

St. Andrew's United Church,  
188 Wellington Street

<http://www.standrewsunitedmiamichi.org>

**Minister:** Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight  
**Organist & Choir Director:** Mrs. Lois McKinnon  
**Musical Leadership:** Men's Choir

**April 25, 2021**  
**Fourth Sunday after Easter**

**We Gather to Worship**

*\*indicates to stand as you are able*

***Masks must be worn at all times; congregational singing permitted with mask on.***

Musical Prelude

Greeting

\*Introit: #574, vs.1&4

**Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you;  
wonderful love, wonderful love,  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.**

**Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!  
Come and abide, come and abide;  
lifting my life till it rises above  
envy and falsehood and pride;  
seeking to be, seeking to be  
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.**

\*Lighting of the Christ Candle:

One: We come to celebrate the love of God in Jesus Christ – for us,  
for this community, for all creation.

**All: This love reaches into our lives, inspiring us to reach out to  
those in need – around the corner and around the world.**

One: We light this candle to celebrate the light of Christ, the One  
who offers love and acceptance, not judgement and rejection.

**All: We light this candle celebrating the good news that  
wherever we go God is with us.**

2.

*Candle is lit as we sing (#87, chorus):*

**I am the light of the world  
You people come and follow me.  
If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery  
of what you were meant to do and be.**

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\*Call to Worship:

God loved the world, God loves the world, all are beloved!

**May this love story shine in our worship, inviting us to share  
this love near and far.**

We come with our joys, our hopes, and our fears. We come, drawn  
together in God's love.

**We are here to listen for God's love story lived out in those who  
were part of the early church.**

They would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the  
proceeds to all, as any had need.

**We come to learn ways we can care for God's people and  
creation.**

Friends of God, here and everywhere, let us worship!

\*Opening Prayer:

**Loving God, Holy One, speak to us today. Grow something good  
in our community. Expand our imaginations of what is possible.  
Stretch our understandings, that we might more fully know the  
depth and breadth of your love for all Creation. This we pray in  
the name of Jesus. Amen.**

\*Hymn: #602, Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*Prayer of Confession*

**God who defies expectations, we confess that sometimes in our  
need to feel we belong, in our haste to find places of safety and  
comfort, we sometimes close the door on others. We create  
barriers between us and them. We set limits and boundaries and  
conditions on the grace that you give us—grace meant for  
sharing.**

**Forgive us, loving God, and open our minds and our hearts, that  
there might be room for the Spirit to enter in. Gracious God,  
hear our silent prayers as we confess those things that separate  
us from you and from each other... (silence)**

3.

Sung Response: #608, vs.1

**Dear God, who loves all humankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re-clothe us in our rightful mind;  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.**

Words of Assurance:

There is good news in the promises of scripture and the ever expanding embrace of God. When we lay before God our shortcomings, our shame is washed away, and we stand as new creations, showered in the abundant goodness of God.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **The Word of God Proclaimed**

Prayer for Illumination:

**In the readings this day, O God, we seek understanding and guidance for our life of faith. Comfort and challenge us to greater faithfulness and dedicated discipleship. Amen.**

\*Responsive Reading: Psalm 67, p. 786

N.T. Lesson: Acts 10:1–35, 34–48 (*Peter and Cornelius*)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 14: 16–23 (*Parable of the Great Banquet*)

Ministry of Music

Reflection on the Word

### **We Respond to God's Word**

\*Hymn: #579, The Church Is Wherever God's People

Birthday Box for WDR

Dedication of our Offering

\*Offertory Choral Response: #191, MV

**What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy, I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love, I'll do my share.**

4.

\*Offertory Prayer:

**Holy Creator, we offer these gifts to you, even as we offer ourselves in Christ's service. May our varied gifts serve all your people and help us come together in a community of your love. Amen.**

Prayers of the People: (*seated*)

\*Hymn: #135 (SofG), Trust and Obey – vs. 1,3,4

\*Benediction:

L: Beloved of God, go into this world that God loves, and seek God's face in God's people everywhere.

**We will take with us the blessing of the Holy Spirit, who moves amongst us inviting all people into God's expanding story of love.**

May all the blessings of God be ours as we share them with others.

**Amen.**

\*Choral Blessing #422, God Be with You till We Meet Again

(vs.1)

Musical Postlude

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**We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins in loving memory of Brian Hicks (deceased April 24, 2015) by parents Brenda & Dave Hicks and Family.**

### **Memorials**

In loving memory of **Brian Hicks**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Jacky LeBreton.

In loving memory of **Donna Swezey**, a donation to Local Funds has been received Bill Swezey and Family.

In loving memory of **Donna Swezey**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Donna Curtis.

5.

In loving memory of **Ricky MacDonald**, donations to Local Funds have been received from Bill & Lib Hachey, Joan Ross, Bethel United Church Women.

In loving memory of **Paul Doucette**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Barbara Doucet.

In loving memory of **Paul Doucette**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Denis & Liz Desaulniers.

In loving memory of **Pat Furlong**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Barbara Doucet.

In loving memory of **Arnold & Patricia (Patterson) Jones** (birthdays April 4 & April 21) a donation has been received from Helen & Ed Jones and Family.

In loving memory of **husband, Aubrey Digdon and granddaughter, Erin Noye**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Barbara Digdon.

**Greeter: April 25** – Donna Curtis/**May 2** – Joan MacKnight-Savoy/**May 9** – Joan MacKnight-Savoy

**Recorders: April 25** – Barb Doucet/**May 2** – Bev Campbell/**May 9**- Bev Campbell

**Ushers: April 25** – Merle Milson/**May 2** – Barry Campbell/**May 9** – Barry Campbell

**Power Point: April 25** – Juanita Hamilton/**May 2** – Barry Campbell/**May 9** – Debbie Benson

**Sound System: April 25** – Ernie MacLean/**May 2** – Brian Savoy/**May 9** – Don Bowman

**Offering Counters: April 25** – Juanita Hamilton, Carol Johnston/**May 2** – Brian Savoy, Barry Campbell/**May 9** – Judy Morrison, Don Bowman

**Please note:** There was a mistake in last week's bulletin on the congratulations on the birth of Elijah Willard James Lawson, great grandson of Marilyn & James McGerrigle - he was born on April 10, 2021.

6.

**Announcements**

**This Week:**

**Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** – *Men's Choir*

- *Birthday Box for WDR in honor of those with April Birthdays*

**Upcoming:**

**Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** – You are encouraged to bring items for the Food Bank (*such as Peanut Butter, Jam, Cereal, Canned Fruit, and Personal Hygiene Items for men and women*)

**Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 6:00 p.m. – *Clean-up of Church Grounds. Volunteers are needed and people are asked to bring their own rakes and shovels.*

**Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** – 10:00 a.m. – Church Council Meeting

**Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** – **Mother's Day/Christian Family Service** people are asked to please pre-register for this service by calling the church office 773-9932.

**Rev. Charlene will be on vacation from April 26<sup>th</sup> till May 3<sup>rd</sup>.** The **worship service on May 2<sup>nd</sup>** will be led by members of the Faith & Spiritual Development Team. In case of pastoral emergency, when she is not available, Rev. David Allan will cover.

**Reminder re Hospital Visits:** If you know of someone in hospital from our congregation who would appreciate a visit, please notify Rev. Charlene. She has no access to computer lists in these days of Covid-19.

**The Ham & Scallop Supper realized a profit of \$1,679.66.** We would like to thank all who supported this fundraiser by purchasing tickets, donating and volunteering their time.

**The next takeout meal will be on May 19<sup>th</sup>** and will be Pork Roast Supper with potatoes, carrots, turnip delight, gravy, apple sauce, roll and choice of sticky toffee pudding or Hawaiian cake (dessert choices are limited). Tickets will be \$15.00 a person and will go on sale May 1<sup>st</sup> by calling the church office. (110 tickets are being sold)

**Stroll For Your Soul:**

Do you walk regularly? Here is an offer through The Prayer Bench. You can have a brief email delivered each morning from Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Each email offers a practice, or reflection, or poem, or photograph giving direction and encouragement to your time spent strolling in your neighbourhood. These emails help you notice the glories of Spring and deepen your awareness of seeing the Divine in the ordinary.

*The resource is a collaboration between Kereru Publishing in New Zealand and The Prayer Bench in Canada.*

If you wish to sign up for these daily emails, please contact Rev. Charlene or the church office by May 10th at the latest to have your name added to the list.