

Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH



April 19, 2026
Mission & Service Sunday
Earth Week
10:30 am



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

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 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

Christina Lindsay Children's & Youth Program Coordinator

Rev. Dr. David McKane Minister Emeritus

Dr. Jo Ann Silcox Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer

Kathryn Skelly Office Manager

Rev. Karen Low Voluntary Associate Minister

Paul Merritt Organist Emeritus

Steve Elson,

George Jolink,

David Wardlaw Co-Chairs 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
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unless otherwise indicated*

Bold type indicates congregational response. * indicates to stand in body or spirit

Gathering Music:

1. Simple Gifts
2. All Things Bright and Beautiful

Chris Fischer (they/them), organ
J. Wayne Kerr
Barrie Cabena

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence (he/him)

One: God is with us,
ALL: all the time,
 One: and all the time,
ALL: God is with us.

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Lighting the Candles

Candle Lighting Music: VU #307 Touch the Earth Lightly

TENDERNESS

Call to Worship:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

One: In the unfolding of the kin-dom, the least of these will be honoured.
ALL: Let the humble hear and be glad.
 One: In the dawning of a new day, the bright obvious bestows its grace.
ALL: Look to God and be radiant.
 One: In the midday sun, the groans of the earth move through our bodies, as
 earth-creatures.
**ALL: Let us receive this generational wisdom and relate to the "more-
 than-human" with humility.**
 One: As the days march on in the Anthropocene, fears grow and despair builds.
**ALL: Let Divine strength renew our own and send us forth to live with
 and love all our relations.**

Opening Prayer:

Abundant Creator, we have been called by name and claimed since birth, to be witnesses. Through your love we see the fragile beauty and unnecessary pain of the world. In your light we see those left alone in the darkness of the night, bereft of belonging and bearing enough sorrow for a lifetime. Daily we are graced with weather sufficient to our needs, not too hot or cold for survival—for now. We know that indifference to our more than human family leaves life itself vulnerable to destruction. We believe there is enough for all life to be supported, when we trust and share. Forgive the arrogance of our assumptions, the comfort of our consumption, and the refusal of responsibility. Lead us onward towards the co-creative emergence of extravagant welcome. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU #296 This Is God's Wondrous World

TERRA BEATA

Children & Youth leave for Worship and Wonder.

Scripture: Psalm 34: 1-14

Lindsey Robinson (she/her)

One: A Word of God for all people,

ALL: thanks be to God.

Musical Reflection: The Blue Green Hills of Earth
Choir

Kim Oler

For the earth forever turning,
for the skies, for ev'ry sea;
to our God we sing returning,
home to our blue, green hills of earth.

For the mountains, hills and pastures
in this silent majesty;
for all stars, for all the heavens
sing we our joyful praise to Thee.

For the sun, far rain and thunder,
for the seasons' harmony,
for our lives, for all creation,
sing we our joyful praise to Thee.

For the earth forever turning,
for the land that gave us birth,
to our God we sing returning,
home to the blue green hills of earth.

For the earth forever turning,
for the land, for skies and sea,
to our God we sing returning,
home to the blue green hills of earth.

***Scripture:** John 5: 25-29

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Outreach Moment:

Barbara Dalrymple (she/her)

Sermon: "Mission and Service now and in the future"

Glenn Waterman,
Vice President, Fundraising,
The United Church of Canada Foundation

***Hymn:** VU #595 We Are Pilgrims - omit verse 5

SERVANT SONG

*Please use alternate text (vs. 2 & 6) "Will you" instead of "Sister," "Brother"

Prayers of the People:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

One: Living Breath, in our holding and our releasing

ALL: hear our prayer.

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: In Beauty May I Walk
Choir

Jonathan Dove

In beauty may I walk,
All day long may I walk,
Through the returning seasons may I walk.

Beautifully joyful!
Beautifully will I possess again
Beautifully birds.

In beauty may I walk,
On the trail marked with pollen may I walk.
With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk.
With dew about my feet may I walk.

In beauty may I walk,
All day long may I walk,
Through the returning seasons may I walk.

With beauty before me
With beauty behind me
With beauty above me
With beauty all around me.
It is finished in beauty.

Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** VU #512 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

ABBOT'S LEIGH

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:

Outer Hebrides

Chris Fischer, organ
Paul Halley

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: David Flynn, Barbara Luft and Pauline Schlegel-Shank
Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson
Service Support: George Jolink
Tech Team: Scott Agboola, Robin Neaves, Jim Silcox, Kathryn Skelly and Chris Wood
Coffee & Conversation: Outreach Committee
Gift Card Table: David Manness and Heather Vouvalidis

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

