deserve or earn it. Guide us into living into Your forgiveness, peace and reconciliation, in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon** - God has opened our ears and our hearts to know God’s love and forgiveness. There is nothing we need to do other than love one another and love God, for all things come from God’s love. Go forth knowing, You have been forgiven and You are restored to God. Live in the way of Christ. **Amen**.

**Young at Heart - Packing for a trip**

**Hymn** **- We Are Marching - 646 VU**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading - Matthew 10: 24-39**

**Meditation - Encounters on the Journey**

**Hymn - All the Way My Saviour Leads Me - 635 VU**

**RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offering Hymn - Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow - 541 VU**

 Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

 praise God, all creatures high and low;

 give thanks to God in love made known:

 Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

**Offering Prayer**

On this lovely day, we praise and thank you, O Lord. We bring before you our gifts, our lives, our talents. Take all these gifts and use them for work in your kingdom. Bless the gifts and the givers of all gifts. AMEN.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

Lord Jesus Christ, you tell us not to be afraid of what the future holds, not to worry about tomorrow, but you know how difficult we find it to heed your words. For we worry about so many things, our families, our friends, our circumstances, some worries big worries, most worries tiny niggles. We come before you this day with these big and tiny worries, and with confidence we know we can lay them all at your feet.

We bring our big worries about health and happiness and security for ourselves and for our loved ones. We bring big worries about the world we live in and its future existence as we continue to fail to address so many ecological problems. We bring big worries about the way people in our world are treated as less than human, exploited, tortured, helpless and abused.

Father God, we know that you are concerned with every aspect of our lives, so we also bring the little things that concern us, the worries which keep us awake at night, the worries which only you know.

Living God, reach out to all those for whom the future brings fears and uncertainties. Assure then that you are with them, even when that future seems dark and circumstances feel like they are spiraling out of control. Remind them that you are able to transform even the bleakest of situations, bring healing and wholeness.

Lord we make our prayers in faith, for we know that your Spirit is at work in our world making all things new.  **Amen**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn - One More Step Along the World I Go - 639 VU**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

People of God, go and tell it! When it’s hard, when it’s joyous, when it’s inconvenient, when it’s healing—go tell the good news of the Light in the light. And remember that you do not go alone. We are children of God! Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Announcements**

**Upcoming**

**Euchre June 29 at 1:30pm.**

**St.Andrews United Church is pleased to offer 5 weeks of day camp this summer. The Growing Youth Committee fundraises to keep the registration fees affordable as possible. Registration fees are accepted on a cash only basis. Cost of camp is $100 per week. Camps run 9-5 on Monday thru Thursday. Friday camps ends at noon. Childcare for working parents is available at a small cost from 3-4pm. The week camps are running are as follows. Week 1: July 10-14, Week 2: July 17-21, Week 3: July 24-27, Week 4: July 31-Aug.4 and Week 5: Aug. 14-18**

**Rev. Cheryl will be awa.y on holidays July 1-16th.**

Have you moved lately? Do you have a new phone number? St.Andrews is looking to update our directory, so we are asking the congregation to forward any changes to address, phone, email etc to standrewsucgra@rogers.com. Feel Free to call the office as well at 519-631-4558.

There is no Mailbox Ministry for July9 and 16th.

**July 2023**

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday**  | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| See the source image |  | **Image result for Rain Cloud Clip Art** |  | Image result for big tree clip Art |  | 1Image result for camp fire clip Art |
| 2Sunday Service10:30 am | 3Zumba-6pm | 4**Happy Birthday**JoAnn Day**Anniversary**Ron&Pat Laing | 5**Anniversary**Jack&RosemaryAllman | 6Zumba-6pm | 7Image result for small pansy clipart | 8 |
| Sunday Service 910:30 am***Happy Birthday******Rev.Cheryl Bolton*** | 10Zumba-6pm**--CAMP-----** | 11**-----CAMP-----** | 12**Happy Birthday-**Rochelle Neal**------CAMP-----** | 13Zumba-6pm**------CAMP---** | 14**-CAMP----** | 15Image result for strawberry clipart |
| 16Sunday Service10:30 am | 17Zumba-6pm**------CAMP-** | 18**Anniversary-**Gary &Lori Calvert **----CAMP-----** | 19**----CAMP----** | 20Extendicare Worship ServiceZumba-6pm**-----CAMP----** | 21**--CAMP---** | 22 |
| 23Sunday Service10:30 am**Happy Birthday-**Marjorie Gowdey**Anniversary-**Neal&Joyce Hatch | 24Zumba-6pm**--CAMP-----** | 25**----CAMP-----** | 26**------CAMP-----** | 27Metcalfe Gardens worship ServiceZumba-6pm**----CAMP-----** | 28**-CAMP----** | 29Image result for Spring Robin Clip Art |
| 30Image result for small flower clipart | 31**--CAMP-----** | Beach Scene Clip Art |  | ***STYC-Tuesday-6pm-8pm******Zumba-Mon/Thurs-6pm-8pm******Rev. Cheryl off on Holidays from July 1-16th. Matthew Penny is available for emergency Pastoral Care.*** |

