



**SYDENHAM STREET**  
UNITED CHURCH



May 3, 2026

11:00 am

Our congregation meets on traditional  
Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory.  
We are grateful to live, worship and gather on this land,  
as we join together to share in the care of God's creation.

**May 3, 2026**

## **Welcome**

## **Land Acknowledgement**

**Introit** "Thanks be to God" by F.R.C Clarke

*Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory*

*Through our Lord Jesus Christ, through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## **Call to Worship**

Blessed are you, spring,

Bright season of life awakening.

You gladden our hearts

with opening buds and returning leaves

as you put on your robes of splendor.

Blessed are you spring,

season of home and renewal.

Each year you amaze us

with the miracle of returning life.

Let us calm our hearts and still our minds as we prepare for worship.

*(Adapted from The Circle of Life: The Heart's Journey Through the Seasons by  
Joyce Rupp & Marina Wiederkehr)*

**Hymn** MV 145 "Draw the Circle Wide"

## **Theme Introduction**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Loving God,

you speak to us in many ways:

in the song of a bird,

in the babbling of a brook,

in the voices of our friends,

in the hug from a caregiver,

in the songs we sing,

and in the stories of the Bible.

Speak to us now through the reading of scripture.

Help us to hear your voice

and follow the way of Jesus. Amen.

## Scripture

Acts 17:16-31

Acts 17:16-31

God's Word is a lamp to our feet,  
and a light to our path. Amen.

**Hymn** VU 372 "Though I May Speak"

## Connecting & Contributing

### Prayer of Dedication

Accept, O God, this money offered,  
these gifts given,  
the goodwill of our hearts—  
that disappointment may be turned to hope,  
and worry may be turned to wonder,  
in the spirit of Easter. Amen.

### Anthem "In Joseph's Lovely Garden"

Words by Helen Dickinson; Arranged by Clarence Dickinson

*In Joseph's lovely garden, the Lord Christ's tomb was made,  
And there His broken body To rest was gently laid.  
A great rock strongly sealed it, That Death might have full sway;  
But God sent down His angel to roll the stone away.  
When dawn was faintly breaking Across the garden fair,  
Three women entered weeping, Bearing spices rare.  
Then, spake the guardian angel, In shining raiment bright,  
He whom ye seek is risen, and death is vanquished quite!  
Oh, Jesus, blessed Redeemer, All praise to Thee we bring,  
No power of death could hold Thee, Our Saviour, Lord and King!  
As Thou hast ris'n, all glorious, May we one day arise,  
O'er sin and death victorious in Thy blest Paradise.*

**Reflection** "Live and Move and Have Our Being"

**Sung Response** MV62 "There is Room for All"

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Prayer of Jesus (sung)**

Our Father, our Mother,  
loving God in whom is heaven,  
may your name be made holy,  
may your reign come.  
May your will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us today the bread we need  
and forgive us our debts  
as we have forgiven our debtors.  
And do not put us to the test  
but free us from evil,  
for yours is the dominion  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Words: United Church of Christ USA, 1995, adapted.

Music: Wendy Edey, 2002

**Hymn** VU 296 “This Is God’s Wondrous World”

## **Blessing & Sending Forth**

### **Passing the Peace**

*\*Jesus greeted his disciples with the word, “Peace.” You are invited to turn to your neighbour and greet them warmly with words of peace and care.*

Sydenham Street United Church strives to  
**follow** in the way of Jesus,  
**seek** justice and  
**nurture** inclusive community.



In need of prayer or support? Contact our Circles of Companionship or  
Rev. Catherine at 613-546-9616 ext 203 or [minister@sydenhamstreet.ca](mailto:minister@sydenhamstreet.ca)

**\*This worship service is a public event livestreamed on YouTube – please be  
advised that you may be photographed or videorecorded while in attendance**

**Thank You for Talents Shared Today:**

Reverend Erin Burns, Guest Minister  
Howard Lopez, Music Director  
Vicki Ruthven  
Sydenham Street Choir  
Rosalind Malcolm, Reader

82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4  
613-542-9616 ext. 202

Email: [admin@sydenhamstreet.ca](mailto:admin@sydenhamstreet.ca)

Web: <https://sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/>

Online Sunday Services: [www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet](http://www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet)

## Thank you for your financial support!

There are many ways to financially contribute to the ministries at  
**Sydenham Street United Church**

- Electronic Transfer (eTransfer) [givings@sydenhamstreet.ca](mailto:givings@sydenhamstreet.ca)
- Donate by Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR)
- Donate through [CanadaHelps](#)
- Place donation in offering plates at the sanctuary doors

For further information:

<https://sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/donate/>