

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

Where liberal theology meets the best of tradition



January 28, 2018
Baptism & New Members
10:30 am



350 Queens Avenue, London, ON N6B 1X6

TEL (519) 679-8182

www.fsaunited.com

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





Welcome



Bold type indicates congregational response.

* indicates to stand, if able

Music to Enter into God's Presence:

Ciacona in c minor BuxWV 159

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome & Announcements:

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Justin & John Cesarini

Music: Fuga in G, BuxWV 175

Dietrich Buxtehude

Call to Worship:

Ken Whatman

One: Sisters and Brothers, let us celebrate God's gift of Grace given to us in the sacrament of Baptism.

ALL: There is one body, and one Spirit; we have one hope in Christ Jesus.

One: By water and the Spirit we are called, claimed, and commissioned:

ALL: We are called God's own, welcomed as children of God. We are claimed by Christ, and commissioned as Disciples into the world, to seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

One: United with one another, and the whole of the Christian Family of every time and place:

ALL: We are called into this ministry of love and peace, mission and service. We come to serve you O God, and be Your servants in the world.

Stewardship Seconds:

Great are the works of the Lord. As stewards of God's creation, we delight in them.

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer:

Ken Whatman

One: We feel your welcome, gracious God, in this time of worship. You welcome young and old, all seeking peace, and all brimming over with your energy of Love.

We offer our gratitude for how you have CALLED us, and that we have been able to LISTEN to your CALL, and have chosen to FOLLOW YOU.

We thank you for your presence during our endless prayers last week during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

We ask for your special blessing upon all those who give you their heart this day, through baptism, and renewed vows of commitment and love.

We open our ears to your call; our hearts to your love; and our hands to your service. In the name of Jesus the Christ, who taught us to pray together saying: Our Father...

***Hymn:** VU #450 Here at This Font
(Children gather at the front during the hymn)

WINSCOTT

Sacrament of Baptism:

Introduction of John Mihailo Patrick Cesarini and Justin Robert Owen Cesarini
Jane Westmorland

Ashley and Leah, you have made it known that you would like to have your children baptized here at First-St. Andrew's. Please tell us about why you have chosen FSA as your church family to raise your children.



Questions of Intention for Parents:

Do you believe in God, Jesus the Risen Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Three in One; Holy, and Divine?

Parents: We do.

Do you promise to provide for your children,

JOHN MIHAILO PATRICK CESARINI & JUSTIN ROBERT PATRICK CESARINI,
a Christian home of love and trust?

Parents: We promise to provide a home filled with Christian values, and to teach JOHN and JUSTIN the ways of Christ, the ways of the church, and the ways of faith.

Will you set before JOHN and JUSTIN an example of the morals and beliefs by which you wish them to adhere?

Parents: We promise to live out the values, morals and beliefs that we wish for JUSTIN and JOHN. We promise to show by example, and teach by the gospel, the things that are important to us: to show kindness to the earth, and to each other; to be compassionate; to be a good listener and good friend; to love everyone in our community!

Will you promise to always put kindness and compassion in front of petty differences, and turn to your faith in God?

Parents: We promise to always turn to God, who will guide and assist us in the decisions that we make, both as parents and as people of faith, as we offer compassion, and receive self-forgiveness.

Do you promise to raise your children, as God raises all children with Faith, Hope and Love, with the greatest of these being Love?

Parents: We do so promise. With Jesus being our teacher, our inspiration, and our companion.

Vows of Promise for Whole Congregation:

Jane Westmorland

It is faith that has brought us all here today. Faith in God, faith in the church, and faith in this family. So I ask each of you here, are you willing to support these blessed children of God as they grow and mature in life and faith? If so, please respond: I am willing, with God's Blessing.

All Congregation: I AM WILLING – WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Do you promise, as their church family to love these children, to hold them in your prayers, and bless them with God's guidance and Grace?

All Congregation: I do promise to love them, pray for them, and support them in their Christian Journey of Faith.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing of the Water

Action of Baptism

We ask the name of this child, not because we are unsure of who stands before us, but instead that our intentions are named for all the universe to hear. From our lips to God's ears, this child is offered in grace and in hope.

What is the name of this child?
Trinitarian Blessing with water
Sign of the Cross
Blessing with Oil – Head, Hands, Feet

Lighting of Baptismal Candle
Family Certificate
Gift of Stained Glass Dove
Presentation to Community of Faith



arr. Lowell Mason

Blessing after Baptism: VU #965

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Introduction of Ashley Devine

Jane Westmorland

Questions of Intention for Individual:

Do you believe in God, Jesus the Risen Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Three in One; Holy, and Divine?

Ashley: I do.

Do you commit, to sharing your heart, your compassion and kindness, and your faith, with the people of First-St. Andrew's and all those that you meet.

Ashley: I do, with God being my helper.

What are the other vows and commitments that you would like to make this day?

Ashley: **I commit to honestly self-reflect, to not be afraid to ask questions so I never stop growing in my faith.**
I commit to trusting God, and all that God has in store for me, as a Christian, as a partner, and as a mother.
I vow to live faithfully into this new freedom that I have found in Christ Jesus.
I vow to do the best, and be the best, that I can be as a beloved child of God, and called disciple of Jesus.

Please share with us your story and desire to build this Covenant with FSA.

Hearing from: ASHLEY DEVINE

Vows of Promise for Whole Congregation:

Jane Westmorland

It is faith that has brought us all here today. Faith in God, faith in the church, and faith in this family. So I ask each of you here, are you willing to support this blessed child of God as she grows and matures in life and faith?

If so, please respond: I am willing, with God's Blessing.

All Congregation: I AM WILLING – WITH GOD'S BLESSING

Do you promise, as her church family to love Ashley, to hold her in your prayers, and bless her with God's guidance and Grace?

All Congregation: I do promise to love her, pray for her, and support her in her Christian Journey of Faith.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing of the Water

Action of Baptism

Blessing after Baptism: VU #965

arr. Lowell Mason

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
Amen.

(Children leave for Sunday School)

Anthem: Grow in Grace

Malcolm Archer

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Kay Hillier

Sermon: Adoptive Mama and Mommy, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Wise Elders and Friends ... A Story of Love is Found ... A Story of Faith is Told

***Hymn:** VU #343 I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

Covenant with New Member:

Introduction of Regina Moorcroft

REGINA MOORCROFT:

Do you desire to Covenant with the faith family of First-St. Andrew's United Church, and be part of this community of disciples, stewards and mission enthusiasts?

I DO.

Will you commit to sharing your Spiritual Gifts for the blessing of the whole community?

I WILL.

What will you offer to God and the community with this covenant?

I will commit to share my heart openly; to listen to God intentionally; and to tell the truth in love. I promise to be a faithful disciple here in this place, and wherever I find myself.

Are you, as the sponsor of REGINA MOORCROFT, willing to mentor and support her as she makes her entry into the full life of membership here at FSA?

Sponsor: I am honored to be able to support her entry into the full life of faith, discipleship and service here at First-St. Andrew's.

To the Congregation: (Please Stand as you are able)

Members of First-St. Andrews: We have heard the commitments and vows of REGINA. Are you prepared as a family to welcome her into this community of faith?

We are prepared and delighted to welcome her to this family of faith.

Are you willing to accept the Spiritual Gifts that she offers to share, and in return share your gifts of inclusion, acceptance, and welcome?

We are willing to accept who she is, and the gifts that she offers to share. We also commit to sharing our very best gifts of inclusion, acceptance, and welcome.



REGINA, First-St. Andrews is blessed to have you join this family of faith. We are delighted to receive you as a full voting member into this church. With this certificate comes all of the blessings and responsibilities of Christian Membership within First-St. Andrews United Church. To you we say:

WELCOME TO FIRST-ST. ANDREW'S!

Blessing after Membership Transfer: VU #965

arr. Lowell Mason

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.
Amen.

Offering:

Offertory Music: Dedication

Robert Franz

Offertory Response VU#581 When We Are Living – verse 2

SOMOS DEL SENOR

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Prayer of Dedication:

***Hymn:** VU#582 There's a Spirit in the Air – verses 1, 2, 3, 4

MONKLAND

***Blessing and Benediction:**

***Benediction Response:** VU#340 Jesus, Friend of Little Children

FARNHAM

Never leave me, nor forsake me; ever be my friend;
For I need you, from life's dawning to its end.

Music to Commission Us Into Service and Witness:

Trumpet Tune in C

Michael McCabe

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Joni Pypka, Mary Ellen Gustafson, Heather Locking-Cusolito
Narthex Co-ordinator: Catherine Charlton
Coffee & Conversation: Susan & Doug McGregor, Mason Robichaud
We thank God for all those who share their gifts and talents.