

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



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Ministers: The people of St. Andrew's

Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton

Ministry of Music: Brian and Lynn Sloan/Merna
Edison

January 22nd, 2023

WE GATHER

Welcome -

With open minds and open hearts, we come before God in worship. God has shared tremendous news with us: news of the birth of Jesus, news of his baptism, news so incredible that it cannot be contained. We bring together all our resources, all that we are, all that we have, to share the good news. We are called to be more, we are called to be a community of faith, we are called to be the church. Be with us now as we discern God's calling, as we discern our discipleship. Let us worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acknowledging Our Kinship - As we begin today, we acknowledge the history, spirituality, culture, and stewardship of the land of the Indigenous People of this region. We seek to live in respect, peace, and right relations as we live, work, and worship upon Traditional Territory. We are mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations.

Candle Lighting - We light this candle, honouring the One who said "I am the Light."

Call To Worship

One: In this Epiphany time, we will not keep silent, we will not rest.

All: Our vindication shines out like the new dawn.

One: Light a path for us, O God, that we may move into new relationships.

All: We have been called by you into new ways of being.

One: Your torch has been passed to us, in you our light has come.

All: We are not forsaken; we are not desolate.

One: In you, O God, we find our delight.

All: Let glory be on our lips as we delight in your presence.
One: Inspire us, God, as we offer our worship.

Gathering Hymn - Morning Has Broken - 409 VU

Prayer of Confession -

Listening God, when we take the time to see and use and understand the incredible gifts you have shared with us, we are in awe. At the same time, we also realize how we have misused the gifts of your Spirit. When life is happening so fast, we act and speak before we think. We have caused harm by our “off the cuff” remarks. Our actions have led to exclusion. Knowingly and unknowingly we have caused harm. Forgive us our mistakes, forgive our ignorance, forgive us, forgive.... *(silent reflection)*

Words of Assurance

God watches. God listens to our confessions. God responds out of unconditional love. Allow the spirit to embrace you and know that you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Young at Heart - Exploring the Epiphany Box

Hymn - Take My Life and Let it Be - 509 VU

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11, John 2: 1-11

Meditation - *Let it Run*

Hymn - We Are One - 402 VU

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering -

Offering Hymn - Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow - 541 VU

Offering Prayer -

We dedicate ourselves, our time and talents, our energies and money, to sharing the good news of God's abundant and generous love. Help us use all that we are and all that we have to ensure that this story is shared: a story of love and support, prayer and worship, a story of seeing our gifts turned into much needed resources through the mission and ministry of the church. Bless each gift and each giver. In your Holy name, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Wondrous God, who continues to share with us the gifts of the spirit, help us to accept these gifts and use them in your kingdom. Where wisdom is offered, enable us to hear it. Your wisdom is sometimes discerned through unexpected people and in unexpected places. Let wisdom speak on behalf of those struggling to find a voice or where their voices have been stifled in a cacophony of political jargon and rhetoric. Let wisdom burst forth shouting your truth in a chaotic world. May the gift of knowledge continue to guide us as we move through our days. Let it inform and challenge us to discover a new approach to food for God's people. May foodstuffs move from being hoarded by a few to being shared equally, that "have not" peoples and families in our own communities be offered nourishment for their bodies and nourishment for their spiritual lives, without regard to faith or denomination. Let knowledge be shared through advocacy. Help us confront barriers that hurt and oppress, that everyone may receive a living wage, enabling a sense of dignity and pride

With the Covid and other viruses still in our thoughts, we offer prayers for the gift of healing, O God. May those trained in a wide variety of specialties use their skills to heal where possible, to offer hope where needed, to offer peace freely, to offer comfort for the dying. We offer thanks for those donations that have enabled safe needle exchange sites and medical attention given at street level for those who find themselves homeless. May healing of the mind be as important as healing of the body. Thank you, God, that we continue to learn, to research to develop new ways of offering healing.

We pray for the gift of prophecy, God. Listening to Jeremiah, Ruth, Micah, we learn of you, O God. We learn about your commitment to humanity. We learn of your unconditional love, freely offered to all. Through the prophetic words of Jesus, we hear about the kind of community that you call us to make. Help us, God, to find our own prophetic voices. Empower us to speak out when we see injustice, when we witness oppression, where inequality continues. Guide us, God, as we use our voices to share your story in our time and context. These things and more we pray in Christ's name who taught us to pray together saying ...

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn - I Danced in the Morning - 352 VU

Commissioning and Benediction -

Each day we are blessed by many of God's gifts.

Enable us to use them wisely, sharing them with generous hearts.

We are called to be light in our world.

Let us share the light that never goes out.

God is good

all the time.

All the time

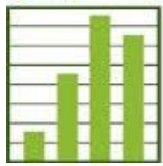
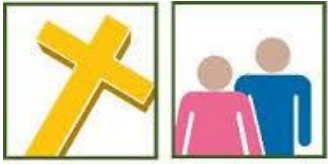
God is good.

We go in peace. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING

January 26th- Euchre 1:30pm
February 12-Annual Meeting



Annual
Report

**Reports are due
for the Annual Report,
please email or submit to
the office today.**



**EUCHRE Euchre on January
26th at 1:30pm. All are
welcome.**



Christmas

Find the hidden words within the grid of letters. **WSH6-7**

H W V H E F R F M H V J L G W G W T M E
R R D N Y N A H P I P E F O T S A E F C
C A R J A F G T M A G I A O L E M V S I
A E D Y T E F A H H N D U D E D E E A T
R X P N M P V E M E V X Q W O I H R I S
O D E C E M B E R E R F U I N T E G N L
L G N D O L J D N S L C Y L F E L R T O
I N C A R N A T I O N R H L O L H E N S
N M R E S N E C N I K N A R F U T E I R
G B E C A E P I N S R I A H I Y E N C E
E T A R B E L E C A L H F C C S B S H T
C H R I S T M A S T I D E C V H T Y O N
G R E G O R I A N C A L E N D A R M L I
Z G N A T I V I T Y D J U J R A N O A W
S T N E S E R P U L E W N J M S J P S S

Advent
Bethlehem
caroling
celebrate
Charlemagne
Christmastide
December
evergreens
Father Christmas

Feast of Epiphany
frankincense
goodwill
Gregorian calendar
incarnation
Julian calendar
Magi
Mary
myrrh

Nativity
Noel
peace
presents
Saint Nicholas
winter solstice
Yule Tide