**St. Andrews United**

**Church**

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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: Brian and Lynn Sloan/

 Merna Edison/Thomas Bee

September 8, 2024

“The Fish will Declare to You”

**WE GATHER**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Good morning and welcome to this service - Job 12: 7-10 says

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;

ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you,
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the Lord has done this?

In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.

We are entering a new time, creation time, when life takes on a new rhythm, when we shift our attention to new adventures, so in that spirit let us worship the presence of God in creation.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

In the dawn’s cool glow, in the bright of the day, in the evening’s painted sky, in nighttime’s starry dark: The Christ Light shines, made bright by God’s love for all!

**Acknowledging Our Kinship**

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. Help us to become better neighbours so 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**

God of life, the earth and the sea and sky are yours.

**The starfish are loved by you and You delight in the splashing of the trout.**

May our worship be filled with the joy and deep peace we experience around us.

**May we truly be thankful for the beauty of this earth.**

And may we be truly open to being changed by you.

**Fill us with your Spirit, O God, and prepare us to live beautiful Lives. Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn - All Things Bright and Beautiful VU291**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God, our Light and Salvation,**

**forgive us for those moments when we have walked in darkness,**

**stumbling in the wilderness of quarrels, division, and bickering.**

**You have called us to follow you and to fish for people**

**but too often we think that our way is the only way to do your will.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for the brokenness that we bring upon ourselves.**

**God, the Stronghold of our Life,**

**hear our cry as we come to you for unity.**

**Send your Spirit to gather us as you desire us.**

**Remind us that unity does not mean uniformity.**

**Teach us that the “same mind” you call us to have**

**is not ours, but the mind of your Son, Jesus Christ,**

**in whose name we pray.  Amen.**

**Assurance of Grace**

**All God’s Children - Fishing 101**

**Hymn - Jesus Calls Us - 562 VU**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture Reading - Matthew 4: 12-23**

**Meditation - *Let the Fish Declare to You***

**Hymn - Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore - 563 VU**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offering Hymn - For the Gift of Creation - 538 VU**

**Dedication**

**A Moment for Concerns and Celebrations**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concerns**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn - Let All Things Now Living - 242 VU**

**Blessing and Commissioning**

In the strong name of God: Creator, Christ and Spirit, Go into the beauty of this day. Go with God’s blessings, with God’s presence and lead. You are never alone, go forth with God. Amen.

**Choral Amen**

***Announcements***

***Coming Events***

* *SAUC Board meeting- Sept.12 -10:30am*
* *Prayer Shawl-Sept.18 – 10:30am*



***The foodbank item for September 15 is Mr.Noodles- any type is welcome!***

Calvary United Church (290 Ridout St. S, London is offering a delicious Harvest Dinner on September 22nd starting at 5pm. Tickets are $20 and under 10 are free. Call 519-434-5526 for tickets

