

Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH



August 23, 2026
“Creation Calls”
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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Bold type indicates congregational response. * indicates to stand in body or spirit

Gathering (Candle lighting) Music: TLUS #157 Where the Green Will Rise Again
WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

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

Susan McKane (she/her)

Opening Prayer:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Holy One, Source and Sustainer of Life, we come into this gathering carrying many worlds within us: the worlds of our families, communities, griefs, hopes, and the wider world of waters, roots, wings, stones and stars. Help us to listen beyond the limits of our own voices. May the soil teach us patience. May the waters teach us movement and persistence. May the trees teach us generosity and rootedness. May the creatures around us teach us that life is never lived alone. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU #307 Touch the Earth Lightly

TENDERNESS

Children & Youth leave for Worship & Wonder

Scripture: Exodus 1: 8 – 2: 10

David Girvan

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

Musical Reflection: Go Down, Moses Spiritual, arr. Harry Burleigh
Chad Louwerse (he/him), bass-baritone & Chris Fischer (they/them), piano

When Israel was in Egypt's lan'
Let my people go,
Opress'd so hard they could not stand,
Let my people go,
Go down, Moses, 'Way down in Egypt's lan',
Tell ole Pharaoh, to let my people go.

Thus saith the Lord, bold Moses said,
Let my people go,
If not I'll smite your first born dead,
Let my people go.
Go down, Moses, 'Way down in Egypt's lan',
Tell ole Pharaoh, to let my people go!

***Scripture:** Matthew 16: 13-20

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sermon: "Creation Calls"

***Hymn:** MV #135 Called by Earth and Sky

arr. Margaret Stubington

***Prayers of the People:**

One: ...we pray.

ALL: May life flourish among us.

***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 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: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Chad Louwerse, bass-baritone & Chris Fischer, piano

arr. Moses Hogan

He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got all the power in His hands,
He's got all the power in His hands,
He's got all the power in His hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands,
He's got you and me, sister, in His hands,
He's got the little baby in His hands,
He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got mother and father in His hands,
He's got the stars and moon right in His hands,
He's got ev'rybody in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** VU #651 Guide Me, O Thou Great (and Holy)*

CWM RHONDDA

*Please use alternate text (vs. 1) "and Holy" instead of "Jehovah"

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: Guide Me, O Thou Great and Holy
Chris Fischer, organ

Paul Manz

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Larry Niles and Katherine Wonfor

Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson

Service Support: George Jolink

Tech Team: Robin Neaves, Merran Neville, Barb Ridgewell, Jim Silcox and Allison Wyant

Lemonade on the Lawn: Membership & Nurture Committee

Gift Card Table: David & Winifred Wake

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