

# *Welcome to* *First-St Andrew's* **UNITED CHURCH**

Where liberal theology meets the best of tradition



## **November 25, 2018** **Anniversary Sunday - Communion** **with Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa** **Executive Secretary of London Conference** **10:30 am**



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





# 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.

## Music to Enter into God's Presence:

Prelude and Fugue in C major BWV 531

J.S. Bach

Fughetta on "To God Alone on High be Glory" BWV 677

J.S. Bach

## Welcome & Announcements

### Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

**Music:** Jesus Loves Me  
Joyful Ringers



Sing a Song of Church Bells  
Junior Joyfuls

W. Lawrence Curry

Sing a song of church bells ringing in the steeple,  
calling all the children, calling all the people.  
Ding, Dong! Ding, Dong! Ding! Dong!

### Lighting the Christ Candle:

Three Generations of  
the Richardson Family

**Music** I Am the Light  
Junior Joyfuls

Terry D. Taylor

I am the Light, I am the True Light.  
I am the Light, the Light of the world.  
I am the Light, I am the True Light.  
I am the world's True Light.

Those who choose to follow me will never walk in darkness.  
Those who choose to follow me will never walk alone.

I am the Light...

Words and Music: Terry D. Taylor. Copyright 2013 Choristers Guild.  
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*(Children leave for Sunday School)*

**Welcome and Introduction of Guest:** Rev. Cheryl Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

**Call to Worship:**

Steve Elson

One: We gather here in this place,  
where the faithful have gathered for 186 years,  
to once again be inspired by the Grace and Love of God.

Come, let us sing of God:

**ALL: Holy Mystery, Triune, and One;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Mother, Friend and Comforter;**

One: God, Christ and Spirit,  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer

**ALL: Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,  
the One on whom our hearts rely.**

One: Come, bring many names,  
and bear witness to the Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love.

**Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer:**

Steve Elson

Holy Mystery, Wholly Love, receive our worship as an outpouring of gratitude and awe.  
Open us to Your still, small voice of comfort, and Your rushing whirlwind of challenge.

Move through our words and music, art and sacrament;

Speak our prayers of deepest longing, and knit our concerns and confessions into a  
prayer shawl of Your Grace.

Change our lives, our relationships, and our world during this time of worship we pray.  
In the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray together saying ... Our Father ...

**\*Hymn:** The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

Congregation sings verses 1 and 4, Choir sings verses 2 and 3

1. The Chu-rch's one found - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord; she is his new cre-  
7 4. Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One, and mys-tic sweet com  
a - tion by wa - ter and the Word. From heav'n he came and sough her to  
12 mun - ion with those whose rest is won. O bless - ed heav'n-ly chor - us! Lord,  
be his ho - ly bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
save us by your grace, that we like saints be - fore us may see you face to face.

**Scripture:** John 18:33-37

Joan Bancroft

**Sermon:**

Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

**Anthem:** This is the Day

John Rutter

This is the day, the day which the Lord hath made:  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

O praise the Lord of heav'n: praise him in the height.  
Praise him, all ye angels of his: praise him, all his host.  
Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light,  
let them praise the Name of the Lord;

For he shall give his angels charge over thee:  
to keep thee in all thy ways.

The Lord himself is thy keeper:  
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;  
so that the sun shall not burn thee by day:  
neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:  
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.  
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in:  
from this time forth forever more.  
He shall defend thee under his wings.

Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart,  
and put thou thy trust, in the Lord.

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## **Prayers of Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

## **Offering**

**Offertory Music:** In This Moment of Remembrance

Dale Wood

"Do this in remembrance of me" – Luke 22:19

### **Stewardship Seconds:**

God is the beginning and the end of all that we have,  
are, and do.



*Credit: Joyce Cosby*

**\*Hymn: "A Song of Faith"**

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

Mysterious God, beyond our grasp,  
 Eluding our description  
 Yet in your love, you reach to us,  
 Invite us to relation.  
 Creating cosmos out of void,  
 The universe set ringing,  
 By God our source, our harmony,  
 How can we keep from singing?

Untameable, redeeming God,  
 Alive in Holy Spirit,  
 Speaks prayers we can't, enfolds concerns,  
 Transforms us and this planet.  
 We worship you, God's still small voice,  
 God's whirlwind challenge flinging.  
 In commun'ty, in solitude,  
 How can we keep from singing?

From age to age, the church declares,  
 God; Father, Son and Spirit,  
 The One on whom our hearts rely  
 No matter how we name it.  
 Creator, Christ, Mother of all,  
 To You it is we're clinging,  
 The heart of life in us is God,  
 How can we keep from singing?

Creative God, self-giving love  
 Through galaxies is moving.  
 No thing exists apart from God  
 And so we sing thanksgiving.  
 The web of life, a mystery,  
 The cosmic dust is stringing.  
 One strand we are in God's great whole,  
 How can we keep from singing?

**Passing of the Peace to your Neighbour**

## Communion Liturgy

Executive Secretary: In the beginning, Your Spirit swept over the face of creation, animating all energy and matter, and moving in the human heart, creating, tending, and guiding all toward harmony with their Source.

President Joyce: We thank You for Your loving action in all things. Through our ancestors in the faith, You show us faithful living. You call us to be part of this communion of saints, experiencing the fulfillment of God's reign even as we anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.

Sanctus - choir

Executive Secretary: And we find You made known in Jesus of Nazareth, so we sing of God the Christ, the Holy One embodied.  
We sing of Jesus  
a Jew,  
born to a woman in poverty  
in a time of social upheaval  
and political oppression.

President Joyce: He knew human joy and sorrow.  
He healed the sick and fed the hungry.  
He forgave sins and freed those held captive.  
He crossed barriers of race, class, culture, gender and orientation.  
He preached, and practised unconditional love ...

Executive Secretary + President Joyce (in unison): and He commanded His followers to love one another as He had loved them ... as you are loved.

Executive Secretary: In Holy Communion we are commissioned to feed as we have been fed, to love as we have been loved. On the night of Jesus' death, He gathered with His disciples in the Upper Room. He took bread, blessed it, broke it open, and said: This is my body broken open for you, so that you might break open the teachings of Love and Peace that we have been sharing.

President Joyce: Then He took the cup that was before Him, and poured it out saying: May this remind you of the blood that runs within your veins and mine. The very life force that enables us to seek justice, and love kindness.

Executive Secretary: Eat and drink, and do this in remembrance of the one who taught, and teaches us to sing our faith boldly.

Memorial Acclamation - choir

President Joyce: And so we sing of Your Spirit,  
faithful and untameable,  
creatively and redemptively active in the world,  
and in and through these gifts of bread and cup.

Executive Secretary: Grateful for all Your loving action,  
we cannot keep from singing  
until all things have found wholeness and union in You,  
Holy God, Holy Mystery, Wholly Love.

Great Amen - choir

President Joyce: In this sacrament, the ordinary things of life point to the sacred in  
the midst of life.

Executive Secretary: All are welcome at this table, to share in God's vision of  
creation healed, and hearts restored. All are invited as Christ's  
guests and friends, where none shall go hungry.

President Joyce: Let us taste the mystery of God's great love for us, and be renewed  
in our faith of equality, our search for justice, and our commitment  
to reconciliation.

**Distribution of the Elements**  
*(Children return from Sunday School)*



**Communion Prayer** - Joyful Singers  
Lord, We Are Your People

Mark Patterson

Lord, we are your people, led by your love, fed by your grace.  
Lord, we are your people. Lead us today, teach us we pray,  
help us to follow your ways.

Help us to know which way to go, help us obey your commands.  
When others turn away, give us the strength to stay faithful and true,  
following you to the end.

Lord, we are your people.

Music and words: Mark Patterson. Copyright 2007, Choristers Guild.  
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**\*Hymn:** VU #481 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

THE ASH GROVE

## **Benediction**

**Choral Blessing - Joyful Singers**  
We're Building a Circle of Love

Lloyd Larson

We're building a circle of love; we'll start with you and me.  
We're building a circle of love; come join God's family!  
We'll reach out to our neighbourhood, and then to all the world.  
We're building a circle of love, my friends. We're building a circle of God's love.

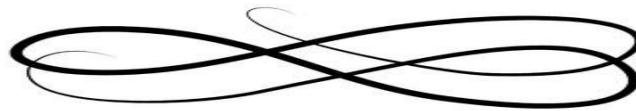
We'll share the love god's given us for all the world to see.  
The circle grows as others join our great big family.  
Let's sing it out till all have found that love sent from above!  
Come help us spread the news to all! We're building a circle of God's love!

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

Postlude on THE ASH GROVE

Joseph M. Martin



*Today we welcome the Rev. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, the Executive Secretary of London Conference. As of January 1, 2019, Cheryl-Ann will serve the church as one of six Executive Ministers. She will serve the areas of Regions 7, 8 & 9, that encompass the areas from Niagara Falls to Midland & Tobermory and south to Windsor.*

\*\*\* Today's liturgy is based on the United Church's statement of faith, "The Song of Faith", and excerpts of the liturgy have been adapted from a publication in the 2007 Gathering. You can find the full "Song of Faith" at

<https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/song-of-faith.docx>

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

Welcoming Ushers: Mary Vernon, Barb Dalrymple, Steve Elson and Carol Riddell-Elson

Narthex Co-ordinator: Chris Cheski

Coffee and Conversation: Karin Barth, Beth & Stewart Bailey

Service Support: George Jolink

Gift Card Sales: Margo Christodoulou & Heather Vouvalidis

We thank God for all those who share their gifts and talents.