***New Vision***

***Community Church***

***St. Andrews United Church***



***NEW VISION COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH***

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**August 10th, 2025**

**SUMMER VACATION: ETA?**

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Welcome to worship this morning! Whether you're just back from a trip or dreaming of your next getaway, we're glad you're here. This summer, as we talk about travel, rest, and purpose, we reflect on our spiritual journeys too. Today, we ask: \*What is your ETA?\*

As summer days stretch long, and adventures call us out,

we pause to remember that our lives are also a journey with you.

Help us hear God’s call to follow and trust God’s direction, even when the road is unknown.

Remind us that our ETA—our Estimated Time of Arrival—is always God’s perfect timing.

May this time of worship, rest, and renewal and be blessed as we gather in worship.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

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.

**Acknowledging Our Kinship -**

Long before those of us who are settlers and those who are descendants of settlers came to this land to live, there were people here. We acknowledge that many Nations of Indigenous people have lived on the land. We give thanks to this land, the territory of the Chonnoton, Haudenosonee, Ashinabwe and Lenee-Lenape. Today, we know our indigenous neighbours as the Munsee-Delaware Nation, Oneida of the Thames and Chippewa of the Thames First Nationsand we commit to the shared stewardship of this land.

**Call to Worship**

One: Come away from the busyness and noise of daily life.

**All: We come to listen, to be renewed, to follow.**

One: The road of faith invites us—rest stops, detours and all.

**All: We are here. Ready for the journey. What is our ETA? Only God knows.**

One: Let’s travel light, and travel with joy. Let us worship God!

**Gathering Hymn – Take My Life and Let It Be 506 VU**

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: We admit, O God, that sometimes we wander off course.**

**We rush ahead or fall behind.**

**We forget to check in with you.**

**Sometimes we ignore the GPS of our spirit.**

**But you call us back, again and again.**

**You reroute us in love.**

**Forgive us, we pray, and help us trust the journey.**

**Words of Assurance**

Hear the good news:

God is not keeping score of your missed turns.

God is always calling, always guiding, always loving.

You are forgiven.

You are free to follow.

Thanks be to God!

**All God**’**s Children - Following the Map of Life**

**Hymn - Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore - 563 VU**

**LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture Reading - Proverbs 1: 33, Matthew 4: 18 - 22**

**Meditation - Summer Vacation: What’s Our ETA?**

**Hymn - Lord, You Give the Great Commission - 512 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering -** God gives generously so we can give with open hearts. Our offering today supports this ministry and its work in the world.

**Offering Hymn - Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands - 537 VU**

**Dedication -** Gracious God, as we journey with you, we offer these gifts as signs of our trust and gratitude. Use them to guide others into your path of peace and hope. Amen.

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

Loving God,  
You are the compass of our lives, the still point in the midst of the whirlwind.  
Thank you for the gifts of summer: for sun and soil, for water and wide-open skies,  
for rest, renewal, and recreation.  
We thank you for this community gathered in your name—each person a fellow traveler on the path of faith.

We pray for those who are weary from travel—  
those on journeys of grief, illness, transition, or uncertainty.  
We remember all who are isolated or afraid.  
We ask your blessing on caregivers, medical staff, and those who offer support when the road is rough.

We pray for our world.  
For places torn by war, conflict, or oppression.  
For leaders who must make difficult decisions, and for those whose voices are silenced.  
Guide us, O God, toward justice, compassion, and peace that endures.

We pray for those fleeing their homes due to climate disaster or violence.  
We remember those living in poverty, without access to clean water, food, or shelter.  
Help us be your hands and feet in creating a world of equity and welcome.

We pray for the earth—this sacred planet we call home.  
Help us to travel lightly, to tread gently, and to honour the land, air, and water you have entrusted to our care.  
Forgive our wastefulness and wake us up to the ways we can live in better balance with creation.

Bless the farmers and workers who tend the land,  
those fighting wildfires and floods, and those innovating for a sustainable future.

We pray for the wider church—your people gathered in many languages, places, and traditions.  
Especially today, we pray for the **General Council of the United Church of Canada**  
as it meets to discern your direction for the future of our denomination.  
Grant wisdom, courage, and grace to all who gather.  
Let your Spirit blow through every conversation and decision.

We give thanks for those who serve faithfully in congregations and communities,  
and for all who seek to follow Jesus in these changing times.

together we say the words Jesus taught us:

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah - 651 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

As you go from here—

May your heart be open to the unexpected turns of the Spirit,

Your soul be steady with God’s peace,

And your ETA be always in God's good time.

Go in peace to love and serve. Amen.

**Choral Amen**

***Announcements***

**Cheryl and her family would love for you to join them at their farm for worship and a barbecue.  Please bring your lawn chairs and sunscreen.  New Vision folks please bring sides and St. Andrew’s folks please bring a dessert.  We will provide the rest.  Rain or shine!  Please remember this is a working farm, wear comfortable clothes and practical shoes.  You may wish to carpool.  
Date: August 31, 2025  
Time: 11:00 a.m  
Address: 1574 Katesville Drive, Kerwood**

* **The Sharity Unit is called to meet at New Vision at 11:30am on August 18th. Please bring your brown bag lunch. We will be discussing the upcoming October Bazaar. All are welcome and please bring any ideas or plans to discuss.**



