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

> November 21, 2021 Reign of Christ Sunday

WE GATHER

Welcome -

We come this day, rejoicing, in the presence of the King of Kings, Jesus Christ. At his birth the angels proclaimed his name to be Emmanuel, God with us. Today in this place, in this time of worship, may we truly feel the power and presence of Jesus Christ in our lives.

Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle -

As the fire of the Spirit gave life to the Early Church So may the Life-Light symbolized in this candle flame give us a fiery thirst for justice, and hope for the future.

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.

Gathering Hymn - Hope of the World - 215 VU

Call To Worship

L: Come, let us bow down and worship the King of kings, the Lord of Lord.

P: At this birth the angels proclaimed it. He is the Wonderful Counsellor, Lord Of Lords, King of Kings, the Prince of Peace. L: Through his teaching and his life we have learned how to live for God.

P: By his death and resurrection we have been saved and claimed by God as witnesses to God's eternal love.

L: Let us Worship the King of Kings

Young at Heart Time -The Dash

Hymn of Praise - O Lord My God - 238 VU

Prayer of Confession

We have trouble believing in a King in our lives. Yet, this day we are called to recognize Jesus Christ as the King of our lives, our sovereign ruler. His kingdom is based on the laws of love; loving God as God has truly loved us and loving our neighbour as we ourselves want to be loved. That love extends beyond the borders of our lives, into a world in which there is fear and alienation, hunger and disease, hopelessness and darkness. Jesus, our sovereign ruler, our friend, our Master and guide has asked us to reach out to feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; clothe the naked, visit the sick and those imprisoned; welcome the stranger. These words are not unfamiliar to us, yet somehow we have treated them as nice words but not an active part of our life of faith. Forgive us, Lord, for the meagerness of our faith and the weakness of our witness. Rule our lives again with your powerful love, that we might truly be worthy disciples of yours. Help us to find the forgiveness which you have given to us and to do your will. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon - Even though we have often failed to do as our Lord Jesus has asked, yet there is eternal forgiveness and a chance to again follow his ways. Be assured, dear friends, that the love of Jesus Christ will never leave you. Be his witnesses throughout the world. AMEN

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading - Various Scriptures

Meditation - A Life in Review

Hymn - Rejoice the Lord is King - 213 VU

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern -

From the first day of Advent, so long ago, we have come full circle to the celebration of the Reign of Christ, also known as Christ the King Sunday. We have witnessed the wonderful birth, the great healing moments, the teachings that have sustained people throughout the centuries. We cried in sorrow at the Crucifixion and rejoiced with absolute joy on the sunrise of Easter when Jesus conquered our greatest fear, death. We celebrated the great good news of the disciples as they risked everything to finally proclaim the good news to all people. Now on this Sunday, we invite Jesus to enter our hearts.

Sovereign Lord Jesus, come into our hearts today and take your reign. Remind us that your kingdom is a kingdom of hope and light, in which there is no darkness, fear, or sadness. You have called us to be the Kingdom people, living our lives in the knowledge that peace, justice, and hope are not only possible, but can actually be the ruling factor of the world, for those who follow you. There are many who do not acknowledge your presence and your name, O Lord. But in your infinite love and mercy, you have acknowledged and claimed them. Help us to be the kind of disciples that welcome everyone with the words of kindness, that offer acts of mercy and peace to all in need, to proclaim Christ risen and glorified. As we have brought before you, O Lord, the names of people and situations needing your healing and comforting touch, may we also open our hearts for that same healing and comfort. Remind us that we are never out of your grace and mercy. We know that you will give us the strength and wisdom to be true disciples and we celebrate and honor you, now and forever. AMEN.

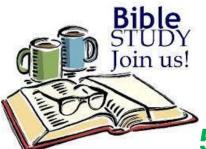
The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn - Seek Ye First- VU356

Commissioning and Benediction -

Go now in peace. Bring the good news of God's eternal love, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to all you meet. Go in peace. AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



5 week Bible Study-The Good News of Joy to the world starts November 24 and runs every Wednesday until December 22nd. Please let Rev.Cheryl or the Office know if you want to participate-Time to be determined by participants.



Thank you to Wilf and Betty Bradley for ushering the last 2 weeks. Carm and Marg Hutchison will be ushering for the next 2 weeks. We are still in need of ushers for the month of December. Please let Cheryl know if you can help out.

Please check the hall for a Coffee sign up list, to help with Fellowship time after Sunday Service.