**St. Andrews United**

**Church**



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

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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**

**April 13th Palm Sunday**

**Welcome** (Candles lit during welcome)

**Call to Worship**

**L: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!  
P: Hosanna! Rejoice for the Lord is in our midst.  
L: He comes with joy and hope.  
P: He comes to set us free from fear.  
L: Hosanna!  
P: Hosanna! Glory to God in the Highest Heaven. AMEN.**

**Gathering Hymn** - **Hosanna, Loud Hosanna - 123 VU**

**Scripture Reading** - Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Yet still, Jesus was not recognized for who he was, for the transformation he was to bring.

(The first Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Sung Response** **- MV 90 “Don’t be afraid,”**

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord, we confess that when we started this journey, it seemed like a fun idea. Walk the road with Jesus, we thought. But the journey has had many difficult times when our spirits have been challenged and tried. We have come to the time of entrance into the Holy City. We want everything to be wonderful; for you to conquer all those things that threaten us and our peace. We want you to do what we direct. Forgive us, Lord, when we place our fears and ignorance before your love. Help us to look again at the many ways in which we can be a blessing to others, through serving them and you. Release us from our panic and mistrust and help us to place our lives solely in your hands. AMEN.

**Words of Assurance**

Rejoice, the Lord has come into your presence. You are the beloved ones of God. Know that God walks with you through this parade and time of celebration and in all the times ahead. AMEN.

When we forget to love, we are slowly plunged into deep shadows of despair.

(The second Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Sung Response** - **MV 90 “Don’t be afraid,”**

**Scripture Reading** Luke 19: 28-40

**Hymn** - **He Came Riding on a Donkey - 124 VU**

**Reflection - A Surprise Ending**

When we dismiss our commitment to relationship, we abandon who we are created to be.

(The third Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Sung Response** - **MV 90 “Don’t be afraid,”**

**Scripture Reading -** Luke 23: 1-49

2:  When we fall prey to greed and conflict,

1:  we become those who would snuff out the Light of the World.

(The fourth Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Sung Response** **- MV 90 “Don’t be afraid,”**

**Ministry of Music**

**Reflection**

1:  When we lack the courage of our faith,

2:  we allow more of the hatred and injustice in the world to dominate.

(The fifth Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Sung Response** - **MV 90 “Don’t be afraid,”**

**Invitation to Offering**

Join in the chorus! Give honour to Jesus Christ and bring your offering of praise to him. Rejoice in the coming of our Lord. Lay your treasures at his feet.

**Offering Hymn - Grant Us, God, the Grace - 540 VU**

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,

with a spirit large and free,

that ourselves and all our living

we may offer faithfully.

**Offering Prayer**

What can we offer that you have not already offered us?  
What can we do that you have not already done for us?  
Lord Jesus Christ, in your gifts to us,  
you have provided us the way to live and serve you.  
In both your triumph and your suffering, you deserve our praise.  
Through the gifts we now offer, we express our longing to serve  
and to follow wherever you go. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

When we lose hope in God’s promises, we become those who would shut out the light.

(The last Lenten candle is extinguished.)

**Communion Hymn - As We Gather at Your Table - 457 VU**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to Christ’s Table**  
Come and find your place at this table.  
Come without answers.  
Come without knowing peace.  
Come without preparation.  
Come find a place here.  
This is the table Christ prepares for us.  
This is the feast God imagines –  
here peace can be found in a simple meal.

**Communion Prayer**One: God be with you.  
**All:   And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them up to God**.  
One: Let us give thanks for the peace of God.  
**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**  
In the streets, In our homes,  
Here beside this table, We give you thanks,  
O Holy One.  
  
We give you thanks for giving us a story.  
Even when we do not understand its meaning,  
Even when we doubt it happened this way,  
Even when we want to rush ahead to the end,  
We know that you have given us this story  
in which to live and move and have our being.  
We remember that your story did not begin with this parade,  
but began when you came to move over the waters of creation.  
We remember the tragedies that came to your people.  
And we know that you were not silent.  
You gave your people a story.  
You gave your people a rainbow.  
You gave your people a song.  
You gave your people peace.  
  
Gather here with us now, O Holy One,  
Speak to us through this bread and this cup.  
Remind us of all the stories we’ve ever heard about you.  
Imbue these symbols with your peace  
So that we might find your peace within ourselves

**Words of Institution**

The parade has ended, the shouts of hosanna have been quieted. Evening has fallen as Jesus and his disciples gather for the Passover meal on what will be the night of his betrayal. Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you, do this in remembrance of me.

And in the same way, after supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: drink this, all of your; for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink of it in remembrance of me.

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

The Bread of life

The Cup of blessing

**Post Communion Prayer**

O Holy One, there are no words to describe the mystery of this bread and cup. There are no sighs too deep to reveal what we feel in sharing in this feast. Thank you for gathering us together to remember that you are always present among us. We lift our hearts in prayer, toward your spirit and pray the Prayer that Jesus taught us:

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Hymn - Sent Forth by God’s Blessing - 481 VU**

**Benediction**

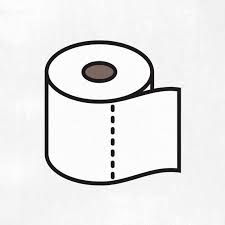
Go now in joy!   
Remember the day of celebration when Jesus boldly and humbly rode into the city of fear and anger.   
Do not fear.   
Do not be afraid.   
Go in peace. AMEN.

**Choral Amen**

***Announcements***

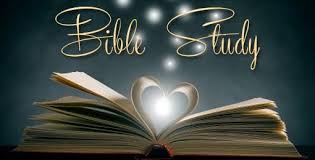
**Upcoming**

* **Prayer Shawl- April 16th at 10:30am**
* **Euchre April 17th at 1:30pm**
* **Good Friday Service April 18 at NVCC at 11am**
* **April 27th Worship Service will have a Baptism and the STYCC will perform.**



***The Foodbank item for April 20th is Mr. Noodles (any type).***

***Please make sure to attend the Good Friday Service at NVCC at 11am.***

**The Lenten Bible Study continues this week New Vision at 1pm. The theme is Faith and Music.**

Mark May 3rd on your calendar for the Annual Yard Sale. More info. To follow regarding donation, drop off dates etc.

Easter Sunday, please come celebrate “Hallelujah Christ is Risen”. Bring your friends and family and enjoy this wonderful service.

**Friends Fun night out without any “Tariffs!”**

**Inviting Members of Both Congregations!!!**

**Trifecta Tuesday - Raceway at the Western Fair District**

**Tuesday, April 22nd     5:00 pm to 10:00 pm**

**Senior’s (63+) Discount Price of $40 + 13% HST + 18% Gratuity**

**Buffet Meal**

**PLUS Free………$5 Raceway Voucher  
PLUS Free…… Play Casino $5 Voucher (only if you wish to use)**

**Contact Jim Hunter (519.631.6128) for details or sign up by APRIL 13th**