

Saint Andrew's United Church

We are called to be the united church. Mission is our home. We foster belonging; provide spiritual accompaniment; and ask the deep questions

Season of Creation 3

September 21, 2025

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

++ Please rise in body or spirit

MV = More Voices; VU = Voices United;

TLUS = Then Let Us Sing

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING:

God be with you.

And also with you.

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

We worship on the unceded territory of the Halq'eméylem-speaking peoples.

CANDLE LIGHTING

WE WELCOME EACH OTHER AND WE CENTRE IN GOD:

In this time of worship,

let the colours of God's love come alive for us.

The blue of the lakes and seas, refreshing us.

The brown of the earth, grounding us.

The orange of a blazing sunrise, uplifting us.

In worship, we affirm God's nurturing love.

The pink of a gentle sunset, comforting us.

The green of trees and forests, sheltering us.

The black of night, bringing peace and rest.

In worship, we affirm God's caring love.

The yellow of inspiration, encouraging us.
The red of embracing life, energizing us.
The purple of imagination, emboldening us.

**In worship, we proclaim God's empowering love,
a love that calls us to care for all of creation.**

- Written by Gill LeFevre, *gatheringworship.ca*.

++HYMN: VU 660 – “How Firm a Foundation”

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD:

God our Creator,

Sometimes we imagine that the world is empty of your presence:

**that your glory is not in the storm,
your love is not in embrace,
your presence is not in a hospital room.**

Sometimes we imagine that we are dependent on our strength alone:

**in good times, we are proud;
in bad times, we are hopeless.**

[Silent Prayer]

AND WE ARE ACCEPTED:

But in the storm, if we listen, there is reassurance:

there is something More than us,

and we are a part of it.

We are a part of you.

**Whatever storms may come for us,
you are with us.**

**Whatever storms may come for others,
we are your presence with them.**

WE RESPOND: TLUS 84 - “Heleluyan”

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE: **Reader: Judith Ray**

1 Corinthians 1:21-31

Psalm 29 [VU 756]

Luke 8:22-25

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

++HYMN: VU 284 – “Joyful is the Dark”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE

PASSING THE PEACE:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER TLUS 70 [*Sung*]

MISSION AND SERVICE STORIES

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

Let us present our offering to the work of God.

++OFFERTORY: VU 542 – “We Give You But Your Own”

We give you but your own,

whate’er the gift may be.

All that we have is yours alone;

we give it gratefully.

The offering is brought forward.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

We thank you now for your gifts, God.

**We thank you for time, for talent, for treasure -
all that enables us to live and to serve you.**

But most of all, we thank you for wonder:
the sense of awe that connects us
to the depth and width of your creation,
the sweep of your grand vision for us.

**Caught up in wonder, singing your story,
we offer our selves to you.**

++HYMN: “In Wilderness We Wander”

WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD

++COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

EXTROIT: From MV 145

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we’ve ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door.

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

END OF WORSHIP

BEGINNING OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

Prayers in this worship service are taken from Celebrate God’s Presence.



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