

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

**March 20, 2022
2nd Sunday of Lent**

WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements -

Good morning and Welcome!

May the Lord Open our eyes, our ears, our hearts and spirits this morning, so that we may be healed of our faithlessness, freed from our fears and anxieties, and placed on the pathways that leads to peace and service to God.

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

Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus 'name. Amen.

Call to Worship -

L: Wrap yourselves in the healing love of God!

P: **We seek God's presence in our lives.**

L: Know that God continually surrounds us with patience and persistence.

P: Even though we have not produced the “fruits” of hope that God seeks, yet God forgives and heals our weakness.

L: Rejoice! Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

P: We will turn our lives again to the Lord, to serve and seek God’s presence. AMEN.

Gathering Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty - 220 VU

Prayer of Confession and Approach

This is the season of turning. We are called on this journey to turn our lives to the Lord, to turn away from all those things which have harmed us and others; to separate ourselves from actions and attitudes that demean and destroy. It is far too easy for us to sink into the mire of self-pity and self-serving attitudes, wondering why everything isn’t coming our way. We want comfort, contentment, no stress, no struggle. Yet our lives are filled with stress and discontent. We hurt, Lord. We hurt in our bodies and our souls. We hurt in our relationships with others. How we must try your patience! We don’t want to be like this - we want to feel the warmth of your love, the freedom of your spirit, the joy of serving you. Forgive us for our selfishness and stupidity. Heal us. For we ask these things in Jesus ’Name. AMEN.

Words of Assurance

You are given another chance! God has heard your cries. Turn again to the Lord. Find comfort and strength in God’s eternal love for you. Be healed. AMEN.

All Children of God: Fig Trees

Hymn - O God How We Have Wondered - 112 VU

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Luke 13: 1-9

Meditation: *Bear fruit or Be Cut Down*

Hymn of Meditation: O Jesus, I Have Promised - 120 VU

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering

Dedication

Generous God, you are the maker of heaven and earth. Accept the tithes and offerings we present to you today. May these bring pleasure in your presence. May our sincere desire to be faithful stewards bring joy to your heart. Please help us to be diligent savers and wise spenders. We ask that you will give us the wisdom to apply our hearts unto understanding, especially in the area of our finances. Enable us to apply biblical principles of stewardship so we can continue blessing others and supporting your ministries. Our faithful God, bless this time of giving. Amen.

A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern -

God of love hear the cry of those who yearn for love;
fractured families, broken homes, neglected, unwanted, alone.

God of love

hear our prayer

God of justice hear the cry of those who yearn for justice;
persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken.

God of justice

hear our prayer

God of peace hear the cry of those who yearn for peace;
in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious

God of peace

hear our prayer

God of healing hear the cry of those who yearn for healing;
physical and spiritual hurting, weakened, depressed

God of healing

hear our prayer

God of mercy Hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy;
convicted, in need of your Grace, contrite, humble, bowed down,

God of mercy

hear our prayer

May you know: the peace of God, the love of God, the justice of God,
the healing and mercy of God, this day and all days. Amen

Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus - 135 VU

Blessing and Commissioning

God has called you to bear witness to hope and goodness. Know that you have been healed of all that prevents you from serving God. Go forth with God's love and blessing to bring Good News to this hurting world. AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lenten Services

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

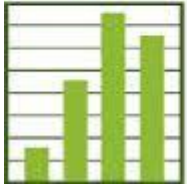
All Mid-week services start at 1:00 p.m. Please be sure you have proper attire for Yoga Prayer.



Potluck

Annual Meeting will be April 24, 2022!

A pot luck after church will be enjoyed by all and the meeting will follow.



Annual Report will be available for

everyone on April 12, 2022!



Board members don't forget to check through your rough copy of the annual report. Let Susan or Cheryl know if you find any errors.



Don't forget Euchre on March 24th at 1:30pm. Come on out for the fellowship and some fun!



Just a reminder to check your mailbox in the church hall! If you need a church mailbox just let Susan know.