

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



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Ministers: The people of St. Andrew's

Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton

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Edison

November 20, 2022

Reign of Christ / Christ the King Sunday

WE GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

As the holiday rush begins, let's pause to reflect: not yet on a stable, or star, or Advent candles, or everything for which we're thankful.

Those days are surely coming, but others are as well: days of holiness and righteousness, salvation and safety, deliverance and rescue; the dawn of a day when God's tender mercy will trump oppression and death.

Such are the days of Christ's reign.

They are surely coming! Let's celebrate today!

Lighting the Christ Candle - By lighting this candle, we remember who we are and whose we are in Christ, and we rejoice. 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.

All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.

One: As we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to

the land, help us to become neighbours 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: God has called all of us here beloved.

P: We are given new names of hope and promise.

L: Even though storms and trials have assailed us,

P: God has drawn us through to the time of salvation.

L: Thanks be to God for God's victory in Jesus Christ!

P: May Jesus reign in our hearts all of our days. AMEN.

Gathering Hymn - Hope of the World - 215 VU

Prayer of Confession - Imagining your reign can be difficult, eternal God.

It is difficult to picture a world governed by your justice and righteousness alone.

Our minds are held captive by the worst images of human kings, rulers, and powers.

When nobler visions fail and we settle for kingdoms of our own making, correct and forgive us.

Free the borders of our imaginations, that we may envision your greater good and celebrate the coming of your reign on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Luke 1)

Hear the prophecy of Zechariah:
Tender mercy and forgiveness
are the ways of God. We are forgiven.
Let the church say
Amen.

All God's Children - The Shepherd King

Hymn - All Creatures of Our God and King 217 VU

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading - Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Meditation - *Who is the Righteous One?*

Hymn of Meditation - Rejoice, the Lord is King - 213 VU

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to Offering

Dedication

Your days are surely coming, Holy One,
just as surely as the needs of this world are real. We offer these gifts
in awe of your victory over the cross
and in celebration of your present and coming reign, that life—even life
abundant—might multiply for all people.
Bless these gifts, that they may be used
according to your will. Amen.

A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

Create a throne room for yourself here, O Christ,
but let it be the empty seat beside the anxious
the lonely chair next to the confused
the vacant pew next to the hungry
and reign, O Jesus, as sovereign over the forgotten

May we find you in border areas on the edge of things
crossing over with the foreigner

May we find you among children learning to finger paint
as teachers to those who long to enjoy life again

May we find you with the worried, silenced with nothing to say
and space enough to keep it

May we find you on the wrong side of the tracks
going where you should not
and finding a place to lay your head among the lost

May we find you singing our songs of justice and peace
and removing your crown to do so

May we find you with a word that lives in the hopes of the afraid
and a comforting peace for those who are broken

May we find you laughing at the powerful unnerving what folk think so
secure
while welcoming those who have nothing into your throne room

O Jesus, reigning in the world
with your upside-down kingdom
may we find the faith to stand with you
sovereign of life and servant of all



These things we pray in your name, you who taught us to pray together saying..

Lord's Prayer

Hymn - Seek Ye First - 356 VU

Blessing and Commissioning

Go joyfully. Give thanks to God.

Endure with strength and patience.

And may your feet be guided in the ways of peace. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

***November 27-1st Sunday of Advent,
Greening of the Sanctuary***

***December 4-"Messy Church" Sunday, 2nd
Sunday of Advent***

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Ollie Perry on November 9, 2022. Heaven has gained one incredible angel, may she rest in peace.



Please feel free to donate some socks, hats and mitts for white gift collection for Destination church. They will distribute them to the needy in the coming months.