

Welcome to the worship service of
St. Andrew's United Church, Chalk River, Ontario
on this Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021

Kindly enter this time centering on God, prepared to meet
God.

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

SCRIPTURAL GREETING/WELCOME

**GATHERING HYMN: "One More Step" VU 639 (vs
1,2,3,4)**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:

WE ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP

(adaptation of Psalm 22:25-31 The Message)

Here is the great gathering for worship. I have discovered this praise
life. And I'll do what I promise right here in front of everyone. Down-
and-outers sit at God's table and are filled. Everyone searching for
God is here, praise him. "Live it up from head to toe. Don't ever quit!"

**From the four corners of the earth we come running. Lost
families all, we fall down before God. God is in charge having the
last word. All the powerful, all the poor and powerless, even those
who couldn't get it together are here to worship. The children will
be in on it as the word passes from parent to child. This is the good
news heard, that God does what he says. We gather to hear it
again and praise God in song and prayer.**

**CENTERING PRAYER/ PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Creator
God, open our senses to your direction so we may be alert to the
opportunities you send our way. Opportunities to share the good
news that fills us with others who seek meaning in their lives.
There is much in life we do not understand. Renew in us the
wonder of life with you and lead us in our seeking to know your
word. As we meet you here, our hearts are lifted in praise. May
our worship glorify your name and be pleasing to you. Amen.**

Point to Ponder: Is there an image that helps you feel most connected
to Jesus?

HEARING GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 8:26-40

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

GOSPEL READING: John 15:1-8

MESSAGE: "Branches on a Vine"

HYMN: "Abide with Me" written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet, First
Lutheran Church, Rugby & Leeds, North Dakota. *Gathering, L/E*
2021, page 25. *Used with permission.*

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

COMMUNITY LIFE

**OFFERING/PRAYER: Gracious God, your love has sustained us
through all this life has presented, trials and triumphs, blessings
and burdens, and all temptations. We give of ourselves because we
are grateful. We are thankful for those who have guided our
attempts to understand scriptures. Your loving judgement has
provided the pruning our lives require to bear fruit in your name.
We give to extend to others the blessings we have received and to
continue your ministry as we seek to live together in your light and
love. Amen**

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" VU 400

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Hymn: "In the Bulb There Is a Flower" VU 703

BLESSING

"YOU SHALL GO OUT WITH JOY" VU 884 3X