

# Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH

Where liberal theology meets the best of tradition



## July 14, 2024 “The Witness of Decay”

10:30 am



350 Queens Avenue, London, ON N6B 1X6  
TEL (519) 679-8182  
[www.fsaunited.com](http://www.fsaunited.com)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



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

**Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence** Minister of Worship and Congregational Life

**Rev. Anne-Louise Jannaway** Minister of Pastoral Care

**Chris Fischer** Minister of Music

**Rev. Marilyn Arthur** Shared Youth & Young Adult Minister

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

**Rev. Karen Low** Voluntary Associate Minister

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

**Kathryn Skelly** Office Manager

**Christina Lindsay** Children's Program Coordinator

**Paul Merritt** Organist Emeritus

**David Wardlaw** Chair of Council



# 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.

*Hymn and anthem texts reprinted under  
One License #A-729129  
unless otherwise indicated*

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

*No Children's Time until September.  
Children should meet in the Fireside Room before worship.*

## Gathering Music:

Concerto in a minor, mvt. I  
Deck Thyself with Gladness

Paul Merritt, organ  
Vivaldi/Bach  
J.S. Bach

## Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence (he/him)

## Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

## Lighting the Christ Candle & Peace Candle

**Candle Lighting Hymn:** VU #642 Be Thou My Vision - verses 1, 2 & 4

SLANE

## Call to Worship:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

One: We look at the beautiful, green farmland around us; we are awestruck at the splendour of the lakes, captivated by the endless, starry skies.

**ALL: And joy fills our hearts for the beauty of Creation.**

One: We remember the support and encouragement of family and friends in the journey of life,

**ALL: And thanksgiving overflows for all the gifts of this day.**

One: We consider the future with all its joys, uncertainties, and challenges,

**ALL: And we rest secure in the loving presence that God will always give us.**

## Opening Prayer:

Loving and Surprising Spirit, gather us together. Unify our hearts, minds, and spirits. Send us reminders of your presence so that we never forget to notice. Attune us to your healing sound, your inviting melody. The sacred sound of creation. Your love has gathered us together, helped to relieve us in our grief, our guilt, and loneliness. Help us to navigate the way forward and to listen for your call. Make this day and this gathering a new beginning for us. Amen.

**\*Hymn:** VU #663 My Faith Looks up to Thee

OLIVET

**Scripture:** Mark 10: 17-31

Marilyn Norman

**Musical Reflection:**  
God is Spirit

Solo: Chris Wood, tenor  
J.S. Bach

God is Spirit, God is here,  
God is All and God is ev'rywhere.  
Only good did He create,  
Only good is theirs who on Him wait.  
We are made in God's reflection,  
Dwell we now in His protection,  
God is Spirit, God is here,  
God is All and God is ev'rywhere.

God is Life in whom we dwell,  
Hid with Him we know that all...is...well.  
God is Life in whom we move,  
He whose ever presence we may prove,  
So we find our true relation  
Perfectly as God's creation.  
God is Life in whom we dwell,  
Hid with Him we know that all...is...well.

God is Spirit, God is here,  
God is All and God is ev'rywhere.

**Scripture:** James 5: 1-6

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

**Sermon:** "The Witness of Decay"

**\*Hymn:** VU #700 God of Freedom, God of Justice

PICARDY

**Prayers of the People:**

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

**Prayer of Jesus:** (unison)

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Musical Offering:**

Lord, My Heart I Gladly Grant Thee

Solo: Chris Wood  
J. S. Bach

Lord, my heart I gladly grant Thee,  
enter there, enter there, enter there, I ask of Thee,  
Lord, my heart I gladly grant Thee,  
enter there, I ask of Thee,  
my heart will I gladly, yes, gladly grant Thee,  
enter there, I ask of Thee, enter there, I ask of Thee

Deep in it would I emplant Thee;  
though this earth to Thee be small,  
Thou shalt be my all in all, more than earth and heav'n to me;

within it would I, would I emplant Thee,  
and though to Thee earth be small,  
Thou shalt be my all in all, more,  
more than earth and heav'n to me.

**Gratitude**

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

\*Hymn: VU #120 O Jesus, I Have Promised

CRÜGER

**Blessing:**

**The light of God surrounds us;  
The love of God enfolds us;  
The power of God protects us;  
The presence of God watches over us;  
Wherever we are, God is!**

**Sending Music:**

Fugue in G Major

Paul Merritt, organ  
J. S. Bach

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

Welcoming Ushers: Paul Cooper, David Hiebert, and Steve Elson  
Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell Elson  
Service Support: George Jolink  
Tech Team: Tyler Koustrup, Merran Neville, Jim Silcox and Chris Wood  
Lemonade on the Lawn: Membership & Nurture Committee  
Gift Card Table: David and Winifred Wake.

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