**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

March 13, 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome and Announcements -**

Good morning and welcome! Open your hearts to God’s love today.   
In the midst of winter darkness, we seek the brightness of God’s love. Don’t be afraid. God is with you. With the Lord’s help, we can overcome the darkness. The Lord is your light and your salvation. Even though everything around us is disturbing, yet God’s love is constant. Thanks be to God. **AMEN.**

**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.**

**Extinguishing the Candle**

**All: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, may we be open to your presence. Give us the strength to make the changes that are needed in our lives and the courage to take on the work of transforming the world. Amen.**

**Call to Worship**

Blessed and blessing, loved and loving, God’s people, come to this place!

**We’re ready!**

From times of work, from times of play,

from times of busy-ness, from times away, God’s people, come!

**We’re set!**

To speak and to receive, to sing and to pray. God’s people, come!

**We’re here! We’re here to worship God!**

**Gathering Hymn: We Praise You O God - 218 VU**

**Prayer of Confession and Approach**

**There is a certain winter in our spirits today, O Lord. We feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, our hopes and fears. It is easy to be like Jerusalem, turning our backs on those whom you send. The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need; when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us in order to avoid serving others. Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem, to live, for we ask this in Jesus’ name. AMEN.**

**All Children of God: Have You Filled a Bucket Today?**

**Hymn** -**When We Are Tempted to Deny 119VU**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 12: 1-4a, Luke 13: 31-35**

**Meditation: *Be A Blessing***

**Hymn of Meditation: My Faith Looks Up to Thee - 663 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Dedication**

**God of all creation, we know that**

**all that we have,**

**all that we are,**

**is blessed and blessing.**

**In this sharing,**

**we add our blessing to yours.**

**May all of these blessings**

**bring hope and healing to your world. Amen.**

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern -**

**Lord, you called us to this journey. We aren’t very willing to let go of the things that bind us, even those which harm our spirits and diminish our souls. We cling to our problems as though they provide some degree of comfort and stability. Help us to let go of the pain, the problems, the chains that bind our souls. Open our hearts to hear your word. Place us on the journey with confidence and assurance of your presence. As we have offered the names and situations of those near and dear to us in our prayers this morning, help us to remember that we, too, are always in your loving care. When we have fallen, lift us up, Lord. When we think we can go no further, pick us up and carry us until we can walk again. When we wonder if you made the right choice in calling us to our ministry and mission, easy our fears, confirm our hopes, bless our hearts with your loving presence; that in all things you may be glorified. AMEN.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Final Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus - 664 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

One: Blessed and blessing, loved and loving,God’s people, go from this place!

**All: We’re ready!**

One: To times of work, to times of play, to times of busy-ness, to times away, God’s people go to the world!

**All: We’re set!**

One: To speak and to listen, to sing and to pray, to be a blessing, each and every day. God’s people go and be stewards of the faith, Jesus’ people on the Way.

**All: We go, knowing we are never alone! Carried by the wings of the Holy Spirit, moving forward with Christ’s peace, enfolded in the Creator’s love, we go! Amen. Amen! AMEN!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A picture containing background pattern

Description automatically generated**Lenten Services**

**March 16th - Taize Worship**

**March 23rd - Creative Worship**

**March 30th - Meditation**

**April 6th - Yoga Prayer for Beginners**

**April 13th - Taize Worship**

**April 15th - Good Friday service - 10:30 a.m.**

**April 17th - Easter Sunday**

**All Mid-week services start at 1:00 p.m. Please be sure you have proper attire for Yoga Prayer.**

 **Don’t forget Euchre on March 24th at 1:30pm**