***St. Andrews***

***United Church***



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Web site: [www.standrewsunitedchurch.com](http://www.standrewsunitedchurch.com)

Ministers: The people of St. Andrew’s

Pastor: Rev. Cheryl Bolton

Ministry of Music: Merna Edison

/Brian and Lynn Sloan

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome**

Good morning and welcome! We gather in this place to praise and worship our God.

Praise God from the heavens!

Praise God from the skies above!

Praise God, angels and all the hosts of heaven!

Praise God, sun and moon, and shining stars!

Praise God, all creatures great and small,

Praise God, animals and birds, reptiles and fish!

Praise God, kings of the earth and people everywhere,

Praise God, men and women, young and old!

Let all the earth bring praise to the Lord,

at whose word creation came into being.

We gather to praise and worship our God!

**Announcements**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

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.**

**Call to Worship -**

L: Jesus reminded the disciples
**P: Love one another as I have loved you.**L: Jesus taught and witnessed to God’s love
**P: Love one another as I have loved you.**L: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness, compassion, and hope.
**P: Let us love one another as Christ loved us. AMEN.**

**Gathering Hymn - Come and Find a Quiet Centre VU374**

**Prayer of Confession**

Patient God, sometimes we are just too busy for our own good. We pledge ourselves to hectic schedules, demands on time, energy, and resources that erode all too quickly. We seem to be rushing through life. The cries of those in need often go unheeded in our blur of activities which sap our energy, our resources, our spirits. Slow us down a bit, Lord. Remind us again that we are responsible for the care of this world, for reaching out and offering your healing love. Help us to hear the words of patient love that you have for us. Remind us again of Jesus’ words to his disciples when he told them that they should love one another as he loved them. May we take time to bear witness to that love in all that we do. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN

**Words of Assurance**:
Wherever you are, Christ is with you. You are beloved of God and God’s care will always surround you. Be at peace and rejoice! AMEN.

**All God’s Children -**

**Hymn -**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading - Psalm 148, John 13: 31-35**

**Ministry of Music**

**Meditation -**

**Hymn -**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

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

**Dedication**

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn -**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

May the love of God which was lavished upon you by Jesus Christ be in your hearts, your minds, and your spirits as you go forth into God’s world. Be bearers of peace and hope to all you meet, and may God’s peace be with you always.AMEN.

**Choral Amen**

***Announcements***

**Upcoming**

* **Bible Study on May 21st 1pm at NVCC**
* **Prayer Shawl on May 21st 10:30am**



 **The Foodbank item for May 25th is cheese and crackers (for lunches). This is our last collection folks, it’s been a momentous year! St. Andrews and New Vision have been incredibly generous! You should all be very proud!**



 **Fresh Start Support Services Annual Baby Bottle Drive – from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day. Fill a bottle! Pick up a bottle to fill with change, cash, cheques or etransfers (****babybottle@fsms.ca****) Call 519-637-7775 for more info. Or check out www.fsms.ca.**

***Anniversary Info: Our 100th Anniversary celebration is on June 8th . A Cluster Worship Service is being hosted simultaneously at Central United Church (135 Wellington Street) with many local churches. There will be a joint choir and all invited churches may join.***

***The Program for the gathering will be as follows:***

***4:00 pm - Joint Potluck (in kitchen/gym)***

***5:00 pm - Music in the Sanctuary***

***5:30pm – Worship Service will begin***

***An offering will be received for Mission and Service.***

***Please contact Lori @ 519-631-7570 x21 or*** **office@1stunitedchurch.ca**

* *Bible Study meets on May 21st at 1pm at NVCC. The theme is Fearless: Imagine a life without fear.*

