*St. Andrews United Church*



60 West Avenue, St. Thomas 519-631-4558

E-mail: standrewsucgra@rogers.com

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

October 5, 2025

World Communion Sunday

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Good morning and welcome in the name of Christ. Welcome to this place of worship, welcome to this place of blessing, this space of grace, and this holy sanctuary. 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 a blessing to others.

So, be welcome. Be blessed and simply be.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

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

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

Long before those of us who are settlers and those who are descendants of settlers came to this land to live, there were people here. We acknowledge that many Nations of Indigenous people have lived on the land. and we commit to the shared stewardship of this land.

**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**

Leader**:** Creator of all,
you have made us one family across nations and peoples,
woven us together with earth and sky,
with waters and winds,
with creatures great and small.

**People: We confess that we have broken this communion.
We have forgotten our kinship with the earth.
We have neglected our neighbours, near and far.
We have allowed pride, fear, and greed
to build walls instead of tables.**

Leader: You call us to share bread with the hungry,
but too often we cling to our plenty.
You call us to live gently with creation,
but too often we waste and destroy.
You call us to walk in peace,
but too often we divide and turn away.

**People: Forgive us, O God.
Heal what is broken.
Reconcile what is divided.
Renew us in love for one another,
and for the whole earth,
that we may be one at your table.**

(Silence)

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: In Christ, God’s mercy is boundless,
God’s love is sure,
and God’s welcome is wide enough for all.

**People:** **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Prayer of 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**

Exodus 19:1–6

Psalm 104:1–13, 24*a*

1 Peter 2:1–5

Luke 12:32–34

**Ministry of Music**

**Meditation - Wisdom to share**

**Hymn - I Have Called You By Your Name - 161 MV**

**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.

**Offering Hymn - For the Gift of Creation VU538**

 For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,

 and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,

 we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.

 May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

**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 the People**

Gracious God,
on this World Communion Sunday we give you thanks
that your table stretches wider than we can see,
gathering your people from every land and language,
every culture and tradition,
into one body through Christ.

We pray for your church around the world.
Where it is divided, bring unity.
Where it is weary, bring renewal.
Where it is bold in love and service,
strengthen and sustain it.

We pray for the world you created and love.
For nations scarred by war and violence,
for communities divided by fear and injustice,
for leaders who carry heavy burdens—
guide us all in the ways of peace.

We pray for the earth itself, our common home.
For forests and fields, mountains and rivers,
for the creatures with whom we share this planet,
for farmers and labourers who bring food to our tables.
Make us wise stewards and gentle caretakers
of the gifts you have given.

We pray for those who are hungry or without shelter,
for those who grieve or who suffer in body, mind, or spirit,
for those who are lonely,
and for all who long for hope.
Be near to them with your healing and comfort.

And we pray for ourselves, gathered here.
As we come to this feast,
nourish us with your grace,
renew us in your love,
and send us out to live as signs of Christ’s peace in the world.

All of this we offer to you, O God,
joining our voices with your people in every place and time,
as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us, saying:

**Our Father…**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Holy Communion**

**Invitation to Communion**

Welcome, friends near and far, gathered from many traditions and places.

We meet at the table of Christ, open to all who hunger and thirst for love, justice, peace, and hope.

Here we remember that we belong not only to our own communities,

but to a family of faith that circles the globe.

We gather in the house of the Creator, at the table of God,

where earth and sky, sea and soil, join us in praise.

In the very air that we breathe,

in the rush of wind through the trees,

in the rhythm of waves upon the shore,

we give thanks for your presence, O God.

In the voices of children and in the wisdom of elders,

in the song of birds and the hum of bees,

we give thanks for your presence, O Christ.

\*\*Leader:\*\* Lift up your hearts.

**\*\*People:\*\* We lift them up to God.**

\*\*Leader:\*\* Let us give thanks to the Creator of all.

**\*\*People:\*\* It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Holy and eternal God, Creator and Giver of all life,

source of love and fountain of mercy,

we bless you for the gifts of earth and sky,

for the abundance of harvest and the mystery of creation.

You spoke the Word and life began;

your Spirit moved over the waters,

and the earth was filled with goodness.

Through prophets and teachers, visionaries and saints,

you have called us to live with justice, compassion, and hope.

We thank you for Jesus Christ,

your Love made flesh,

who came among us as brother and friend.

In his life and ministry he touched the poor, welcomed the outcast,

and showed us the way of peace.

In his death and resurrection

we see the depth of your love and the wideness of your mercy.

And so, with all who hunger for justice,

with all who work for peace,

with the saints of every age,

and with all creation—

the winds and waters, the fields and forests,

the animals that creep and soar and swim—

we lift our hearts in one voice of praise:

**Sanctus (Unison)**

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and life, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of God.**

**Words of Institution**

As we gather at this global table,

we remember that on the night before he gave himself for us,

Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

“Take and eat. This is my body, given for you.

Whenever you share bread together, remember me.”

Then he took a cup, gave thanks,

and passed it among them, saying:

“Drink from this, all of you.

This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

**Memorial Acclamation (Unison)**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**Prayer for the Spirit**

Come, Holy Spirit—

bless this bread and this cup,

bless us and all the world you so love.

Unite us across differences of language and culture,

strengthen us to live as people of reconciliation,

and renew us in care for creation,

that we may share the hope of Christ with all beings.

Amen.

**Sharing the Gifts** (Servers Come Forward)

Come, for all is ready.

Come to the table with all creation.

Here is healing for our pain,

reconciliation for our divisions,

assurance for our doubts,

and hope for our tears.

As we share this bread and cup,

may we be nourished to live as one body in Christ,

serving together in love,

and proclaiming God’s peace to the ends of the earth.

(Gifts are distributed)

\*\*Leader:\*\* The bread of life, broken for you.

**\*\*People:\*\* Thanks be to God.**

\*\*Leader:\*\* The cup of blessing, poured out for you.

**\*\*People:\*\* Thanks be to God.**

(Servers may be seated)

**Prayer After Communion**

**Creator God, God of all people and places,**

 **you have called us by name and promised us your abiding love.**

 **Unite us as we celebrate our connection**

**to the multitudes who gather around Your Table as we do.**

 **Surprise us as we leave this place of sanctuary**

 **and go into the world to love and serve others. Amen.**

**Hymn - May the God of Hope Go With Us - 424 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

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.

**Three Fold Amen**

***Announcements***



**Euchre: next date is October 9th 2025.**

**PEARCE WILLIAMS EVENTS**

**Golden Getaway Seniors Retreat**

* October 14–17, 2025
* $450 per person (includes meals, accommodations, and activities)
* A 3-night retreat designed for seniors to relax, build friendships, and enjoy activities like hiking, crafts, woodworking, evening entertainment, and more — all in the beauty of fall at Pearce Williams.

**Weekly Seniors Programming – 55+ Social Hour**

* Every Thursday morning, 9:30–11:30 AM
* Free to attend
* Each week includes an active first hour (walks, tours, light activities) followed by coffee, tea, and community time together.

**Contact:** 519.764.2317 [www.campisbetter.com](http://www.campisbetter.com/)

