**St. Andrews United**

**Church**



**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**

**December 10th, 2023 Advent 3**

**Introit - Prepare the way of the Lord - 10 VU**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Acknowledgement of Kinship**

**Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy**

 One: Arise and celebrate, good news of deep joy is here!

 **All: The warm glow of the Divine lightens our hearts.**

 One: Here we are together. We are not alone. We gather on this third Sunday in Advent with gratitude and overflowing generosity, blessed multiple times by our give-away God. We are witnesses to joy.

 **All: The Joy of Christ is good news, unexpected and surprising in its overflowing.**

 One: God-who-lights-up-life give us joyful, generous, and courageous hearts. As we lean on your love may your joy well up in us so that our joy may overflow and flourish, witnessing to a life of constant gratitude, full of grace, cathartic hilarity, and goodness.

**Candle lighting Hymn - A Candle is Burning - 6 VU - Verse 3**

**Opening** **Prayer**

**O God, you sent Jesus
so that we might have life and have it abundantly.
May that abundance come alive as joy.
Help us to know that life is good
and that you are good, O God.
May the joy of your presence in us
be our witness to the world
that you are our God.
Amen.**

**Reflection - A Song of Mary**

**Hymn - Hark, the Herald Angels Sing 48 VU**

**We Listen for God’s Word**

**Scripture Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24, John 1: 6-8, 19-28**

**Meditation - The Joy of the Season**

**Hymn - Joyful, Joyful We Adore You - 232 VU**

**Invitation to Offering -**

**Offering Hymn - In the Bleak Midwinter - 55VU - Verse 4**

**Offering Prayer -**

**Prayers of the People -**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn - Go Tell it on the Mountain 43 VU**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Upcoming**

**December 12- UCW luncheon noon at Sunset Café**

**December 13- Walking at 10am at SAUC**

**December 14- Board meeting 10:30am**

December 17-Advent 4- Communion



**Don’t forget the UCW luncheon on December 12 at noon meeting at the Sunset Café.**

**Any member of St.Andrews is welcome to join the NV choir on Christmas Eve. Please gather on Wednesday evening at New Vision United Church.**

 **Just a reminder, that offering plates are located at the front of the sanctuary. Please feel free to place your offering in the plate before or after the service. Given that Covid rates are rising again, the plates will remain in place for the time being.**