



September 27, 2026
Truth and Reconciliation
Sunday
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	Chris Fischer Minister of Music
Rev. Anne-Louise Jannaway Minister of Pastoral Care	Kathryn Skelly Office Manager
Christina Lindsay Children's & Youth Program Coordinator	
Rev. Karen Low Voluntary Associate Minister	
Rev. Dr. David McKane Minister Emeritus	Paul Merritt Organist Emeritus
Dr. Jo Ann Silcox Designated Pastoral Care Volunteer	
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 (Candle lighting) Music: TLUS #159 "Way, way, way"
Congregation & percussion Traditional Anishnaabe lullaby

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

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Opening Prayer:

Torsten Young (he/him)

***Hymn:** TLUS #139 "Love Over Hate"

Pat Mayberry

Children & Youth come forward

Puppet Ministry

Natasha Evans (she/her)

with Roland Beach (he/him) & Chris Wood (he/him)

Prayer of Jesus: (unison)

Inspired by the Maori translation in the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain Bearer, Life-Giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God in whom is heaven.
The hallowing of Your Name echo through the universe;
the way of Your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;
Your will be done by all created beings;
Your beloved community of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
For the hurts we give to one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For You reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: "I Am a Child of God"
Sung twice

Chris Fischer

Children leave for Worship & Wonder

Scripture: Philippians 2: 1-13

Pearl Soewu (she/her)

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

Musical Reflection: "Omaa biindig"
Choir

Andrew Balfour

Sung in Ojibway

Nibi (*water*)
Ningaabii'anong (*west*)
Giiwedinong (*north*)
Waabanong (*east*)
Zhawanong (*south*)
Aki (*earth*)
Omaa biingig (*here inside*)

***Scripture:** Matthew 21: 23-32

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sermon: "Emptied and Opened"

***Hymn:** MV #76 "If I Have Been the Source of Pain"
Choir: verse 1; Congregation joins for verses 2-4

CAMACUA

Prayers of the People:

One: Holy God, in your mercy...
ALL: (Sung Response below)

Sung Response: TLUS #135 Send Your Peace Traditional Palestinian & Lebanese
(Hebrew only)

Adon ha-shalom (*O God of peace*)

Hamter aleynu shalom (*send down your peace on our world*)

Adon ha-shalom (*O God of peace*)

Male 'et lebeynu beshalom. (*fill our hearts with your peace.*)

Musical Offering: "Take Down These Walls"
Choir

Brian Tate

Take down these walls that divide us.
Take down these walls so deep inside us.
With all your heart and soul
reach out and make us whole.
When all resistance falls,
take down these walls.

Take out this pain that surrounds us.
Take out this strain that so confounds us.
Let ev'ry battle cease.
Gift us with joy and peace.
When struggle fades and falls,
take down these walls.

Can you hear us saying, shouting, praying?
Rise up together when the heart calls,
take down, break down,
take down these walls.

We will never stand to be divided!
We will never spread the word of hate and fear!
Always taking care of one another;
Wond'rous love is here!
Take down these walls that divide us.
Take down these walls so deep inside us.
With all your heart and soul
reach out and make us whole.
Can you hear us saying, shouting, praying?
Rise up together when the heart calls,
take down, break down
take down these walls.

Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** TLUS #22 "Build a Longer Table"

NOËL NOUVELET

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 "Build a Longer Table"
Chris Fischer (they/them), organ

Mark Sedio

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Judy Cull, Larry Niles and Donna Thompson
Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson
Service Support: Paul Merritt
Tech Team: Scott Agboola, Robin Neaves, Jim Silcox, Kathryn Skelly and Chris Wood
Coffee & Conversation: Faith Formation Committee
Gift Card Table: Pam Salmoni and Heather Vouvalidis

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