

Joy

Sunday, December 17, 2017

*please stand or sit in the spirit

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

We come together to celebrate change. **A change in weather, a change of seasons.**
From fall to winter, from Advent to Christmas. **We journey in joyfulness with God.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: VU28 – Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE (Jamie Mainprize)

PRELUDE (Hark the glad sound - arr. P. Manz)

YOUTH CHOIR: "Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah" (Words and Music by Natalie Sleeth)
Soloist: Olivia Demeduk

Junior Choir members:

Olivia Demeduk, Isabel Dyck,
Julia Mainprize, Ciara Oliver-Travers,
Mya Oliver-Travers, Emily Parks,
Charlize Richard, Saraya Richard

CENTERING PRAYER: Let the voice of the Holy Spirit fill our minds and hearts with new understandings and great joy. **We offer You now our concerns and joys, as we center ourselves in Your presence...**

WORDS OF GRACE: God gives a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning. **May we sing, dance and rejoice in God's grace. Amen!**

SKIT: Share the Joy (Fred Cross, Susanne Reimer & Izzy Dyck)

*HYMN: VU23 - Joy Shall Come

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (The Dyck Family - Grandma, Nancy Hodgson, parents, Jason and Megan Dyck, and the children, Izzy, Sam & Ben)

PREPARING JESUS' CRADLE/ADVENT HYMN (Cloth for the Cradle – Iona Community)
*The children/youth will come to the ends of the pews to collect your fabric pieces.
Each week they will line the crèche with thoughts of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.
While this takes place, we will sing together:*

**Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child, the child for our every joy and sorrow.
Find him a shawl that's woven by us all, to welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.**
(Children leave for Sunday School)

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

SCRIPTURE READING: 1Thessalonians 5:16-24 ~ read by Niels Hurst

ANTHEM: "A Cradle Waits" (Words and Music by Jean Anne Shafferman)

See amid the winter snow, in humble manger low,
a cradle waiting for the tiny child, tender, meek and mild, the Saviour.
Soon He'll come, the promised one, God incarnate Son, Messiah.
See amid the winter snow, in humble manger low, a cradle waits.

See, upon a lonely hill, a shepherd standing still is watching
o'er silent flock by night, in the starry light.
But soon the angel in heav'n will sing, joyous news they bring: the Saviour!
See, upon a lonely hill, in the twilight still, a shepherd waits.

See, in distant Eastern land, a noble wise man stands
And gazes far into the Eastern sky, looking for a sign: A blazing star!
It will be a sign. Soon its light will shine to guide him,
Guide him to the tiny child, tender meek and mild, the Saviour.

See amid the winter snow, in humble manger low, a cradle waits.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 126 ~ read by Elly Hoogterp

MESSAGE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY (Audrey Belyea, piano; O come, O come, Emmanuel)

*OFFERING SONG RESPONSE: **Though wise men who found him laid rich gifts
around him, yet oxen they gave him their hay, and Jesus in beauty accepted their
duty; contented in manger he lay. Then haste we to show him the praises we
owe him; our service he ne'er can despise; whose love still is able to show us
that stable, where softly in manger he lies.** (VU68, verse 1, lines 4-7)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN: VU29 - Hark the Glad Sound

*BLESSING

*BENEDICTION: **Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life
to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.** (VU9)

POSTLUDE (Hark the glad sound - arr. A. Viner)



We are glad you're here. If this is your first time at St. Andrew's, we would love to have you sign the Welcome Book. If you are visiting from out of town, church-shopping, or came with a friend who already calls St. Andrew's home – we want to meet you!

Please take this bulletin home as it contains a lot of information about the many things happening at St. A's, including interest based groups, social activities, or justice orientated opportunities. You can also find more detailed information on our website or by signing up for our weekly newsletter at www.standrewsriverheights.com.

Let's learn, live, and love in God's way together!

Our Vision

To live as Christ would have us live, in love, with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace, learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit and being transformed by faith.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you!



The flowers by the pulpit today have been donated in memory of Dawn and Jack McKeag by their loving family.

COFFEE TALK

Are you new to St. Andrew's? Please join us in the narthex following the service to learn about the work of the church and how you might share your gifts within and beyond the building. We'd love to hear from you!

WASHROOMS

Wheelchair accessible and gender neutral bathrooms are located outside the lower auditorium. They can be accessed by the stairs in the Narthex or the elevator outside the church office.

ST ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Clergy	Rev. Cathy Kinsman	ckinsman@standrewsriverheights.com
Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Choir Director	Derek Morphy	dmorphy1@mts.net
Organist	Wes Elias	weselias@mymts.net
Handbells	Carolyn Lutes	carolynlutes@gmail.com
Church Office	Andrea Moffatt	office@standrewsriverheights.com
Treasurer	Bill Craddock	treasurer@standrewsriverheights.com
Sunday School	Jan Demeduk	j.demeduk@hotmail.com
Service Team	Paul Webster	paulwebster@shaw.ca

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Participants needed: Any children who want to participate in the 6:30pm service on Christmas Eve may participate as sheep, lambs, shepherds, wise ones and angels. There are lots of costumes for everyone. There is a practice right after church today for children participating in this Christmas Eve service. This practice is for all children who want to be part of the play on Christmas Eve.

Sunday School - December 24: The children will be celebrating Christmas and having a party during Sunday School.

TODAY'S ANTHEM

Christmas is nearly here, and we can soon celebrate the birth of Jesus, but not yet, although the shopping malls would have us believe otherwise! Of course, the time before any birth is a period of waiting, and this text extends the waiting from the mother in a Bethlehem stable, sitting by an empty cradle, to a shepherd and a wise one also waiting for signs to signify the great event. Jean Anne Shafferman is a composer and church musician currently living in Easton, Pennsylvania.



OUR LAND - We remember, as we celebrate God's presence in Worship that St. Andrew's River Heights United Church gathers in Treaty 1 land, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. As Treaty people, we seek to live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with all our relations.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can make a gift of non-registered stocks, mutual funds or bonds listed on a public stock exchange to St. Andrew's River Heights United Church, receive a charitable tax receipt for the full market value of the securities at the close of the markets on the day they are received and pay no income tax on the capital gain?

For more information, contact Bill Craddock, Treasurer, at 204-488-1130 or email him at wjcdlc@mts.net.



God gives us glorious, perplexing, unbelievably wonderful gifts! Stewards recognize them for what they are – and give God the best they have to offer in return.

REGULAR WEEKLY RENTALS

Monday

Good Evening Group (lounge) @ 7pm

Wednesday

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

COMING UP...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 – Advent III

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am
Youth Choir singing

Pageant rehearsal @ 11:45am

Recital (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Service Team meeting @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Parkway @ 10:30am (Cathy)
Sr. Housing Worship Service

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

10:30am—Morning worship
6:30pm—Christmas Pageant
8:30pm—Candlelight Communion
10pm—Lessons & Carols (senior choir)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

Rental – Irene Marks (auditorium) 1-5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Morning worship @ 10:30am

Rental – wedding (sanctuary) @ 4pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Boulton @ 10:30pm (Karen)
Sr. Housing Worship Service

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Baptism Sunday
Sanctuary @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

Annual Reports Due!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Tuxedo @ 10:30am (Karen)
Personal Care Home Worship Service

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Messy Church
Auditorium @ 5-7pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am
Choir Recital (sanctuary) @ 12pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Service Team meeting (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Parkway @ 10:30am (Karen)
Sr. Housing Worship Service

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Guatemala Fundraiser
Spaghetti Supper
Auditorium @ 5:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am
Rental – G&S (auditorium) 2pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

Rental – G&S (auditorium) 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Presbytery Executive (lounge) @ 2pm

Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am
Rental – G&S (auditorium) @ 2pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

Rental - Gilbert & Sullivan (auditorium) 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Boulton @ 10:30pm (Karen)
Sr. Housing Worship Service

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Communion Sunday
Sanctuary @ 10:30am

Rental – G&S (auditorium) 2pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Rental – G&S (auditorium) 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Worship Meeting (lounge) @ 7pm
P&A Meeting (CE room) @ 7:30pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Wedding (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

Messy Church
Auditorium @ 5-7pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am

Soup & Sandwich and ABC Valentine Bake Sale (auditorium) @ 11:45am

Rental – G&S (auditorium) 2pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Good Evening AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

Rental – G&S (auditorium) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Pancake Supper & Carnival @ 5pm

Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

Parkway @ 10:30am (Cathy)
Sr. Housing Worship Service

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Bible Study – All welcome!
Lounge @ 9:15-10:45am

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Worship (sanctuary) @ 10:30am
Rental – G&S (auditorium) @ 2pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19—STAT

Good Evening AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

Rental – G&S (auditorium) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Service Team Meeting (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Basement Bookstore
10am – 5pm

♪ Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm

♪ Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

Outreach

Our **Knitting Tree** (the old Mitten Tree), is in need of hand knit scarves, neck warmers and toques! There is some free wool here for giveaway this Sunday at the back of the church. Help yourself. We are also asking that any mitts donated be new and waterproof.

Just Gifts 2017! Help provide family and community for Winnipeg's lonely and give your loved ones something special this holiday season - the gift of hope for Winnipeg's under-loved! Check it out at <http://1justcity.ca/justgifts-2017/>.

Advent Christmas Challenge – an Advent of Gratitude: Anyone can participate and donate money to any cause they believe in. I will be donating to 1JustCity, which is a cause I believe in strongly. Our Community Ministries include Northend Stella, Oak Table, West Broadway and St. Matthew's Maryland. You can choose to donate to any of these ministries or another of your choice. You will find the Advent of Gratitude sheet in the Narthex, as well as on our website. We hope you accept the challenge! ~ Karen

