***New Vision***

***Community Church***

***St. Andrews United Church***



***NEW VISION COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH***

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***SUMMER VACATION: Sleeping In***

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Good morning, and welcome to worship on this beautiful summer Sunday.
Whether you were up with the sun, or hit the snooze button a few extra times, you are in the right place.
Here, in this time and space, we are invited to breathe deeply, to lay aside the busyness of the week, and to rest in the presence of God.

Today we continue our summer worship series, *Summer Vacation*, and our theme is *Sleeping In*.
It’s not just about lazy mornings, but about trusting God enough to rest—body, mind, and spirit.
In a world that prizes constant activity, we come here to remember that even God rested,
and that rest is part of the holy rhythm of life.

So whether you are weary or full of energy, joyful or carrying burdens,
God meets you here with love, peace, and renewal.
Let us worship together.

**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**

*Leader:* In the stillness of the early morning, God is present.
**People: In the quiet of a lazy afternoon, God is present.***Leader:* In the peace of an evening’s rest, God is present.
**People: Whether wide awake or peacefully sleeping, God holds us close.***Leader:* Come, let us rest in the presence of God.
**All: We come to worship, to breathe deeply, and to be renewed.**

**Gathering Hymn - Take, O Take Me as I Am - 85 MV**

**Prayer of Confession**

God of rest and renewal,
We confess that we often fill our days with busyness,
even when you invite us to slow down.
We push through when our bodies say “stop,”
and we plan when our spirits say “pause.”
Forgive us when we forget that rest is holy,
that sleeping in is not laziness but an act of trust—
trusting that the world will keep turning in your care.
Remind us that we are not valued for what we produce,
but for who we are—your beloved children.
Amen.

**Words of Assurance**
God’s love does not depend on your to-do list.
God’s grace meets you in your waking and in your resting.
In Christ, we are forgiven and renewed. Thanks be to God!

**All God**’**s Children - Even Jesus Slept**

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

**LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

God of peace,

As we hear your Word today,

help us slow down, breathe deeply,

and listen with our hearts.

May your Spirit bring us the calm we need

to hear your voice in the stillness. Amen.

**Scripture Reading - Psalm 62: 1, Mark 4: 35-41**

**Ministry of Music**

**Meditation - Summer Vacation: Sleeping In**

**Hymn - Jesus Saviour Pilot Me-637 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

Even in our resting, God’s work continues in the world. Our gifts—whether given in energy, time, prayers, or resources—become part of God’s work of peace, justice, and renewal.

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

1 Your work, O God, needs many hands

 to help you everywhere,

 and some there are who cannot serve

 unless our gifts we share.

2 Because we love you and your work,

 our offering now we make:

 be pleased to use it as your own,

 we ask for Jesus’ sake.

**Dedication**

Bless what we give, O God—

not only our money,

but also our willingness to rest in you.

May these gifts bring comfort to the weary,

and joy to the world you love. Amen.

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

God of gentle mornings and quiet nights,
we thank you for moments of peace,
for soft pillows, for long summer evenings,
for the chance to sleep in without guilt.
We thank you for the rhythm of work and rest,
for days that stretch lazily and invite us to breathe.

We pray for all who cannot rest—
those who work long hours,
those whose worries keep them awake,
those living with illness, pain, or uncertainty.
We pray for your world—
for peace where there is conflict,
for shelter where there is displacement,
for compassion where there is need.

We lift to you those who are part of our church family—
the grieving, the recovering, the celebrating, the questioning.
May we be your hands and feet,
offering comfort and joy in your name.

We pray in the words Jesus taught:

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn - Walk With Me - 649 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

Go in peace, knowing that God’s love holds you in waking and in sleeping, in work and in rest.
May you find moments of deep renewal this week,
and may the grace of Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**Choral Amen**

