**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**

**January 14th 2024**

**Baptism of Jesus**

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

**Candle Lighting**

**Call To Worship**

One: Come in, hearing these words:
**All: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.**One: Come in, knowing these words to be true:
**All: I have called you by name, you are mine.**One: Come in, feeling these words in your bones:
**All: You are precious in my sight.**One: We come to worship, hearing, knowing, feeling the love and wonder of our God.

**Gathering Hymn - A Light is Gleaming - 82**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy One, on this day when we bear witness to the baptism of Jesus, we hear a story of blessing, of love, of transformation. But over time, this story may have caused us to see ourselves as separated, as special, as those who are better than others. Instead of being inclusive and celebrating who we are and whose we are, baptism has sometimes led us to believe that we are “more special” and “more favoured” than others. For all of these beliefs, we are sorry. May we see the power of transformation that baptism holds and be transformed to see your grace, offered to all of us. Forgive and inspire us, reminding all of us that we are yours. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

**Reflection - *An Extraordinary Gift***

**Hymn** - **We Praise You, O God - 218 VU**

**We Listen For God’s Word**

**Scripture Reading - Isaiah 43: 1-7, Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22**

 **Meditation - Well Pleased**

**Hymn - I was there to Hear Your Borning Cry - 644 VU**

**RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering -**

**Offering Hymn** **- For the Gift of Creation - 538 VU**

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love, and the gift of the Spirit by which we live, we thank you and give you the fruit of our Hands. May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

**Offering Prayer**

**Gracious God, bless what we offer this day. These**

**gifts, though ordinary, are given in response to your**

**extraordinary love for us. Through your Spirit, may**

**these gifts be transformed to reveal your**

**extraordinary love and may your love be shared in all**

**that we say and do. Amen.**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn - Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness - 375 VU**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Upcoming**

**Jan. 17 – Walking Wednesday - 10am**

**Jan.17- Prayer Shawl-10:30am**

**Annual Reports are due by January 28 2024. You can email them into the office or drop them off. Emailed reports can be sent to** **standrewsucgra@rogers.com**.