

July 31, 2022 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Church gathers – we come together as people of the spirit

Welcome and Announcements

Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory

Call to Worship

We are called to be like God – gardeners in our world.

We are called to dig deep, to find meaning in the rich abundance of living.

We are called to turn over the soil, to free our lives of entangling weeds, to clear away the dead wood and find the life growing within.

We are called to plant, to nurture, to harvest what has been sown, and share and exchange the good we have harvested with our friends and neighbours.

Through sunshine and rain, through the turning seasons of the year, through the hard heavy work and the smooth easy days.

Let us rejoice and make the most of the gardens we are given, of the tools we have to hand, and the fruits of the days we are blessed with.

Opening Hymn: VU 409, Morning Has Broken

Gathering Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (Sung VU 959)

Creator of all this tangled garden we call our world, filled with all its challenges and hopes, its despairs and frustrations, its storms and its sunshine – help us bring peace and healing to our world around. Gift us with the wisdom to nurture strength and growth, knowing when to enrich and fertilize, and when to stand back and let time and God bring to fruition that which we only vaguely see.

When we prune too hard, causing sadness and pain, forgive us. When things seem out of control, give us the wisdom to see the tools at hand to clear the tangle and bring out the true form. And when we are tired, give us

pastures green and cool waters to rest beside, a calming place to refresh and soothe our shattered souls. This we pray in the name of Jesus, in the words we now sing together... Our Father...

Our Words of Affirmation and Assurance

Kids' Time: Growing in Awareness "He's the Vine"

To Hear the Story – we listen for the wisdom of God's spirit

The Scripture Readings – Karen Brophy

Jeremiah 29:1-7

John 15: 1-8

One: These words are offered as wisdom for our journey.

All: Let us walk together in their truth

Hymn: VU 227, For the Fruit of All Creation

**The Proclamation "Gardens: Dig Deep, Discover Meaning"
*Guest Speaker: Donna Sinclair***

Music for Reflection: MV 144, Like A Healing Stream

To Be the Story – we respond with spirit-filled faith and service

Sharing our Gifts – Invitation and Dedication

Offertory: MV 19, What Can I Do?

**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.**

Prayers of the People – Kim Robinson

To Tell the Story – the sending forth

Hymn: VU 586, We shall go out with Hope of Resurrection

The Sending Forth

Let us go out into God's garden with the tools God has provided...

Gentle hands for sowing and tending,
Loving spirits for feeding and nurturing,
Courageous spirits for weeding and pruning,
Generous hearts for sharing the harvest of God's love.

Choral Response

As our path wanders onward to the rising of the sun,
may the wind that moves among us, help us travel through
all harm, 'til the evening of life shines forth into dawn, may
God be with us as we go, as we go, in peace.

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Our Mission Statement

St Andrew's is an inclusive and affirming Christian
Community of faith, worshipping God and serving others.
Inspired by Holy Scripture and guided by tradition, reason
and experience, we share the ministry of Jesus Christ by
nurturing spiritual growth, caring for creation and being
with those in need.

Worship Leadership Team

Liturgist: Liz Brownlee

Guest Speaker: Donna Sinclair

Video production: Derek Stott

Projection & Images: Kimberly Delarosbel

Director of Music: Ralph Johnston

Choir: Marg Fleming, Sheila O'Brien, Liz Brownlee, Karen
Gooch, Derek Stott, Stuart Bailey

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Worship at St. Andrew's "Gardens: Dig Deep, Discover Meaning"



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