

Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH



June 28, 2026
Celebrated and Beloved
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
Christina Lindsay Children's & Youth Program Coordinator
Rev. Karen Low Voluntary Associate Minister
Rev. Dr. David McKane Minister Emeritus
Dr. Jo Ann Silcox Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer
Steve Elson, George Jolink, David Wardlaw Co-Chairs of Council
Chris Fischer Minister of Music
Kathryn Skelly Office Manager
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.

*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: Ubi caritas
Chris Fischer (they/them), organ

Mark Himmelman

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: MV #12 Come, Touch Our Hearts -omit vs. 5 Gordon Light
Soloist: Alastair Smyth (he/him), baritone - verses 1-3; Congregation vs. 4

Opening Prayer:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Gathered in this sacred and mysterious moment, we are humbled by the opportunities before us—to sing, pray, welcome, celebrate, dance, grieve, listen, and rest. These expressions of our shared humanity are often denied by systems of power, and sometimes by our own resignation to them. And it is true that they reflect not the way things are, but the way the Creator intends them to be. Today, we enact sanctuary, we co-create liturgy, and we name our time together as holy. A time and place where all are welcomed, all stories and struggles, all talents and tendencies. May each of us today experience that enthusiastic invitation to show up fully, unapologetically, and humbly, aware that our shared ground, the land of Turtle Island, the rivers and trees, are the source of our strength and insight. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU #380 She Comes Sailing on the Wind

SHE FLIES ON

Children & Youth leave for Worship & Wonder

Scripture: Psalm 139: 13-16 Tony Parker (he/him)

Sung Response: TLUS #105 May You Be Held - sung twice Juanita Austin

Scripture: Joel 2: 2 8-29 Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sung Response: TLUS #105 May You Be Held - sung twice Juanita Austin

Scripture: Acts 8: 26-38 Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sung Response: TLUS #105 May You Be Held - sung twice Juanita Austin

Scripture: Romans 8: 38-39 Rev. Michiko Bown-Kai (they/them)

One: A Word of God for all people,
ALL: thanks be to God.

Sermon: Rev. Michiko Bown-Kai

***Hymn:** TLUS #115 A Eunuch Trusted by My Queen STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

Prayers of the People: Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

One: Creator of Life
ALL: hear our prayer.

Prayer of Jesus: *(from The First Nations Translation of the Bible)*
Unison

O Great Spirit, our Father from above,
we honor your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day--
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.
The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.

Aho! May it be so!

Musical Offering: A Hymn for Self-Acceptance
Solo: Alastair Smyth, baritone

Wesley King

When you feel change might be hopeless, when you've given up on God,
when you feel you're not worth saving, that your beingness is flawed.
When your prayers still seem unanswered, not a sound from the Divine,
maybe you have been mistaken. God is sending you a sign.

Years and years, begging for turning into something that you're not.
The wrong prayer you have been praying. You are not God's afterthought.
You are made as God intended. You are perfect flawless too!
May each one of you remember, nothing severs God from you.

You are worth more than you realize. You are wonderfully made
in the image of our Mother, Father, Parent all the same.
Don't let doctrines of our churches use the Word to misconstrue,
for it's written in the scriptures, surely God delights in you!

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Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** MV#138 My Love Colours Outside the Lines

Gordon Light

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: Outside the Lines
Chris Fischer, piano

arr. Larry Nickel

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Frank & Sara Kearny and David McKane
Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson
Service Support: George Jolink
Tech Team: Derik Koustrup, Robin Neaves, Jim Silcox & Kathryn Skelly
Lemonade on the Lawn: Membership & Nurture Committee
Gift Card Table: Susan McKane and Heather Vouvalidis

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