

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



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Ministers: The people of St. Andrew's

Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton

Ministry of Music: Lynn Sloan

**January 9, 2022
The Baptism of Jesus**

WE GATHER

Welcome - Welcome to the service of worship. As we spend more and more time at home and online, watching and listening to the many voices speaking to us today whether through the media, through celebrities, politicians, community, even family and friends, we can often become confused as to which path to follow. But for today, in this time, we choose to listen to God's voice, to respond to God's desires, to follow God's highest path for us. Let us listen for God's voice call us each by name as we come together in worship.

Announcements

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 symbol of the light of Christ, which cannot be held back by distance, which shines in each one of us, no matter where we are.

Gathering Hymn - Come and Find a Quiet Centre

Call To Worship - Lord of Hope and Light, in the midst of Darkness you offered light to people who lived in fear. Today that light comes to us as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Open our hearts this day and remind us that you have marked us as people of hope and light. Prepare us to serve you by serving your world. AMEN.

Young at Heart - Remembering Our Baptism

We gather today to worship and praise the God of awe and majesty. We come to encounter the God who knows us each by name and who walks with us in intimate love. We come to reaffirm the blessing we have received through our baptism. In baptism, we remember God's saving actions throughout history, and we have the opportunity to answer yes as God whispers our names. As a community of God, we gather today at the waters of baptism to reaffirm our commitment to Christ and to experience anew the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

Hymn - When Jesus Comes to be Baptized

**Prayer of Confession –
Creator of the universe,
we stand amazed at your power and glory.
We are eager to worship you and offer our praise,
but we are often reluctant to answer
when we hear you calling our name.
We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary,
but shy away from the river,
lest we be baptized
with the fire of the Holy Spirit.
Forgive us when we forget your promise
to be with us always, O God.
Renew us with the power of your ever-present love,
and strengthen us to proclaim your justice
throughout the world. Amen.**

Words of Assurance (Isaiah 43)

Hear the words of our creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
“I have called you by name. You are mine. Do not fear,
for I have redeemed you.”

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading - Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Meditation - *"God is Calling You by Name"*

Hymn - I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern -

God of light and darkness, through water and Word
you shine your light into the darkness of our lives.

We give thanks for this incredible gift. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of love and hate, your love comes in spite of our animosity;
you bring reconciliation to those who are divided.

We pray for better relations between Canada and its native peoples.

Strengthen us to be peacemakers. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of hope and fear, you walk with us through the challenges which
surround us. Wash away our anxiety by your promised presence,
and set us free from despair. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of church and world, in baptism you unify yourself with our world,
and bring your reign into being.

Keep us from seeing your love as a hiding place.

Motivate us to infuse the world with your justice. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of health and illness,
there is nothing that separates us from your love.
Inspire us to bring your health to the sick, your encouragement to the discouraged, your promise to the dying, especially those we name before you now. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of life and death, all that exists is from you, and for you.
Enable us to trust your baptismal promise,
and serve this hurting world. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God who shines in the darkness, receive these prayers and the prayers of our hearts, in the name of the one who is your light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Who taught us to pray together, saying ...

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn - Spirit of the Living God

Commissioning and Benediction

You are each precious in God's sight.
Go from this time, claiming your identity as children of God.
God has called you by name.
Go into the world to answer God's call. Alleluia

Announcements



Subscriptions for the Broadview Magazine totalled nine in 2021. This number includes one for the church which may be borrowed at anytime. The cost of the magazine is \$25.00 for eight issues yearly. Without advertising, donations & grants the subscription price would \$84.00. Subscriptions only make up 28% of the revenue for the magazine.

Renewals for 2022 will need to be in by the end of March-22. If anyone is interested they may subscribe at anytime throughout the year, the price would be prorated. Contact Margaret Hutchison at 519-633-1105.



Board Meeting is on January 13 at 10:30am on Zoom.

The UCW meeting for January 11 has been cancelled.