

Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH



August 16,
2026
“Torn and
Mended”
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
One License #A-729129
unless otherwise indicated*

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

Gathering (Candle lighting) Music: MV #154 Deep in Our Hearts

FREED

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.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Opening Prayer:

Gracious One, you spoke a world into being, and you still speak it into becoming. Not from the outside, as an unmoved mover, but from within—feeling every word and every silence we keep. We come this morning as families do: carrying old wounds folded into our pockets, carrying grudges we have learned to live with, carrying love that has not always found its way into speech. Not sure if the past can be laid down, uncertain whether the ones we have hurt or who have hurt us, can still be called kin. So meet us here, not first with judgment but with the same tears that Joseph could not hold back—tears that clear a room of pretense and make an honest word possible. Soften what has grown rigid, open what has become blocked. This we ask in the name of the One whose own mouth spoke what was in the heart. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU #606 In Christ There Is No East or West

MCKEE

Children & Youth leave for Worship & Wonder

Scripture: Genesis 45: 1-15

Jess Huber (he/him)

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

Musical Reflection: You Raise Me Up
Sydney Brouillard-Coyle (ney/nem), piano

arr. Albert Mendoza

***Scripture:** Matthew 15: 10-20

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sermon: "Torn and Mended"

***Hymn:** VU #556 Would You Bless Our Homes and Families

AITKIN

***Prayers of the People:**

One: Receive now, Creator,

ALL: our compassionate aspirations.

***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.

Musical Offering: Monarchs
Sydney Brouillard-Coyle, piano

Martha Hill Duncan

Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** MV #145 Draw the Circle Wide

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: This is Me
Sydney Brouillard-Coyle, piano

arr. Constantino Carrara

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Linda Badke and David Flynn

Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson

Service Support: George Jolink

Tech Team: Jim Silcox, Kathryn & Rebecca Skelly and Chris Wood

Lemonade on the Lawn: Membership & Nurture Committee

Gift Card Table: Susan McKane and David Wake

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