

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

August 8th, 2021

WE GATHER

Welcome

“Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5: 19-20) In the name of the one who created the music of the world, we welcome you with voices lifted in praise. May you find the harmony of life in this service. Amen.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Once we lived in the shadows, now through Christ we live in the light! Thanks be to God, for the light of the world!

Acknowledging Our Kinship

One: For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on their traditional territory and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years

ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.

One: As we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways.

All: For we are all kin in Christ, “All My Relations,” with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

Gathering Hymn - Morning Has Broken - 409 VU

Call To Worship

Sing praises to the Lord, O you, God's faithful ones!

We will give thanks to God's holy name for God's anger lasts but a moment; God's favour is for a lifetime.

Sing praises to the Lord and remember; our weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the dawn.

Because God promises to turn our mourning into dancing because God vows to wrap us in joy, because God's faithfulness is so great, we cannot remain silent, our souls must sing God's praises today and forever. Amen.

Young at Heart Children's Time

Hymn of Praise - Sing a Happy Hallelujah - 224 VU

Prayer of Confession

**O God, You who are always doing a new thing,
we confess that we sometimes close windows
against the fresh air of new ideas,
against the noise of other people's worries,
against the winds of change.**

**God of every place and time,
we confess that we often draw the curtains
against people who are different,
against world news or community concerns.**

**Forgive us our insulation in our locked homes,
our shuttered churches,
the security systems on our hearts.
Open up our lives,
and let your Spirit blow through. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Awake, O harp and lyre, sing out in thanksgiving! For God's steadfast love is as high as the heavens, God's faithfulness extends to the clouds.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Psalm 98: 1-9

Meditation: *"Is it time to change our tune?"*

Hymn: I Feel the Winds of God Today - 625 VU

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Gracious and Loving God -- we sing your praise this day and bless your Name for you have done and marvelous things. You have made known your victory and revealed your saving love in the sight of all nations. You have lifted up the lowly and given them honour - you remember all your promises and love us with a love that is strong and true. We pray to you this day, O God, that you would confirm in us once again the wonders of your love.

Touch us with your Holy Spirit and lead us by the power of your living Word that we might love that which you love

and do that which you do—to your everlasting praise and glory.

God of the risen Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

God of might and mercy, you have sung a new song for us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Teach us to sing our own life, our witness to Christ, revealing to the world what you have done and desire in Christ Jesus.

God of the risen Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

We come, O God, as children. Give us the grace to serve you with the gifts and skills you have first given us. Bless especially those who serve as chaplains and caregivers in all corners of life. Give them the grace and power of your own love that they might bless all with whom they work and live.

God of the risen Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn: You Shall Go Out with Joy - 884 VU

Commissioning and Benediction

With a new song on our lips, with the melody of God's grace and mercy in our hearts let us go out and sing our praises to every living creature we meet that we may live in harmony with all of God's creation. Amen.

Announcements



The Board meeting has been moved to August 12th at 10:30 a.m. Thank you for your understanding.