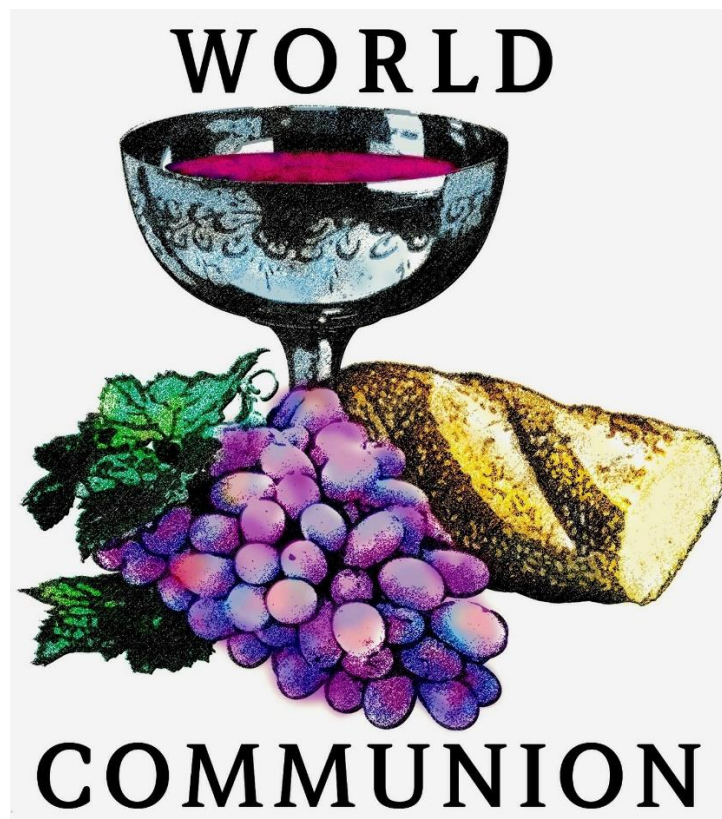


# ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH



**60 West Avenue, St. Thomas  
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**Ministers: The people of St. Andrew's**

**Pastor: Rev.Cheryl Bolton**

**Ministry of Music: Brian and Lynn Sloan**

**October 2, 2022**

# WE GATHER

## **Welcome -**

Good morning and welcome to this service of worship. Today we celebrate World Wide Communion, a day to gather all communities of faith. Today we recognize and celebrate that, while we may worship differently, we all worship the same God and that includes our indigenous sisters and brothers. This past Friday we recognized a day for Truth and Reconciliation in our nation and today's service will also pay respect to the pain and healing experienced by our first nations peoples. Let us worship.

## **Announcements**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this candle to remember that in Christ Jesus, we are indeed most blessed.

### **Acknowledging Our Kinship**

One: Welcome in the name of the Christ.

**All: Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Traditional Territory.**

One: Welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace, and this holy sanctuary.

**All: We gather this morning to share in the Word, the Cup, and the Bread and to receive God's deepest blessing that we might in turn be blessing to others.**

One: So, be welcome.

**All: Be blessed.**

One: Be.

### **Call To Worship**

One: Eternal God, you are great indeed.

**All: Praise God, O my soul.**

One: You spread heaven like a tent and make the winds your messengers.

**All: Praise God, O my soul.**

One: You fix the earth on its foundations so that it can never tremble.

**All: Praise God, O my soul.**

One: You've designed the world for blessing and have blessed us without limit.

**All: Praise God, O my soul.**

One: Come, let us bless one another and God with our worship.

**Gathering Hymn - Come, O Fount of Every Blessing - 559 VU**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Great and gracious Lord God  
arrayed in glory and majesty,  
**we praise you and bless you.**

Creating God,

you stretched out the heavens like a tent

**and set your dwelling place over the water**

You are carried on the clouds, and on the wings of the wind;

**the winds are your messengers, and flaming fire your servants.**

You set the earth on its foundations,  
never to be moved.

**The deep waters covered even the mountains,**

**but at your voice they fled,**

**coming to rest where you had appointed,**

**beyond the boundary you set,**

**never to cover the earth again.**

**Bless the LORD, O my soul.**

**O LORD, my God, you are very great.**

**Your works are many and varied**

**and in wisdom you have made everything.**

Loving God,

in our human condition you know who we are, and what we are;  
you know our awkwardness with ourselves, with each other,  
and with you.

*(a time of silence)*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**Help our unbelief;**

**give us the boldness, by the presence of your Spirit,  
to believe in your possibilities for us,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Holy One, as we listen once more to the wisdom of your Word, may we  
be fed both in mind and body. Help us open to your revelation of love  
and to receive your blessing with grace.

**Scripture Reading - Psalm 104: 1-13**

**Meditation - *Wisdom to Wonder and Share***

**Hymn - O God of Every Nation - 677 VU**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

### **Invitation to Offering**

Moved by your love of us, and grateful for our blessings, let us take up  
our offering with joy and a generosity of spirit. Amen.

### **Dedication**

**Gracious God, we pray that our offering this morning will multiply our blessings so that our neighbours next door and across the globe might be nourished in body, mind, and spirit. We pray that your reign of love and justice be made tangible and visible and that no one be left out of the banquet. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern**

Lord as we gather around this wonderful meal  
everywhere and in every place;  
bless us all your children.

As we eat this bread and drink this cup  
linking arms around the world,  
pour your grace into us all.

Grace us with your presence  
as we quietly and loudly pray to you.

May we see in each other  
your light, your love and you.  
May it not matter our differences,  
our names, our languages,  
our looks, and our way of doing things.  
May what matter today and everyday be that we are one in you.

And as we pray may we call to mind our brothers and sisters  
who are unable to be with us today whether in body or spirit.  
May you bring comfort to those who are grieving, lonely,  
heartbroken, ill or broken of spirit.

May you strengthen those whose lives feel shattered,  
don't make sense, in crisis, and experiencing loss.  
May you say the healing word to those who need it.

May you bring the human touch of love  
to those who have not been touched.  
May you love the unloved through us.

May you shine your light  
into those whose world is covered in darkness.  
May you use us to feed the hungry,  
clothe the ones who need clothes,  
give a cup of water to those who are thirsty,  
shelter the homeless, visit the sick and those in prison.

May lives be awakened to you, Lord,  
to your love and to your kingdom  
whose door is always open to all.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Communion** (See Insert)

**Hymn - Joyful, Joyful We Adore You - 232 VU**

## **Commissioning and Benediction -**

Go into the world this week knowing you are anointed and blessed  
without limit.

Share the blessing of God with friends, neighbours, even strangers.

Reach out, extend yourself, and let God surprise you.

Be blessed and be a blessing this week and all your days. **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Upcoming Services**

**October 11<sup>th</sup>-Work Bee**

## October 22-Rummage and Bake Sale



### **Souper Sundays in support of**

### **Alzheimer's Society**

Every Sunday in October, various delicious soups will be served after church. All proceeds go directly to the Alzheimer's Society. \$5 but if you donate \$20 you get a tax receipt from them! October Sundays are going to be wonderful! Let's soup-port this great cause!



**Last Chance to get your tickets?**

**Bean Blast Returns-on October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Bean Blast returns to St. Annes Centre from 11:30am -1pm in support of Community Outreach Dinners. Cost is \$10 and there will be entertainment! Please see Connie Parsons for tickets!**



**We could use some donations of goods for after church coffee time. While we appreciate Neil for donating oodles of coffee, we think he deserves a break now and then. So we can always use some ground coffee and goodies for Sunday morning. Thank you to Neil Hatch for being so generous.**