

# **ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**



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**website: [www.standrews unitedchurch.com](http://www.standrews unitedchurch.com)**

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

**Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton**

**Ministry of Music: Lynn Sloan**

**October 10, 2021**

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

# **WE GATHER**

**Welcome** - We gather together to offer praise and Thanksgiving to God.

For in God's mercy, we are rich.

In Jesus 'love, we are welcomed.

In the Spirit's peace, we are satisfied.

Come; let us worship! All are welcome in this space!

## **Announcements**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world,  
may its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.

### **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.

### **Gathering Hymn - Come You Thankful People - 516 VU**

#### **Call To Worship**

Though we could be resentful,

**we come to give thanks.**

Though we could be complaining,

**we come to offer appreciation.**

Though we could be upset about what we lack,

**we come in gratitude for what we have.**

We enter now into this time of worship

**carrying seed to sow, singing songs of joy,**

**rejoicing together.**

#### **Young at Heart Time**

## Hymn of Praise - Make a Joyful Noise - 820 VU

### Prayer of Confession

Gracious Creator,  
you have given us so much,  
but too often we take those gifts for granted,  
or as something to which we are entitled.

You call us to live in caring community,  
but too often we place our wants and needs first,  
with those of others a distant second.

You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us,  
but we are worried that there may not be enough,  
and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing.

For all the times when we mistreat and misuse Your gifts,  
for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves,  
forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom.

### Assurance of Pardon

God is a gracious giver.  
God is gracious in forgiveness.  
God calls us to new patterns and new life.  
We are a forgiven people!  
**Thanks be to God! Amen**

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

**Scripture Reading - Joel 2: 21-27, Matthew 6: 25-33**

**Meditation - The Gift of Being Powerless**

**Hymn - We Plough the Fields - 520 VU**

# RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern - (by Christine Longhurst)**

Loving God,  
You are our Creator and Sustainer.  
When You open Your hand,  
You satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing.  
And so we look to You whenever we are in need,  
trusting in Your love and Your abundant goodness.

As You once fed the hungry crowds with five loaves and two small fish,  
we ask that You would again fill those who are empty this day.  
Pour out Your Spirit on all who hunger and thirst.

We pray for those who are physically hungry—whose stomachs are empty.  
who are suffering the effects of malnutrition and starvation;  
and watching helplessly as loved ones die.

**Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand.  
Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

We pray for those who are empty emotionally—  
who are lonely and long for companionship and love,  
who are caught in the grip of depression,  
or overwhelmed with grief.

**Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand.  
Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

We pray for those who are spiritually empty—  
who are troubled, but don't know where to turn;  
who long for purpose and meaning, but don't know where to look;  
who need You, but do not yet know You.

**Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand.  
Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.**

God, we praise You for Your abundant gifts in our lives.  
Pour out Your Spirit on us as well.  
Fill us with Your compassion and love,  
so that we would willingly share some of our abundance  
with those who have need.

**Lord, in Your mercy, open Your hand.  
Pour out Your Spirit, so that we may be filled.**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who came so that all of humanity might come to know  
the abundant life that comes from You.

Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Final Hymn - Teach Me, God to Wonder - 299 VU**

#### **Commissioning and Benediction -**

May all your expectations be frustrated;  
may all your plans be thwarted;  
may all your desires be withered into nothingness,  
that you may experience the powerlessness and poverty of a child,  
and sing, dance, and trust in the love of God who is Parent, Son, and Spirit. Amen.

## Announcements



The Board meets on October 13 at 10:30am in the Hall.



Please check the hall for a Coffee sign up list, to help with Fellowship time after Sunday Service.



**Our thoughts and prayers are with Joan Golden and her family as she mourns the passing of her mother.**



**Drive thru dinner on October 29, 2021 from 5pm-7pm. Menu includes turkey casserole, dressing, cranberries, carrots, biscuit, streusel cake all this for only \$15/person. To place an order or to purchase tickets in advance please call Merna at 519-615-2325.**



# Thanksgiving Word Search

R E L A T I V E S T I F S M F  
P N R E U K S S N C H A O E A  
X I E F B O B E T I L A A O S  
O B L Z Y O L T U R K S N T D  
W R Y G I C E T R E T P U K Y  
T S E V R A H L K N Y F M L S  
Y V A R G I M E E N F T I U N  
S Q U A S H M R Y I W M A R P  
F A L L P R A S N D A L O B A  
R M H T N B A G C F A C E K I

cook  
corn  
dinner  
fall  
family  
feast  
food  
gravy  
harvest

maize  
pilgrims  
pumpkin  
relatives  
settlers  
squash  
stuffing  
thanks  
turkey

