**ST. ANDREW’S UNITED CHURCH**



**60 West Avenue, St. Thomas**

**519- 631-4558**

**e-mail: standrewsucgra@rogers.com**

**website: www.standrewsunitedchurch.com**

**Ministers: The people of St. Andrew’s**

**Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton**

**Ministry of Music: Lynn Sloan**

**April 17th, 2022**

 **Easter Sunday**

**WE GATHER**

**Proclamation**

**Introit -** This is the Day **- 175 VU**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Acknowledging Our Territory**

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. Help us to become better neighbours so 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.**

**Re-igniting the Candle -** Alleluia, Christ is risen; Christ is risen indeed!

**Call to Worship -**

God is good!
**All the time!**
And all the time!
**God is good!**
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God’s love endures forever.
Let all people shout it from the rooftops,
“God’s love endures forever!”
**God’s love endures forever!**

**Gathering Hymn -** Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love **- 574 VU**

**Prayer of Confession and Approach -**

**We have to admit it, Lord, that we had our doubts. We have heard the Resurrection story and for so many years it has remained just a nice story. But this time it is different. This time we have walked the path with Christ. We have journeyed through the wilderness and valleys, to the mountaintops to the courtyard, the garden and the cross. Now you bring us to the empty tomb and to the joyous news of the truth of Christ. Forgive us when we so easily doubt the truth of his resurrection. Forgive us when we feel we have to have absolute proof of everything. Your love in Jesus Christ is all the proof we need. You conquered death and sin, you brought us to new life. We praise your holy name and sing our unending song of hope and thanksgiving. Christ the Lord is risen today. Alleluia. AMEN.**

**All God’s Children**

**Hymn -** Hallelujah, Hallelujah Give Thanks **- 179 VU**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading: Luke 24: 1-12**

**Meditation: A Sunrise Surprise**

**Hymn of Meditation:** Jesus Christ is Risen Today **- 155 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Dedication**

Generous God,
we offer these gifts
as our testimony to your glory
and as our commitment
as your disciples.
Bless our gifts to your work in the world
and to your reign here on earth.
Through your blessing of our gifts,
may death be destroyed
and hope fill all of creation. Amen.

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

O God, with faces touched by the light of a new day,

and hearts warmed by our prayers and praises,

we come before you to pray

for the needs of our world.

Into the light of Easter morning

we raise those who are struggling with illness,

with despair over their lives, or with

the breakdown of relationships.

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

Into the light of Easter morning,

we bring those places in our world

where war, violence, poverty and need

are the experiences of everyday life. (These places may be named)

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

Into the light of Easter morning,

we bring the headline news of this weekend (this may be named):

we hold in our hearts the pain

of those suffering violence, bereavement or conflict.

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

May the light of Christ shine upon them.

And into the light of Easter morning

we bring ourselves, the private struggles,

the heart’s yearnings, the hidden dreams,

the unfulfilled potential.

May the light of Christ shine upon us.

May the light of Christ shine upon us. AMEN.**Lord’s Prayer**

**Final Hymn:** Thine is the Glory **- 173 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

Go forth in joy! Let your voices ring with victory; for Christ is Risen! Happy Easter!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On April 24th , we will have our annual meeting. This year we can safely return to a potluck meal before the meeting. Some ideas for the potluck are salads, a crockpot dish, desserts etc. Coffee, tea and water will be available.

A Memorial will be held for Jack Bell on May 7th from 1pm-3pm. All are welcome.