

# Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH

Where liberal theology meets the best of tradition



**March 17, 2019**  
**Lent 2 - Comfort - St. Patrick's Day**  
**10:30 am**



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[www.fsaunited.com](http://www.fsaunited.com)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.



## **First-St. Andrew's United Church Staff**

**Rev. Michelle Down** Minister of Worship and Congregational Life

**Rev. Dr. David McKane** Visitation Minister, Minister Emeritus

**Terry Head** Director of Music

**Jane Dockrill** Youth & Young Families

**Tim Miedema** Facilities Manager

**Kathryn Skelly** Administrative Assistant

**Dr. Jo Ann Silcox** Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer

**Riley Langley** Nursery Care

**George Jolink** Chair of Council

**Heather Vouvalidis** Church Administrator

**Paul Merritt** Organist Emeritus



# Welcome



Together we all make up the family of First-St. Andrew's. If you are new to the family, please know that you are always welcome here. It would be our blessing to meet you after worship for Coffee and Conversation, and to share with you some of the many exciting things that are happening here at FSA. Rev. Michelle Down wants to hear from you! Please contact her at [revmichelledown@fsaunited.com](mailto:revmichelledown@fsaunited.com) or on her cell at 519-709-9554 anytime.

**Bold type** indicates congregational response. \* indicates to stand, if able.

## **Acknowledging the Traditional Territory**

*"We acknowledge that we are situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak and Attawandaron Nations. The Peoples of these respective Nations have longstanding relationships to the lands of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. Today, there are 11 First Nation communities in southwestern Ontario, including Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee-Delaware First Nation, Delaware Nation at Moravian, Chippewas of Caldwell First Nation, Walpole Island First Nation, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Kettle Point First Nation, Stony Point First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, and Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation. In addition, there is a growing Indigenous urban population. Further, we convey that we value and have deep appreciation for the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America)."*

## **Music to Enter into God's Presence:** Bob Peel - harp

Sally Gardens  
Mr & Mrs MacLean  
Walk In Belfast  
An Chuilin/The Coolin

trad. Irish  
Dougie MacLean  
composed by Irish harpist Janet Harbison  
trad. Irish

## **\*Hymn:** UV #410 This Day God Gives Me

BUNESSAN

*(Children leave for Sunday School - Forming Young Faith is happening downstairs for Lent as the children work on their theological presentation for Palm Sunday entitled 'Untie the Donkey', and their Mother's Day Spring Musical called 'Imagine God!')*



## **Diminishing the Light - Embracing the Darkness**

### **Music:** Walk Softly - choir

Bob Chilcott

When we assemble here to worship God,  
to sing His praises and to hear His word, we will walk softly.  
With purity of heart; and with clean hands,  
our souls are free, we're free from Satan's bands, we will walk softly.  
While we are passing thro' the sacred door,  
into the fold where Christ has gone before, we will walk softly.  
We'll worship and bow down we will rejoice,  
and when we hear the Shepherd's gentle voice we will walk softly.

Words and Music: Bob Chilcott. Copyright 2003. Oxford University Press  
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## Call to Worship:

Shelley Kostecki

One: Lent is a journey

**ALL: Together we journey inward, and forward.**

One: Inward to listen to God's call, guidance and leadership.

**ALL: Forward to embrace the darkness that promises a time of transformation.**

One: As we journey together, let us gather courage, and be gathered in hope.

**ALL: As disciples, let us be inspired to share the "pot-of-gold" that we find at the end of every rainbow of faith. May we be led by the Saints within our midst.**

## Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer:

Shelley Kostecki

\***Hymn:** VU #320 Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

HESPERUS (QUEBEC)

**Scripture:** Luke 13:31-35

Shaw Atherton

**Anthem:** When the Stars Fall  
Ana Persijn – solo

arr. Stephen Hatfield

**Message:** High King of Heaven

Rev. Dr. David McKane

\***Hymn:** VU #317 I Bind unto Myself Today

ST. PATRICK

## Announcements:

Second invitation to FSA Annual General Meeting - Sunday March 24, 2019  
Lunch sponsored by your FSA staff will be served immediately following the service.

## Offering

**Offertory Music:** Psalm Tune from *Celtic Suite*

Charles Callahan

**Offertory Response:** VU#107 Sunday's Palms are Wednesday's Ashes - vs. 2 SUNDAY'S PALMS

We have failed to love our neighbours, their offences to forgive,  
have not listened to their troubles, no have cared just how they live;  
we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving over-much our things;  
may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offering.

Words: Rae E Whitney, Music: Wilbur Held

Tune: © 1994, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

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## Prayers of Confession, Gratitude and Intercession:

One: You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.

**ALL: Tell me about despair,  
yours,  
and I will tell you mine.**

One: Holy God, hear the confessions of our hearts (*silence*)

One: Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,



**ALL:** over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.

One: Holy God, hear the gratitudes of our hearts (*silence*)

One: We are refreshed with the clean blue air, and find ourselves heading home also.

**ALL:** **Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.**

(Wild Geese by Mary Oliver 1935-2019)

One: Holy God, we lift up the names of these people, in our family of all things, for  
your intercession. (*silence*)

One: May the blessings of the Creator be with us all, as we travel through the  
Journey of Lent.

**ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** VU#642 Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

**\*Blessing and Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response:** A Celtic Prayer - choir

Barry Peters

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road,  
may the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.  
May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart open up your hearts to Love.  
May you see Christ in ev'ry one you meet,  
and may ev'ry one you meet see the face of Christ in you.  
Amen.

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**Music to Commission Us Into Service and Witness:**

Postlude from "Celtic Suite"

Charles Callahan



A special note of thanks is expressed to Bob Peel for adding his talents to the musical offerings for the day. It is wonderful to have Bob play some Irish tunes on the harp this St. Patrick's Day.



**Mar. 24th - Lent 3** - Examining "Pride." Music leadership with the FSA Strings. Please stay for the **AGM** and enjoy lunch served by the FSA Staff.

**Mar. 31st** - Do You WORRY? For **Lent 4**, we are going to be looking at the theme of Worry and what it means for us all.

**The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:**

Welcoming Ushers: Margaret Wardlaw, Deanne & David Pederson  
Narthex Co-ordinator: Barb Williamson and Liz Mignotte  
Coffee & Conversation: Mission & Outreach Committee  
Service Support: George Jolink  
Gift Card Sales: Ivana Klouda & David Manness  
We thank God for all those who share their gifts and talents.