

Welcome to First-St Andrew's UNITED CHURCH



March 29, 2026
Palm 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

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
One License #A-729129
unless otherwise indicated*

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

Gathering Music: FSA Strings; Thomas Hinds, conductor

Calon Lân

Prelude and Allemanda

Myfanwy

Middle Music

March

traditional Welsh, arr. Thomas Hinds

Arcangelo Corelli, arr. Carole Rabinowitz

traditional Welsh, arr. Thomas Hinds

Thomas Hinds

J.S. Bach, arr. Daniel Kelley

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.

Stewardship in Lent: Please consider making a special donation this Easter using the
Easter Offering envelope handed out with your order of service, or online by going to
the FSA website www.fsaunited.com. Thanks!

Acknowledging the Traditional Territory

Lighting the Candles

Candle Lighting Music: Pueri Hebraeorum (*Children of the Hebrews*)

Choir; Chris Fischer (they/them), director

G. P. da Palestrina

(sung in Latin)

The Hebrew children
bearing olive branches
went forth to meet the Lord,
crying out and saying:
Hosanna in the highest.

Call to Worship:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

One: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Holy One

ALL: Who comes not to reinforce systems of domination but to unmake them.

One: In Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, neither enslaved nor free, no division of gender or station.

ALL: For we are all one. We are all heirs. We are all invited into the freedom of Christ.

One: This is no mild freedom, no managed style. It is a freedom that demands we grow up.

ALL: And dare to ask: Who will we choose to be? How will we choose to become?

Opening Prayer:

Holy and Expressive God, the one whom no name fully contains, whom no tradition wholly exhausts, whom no law perfectly describes—we come before you on this Palm Sunday aware of our own entanglements. We confess that freedom frightens us. We have grown accustomed to our guardians—the rules, the rituals, the ranks that tell us who belongs and who does not, who is worthy and who must first prove themselves. On this day, as the crowd lays palms before a humble procession, we lay before you our need for the divisions, our investment in a world ordered by human hierarchies. Open our ears to a word that unsettles the old age and announces the new. Open our hearts to the nearness of your kin-dom. And grant us the courage not merely to hear it, but to bear it—to bear the weight and wonder of freedom in Christ. Through the one who enters Jerusalem not as a ruler but as a servant, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** VU #128 Sanna, Sannanina
Janis Wallace (she/her), djembe

SANNANINA

Children & Youth come forward for Puppet Ministry

Puppet Ministry: “Extravagant Welcome” Leah Morise, Alastair Smyth & Chris Wood

Children & Youth go to Worship and Wonder.

***Scripture:** Matthew 21: 1-11

Katherine Wonfor (she/her)

One: A Word of God for all people,

ALL: thanks be to God.

Musical Reflection: Wondrous Love
FSA Strings

traditional hymn, arr. Thomas Hinds

Scripture: Galatians 3: 23 - 4: 7

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

Sermon: “Unbearable Freedom”

***Hymn:** VU #627 Now There Is No Male or Female

OMNI DIE

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: Child of God
Choir; Lesley Andrew, alto soloist

Mark A. Miller

No matter what people say, say or think about me,
I am a child, I am a child of God.
No matter what people say, say or think about you,
you are a child, you are a child of God.
No matter what the world says, says or thinks about me,
I am a child, I am a child of God.
No matter what the church says, decisions, pronouncements on you,
you are a child, you are a child of God.
And there is nothing, or no one who can separate,
they can't separate you from the truth
That you're someone, you are family, you are meant to be,
A child, a child of God!
You are a child, a child of God!

Gratitude:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Lawrence

***Hymn:** VU #127 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! (Tune: VU #108) WINCHESTER NEW
(see insert)

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: The Heavens Are Telling Franz Joseph Haydn, arr. Daniel Kelley
FSA Strings

The Leadership in Today's Service Includes:

Welcoming Ushers: Frank & Sara Kearney and Barbara Luft
Narthex Co-ordinator: Carol Riddell-Elson
Service Support: George Jolink
Tech Team: Robin Neaves, Merran Neville, Jim Silcox, Kathryn Skelly and Chris Wood
Coffee & Conversation: Board of Trustees
Gift Card Table: Barbara Dalrymple and David Wake

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