

Welcome



Sunday, December 2, 2018

Advent is a time to

WAIT! WATCH! WONDER! WAKEN!



Amidst the hustle and bustle of shopping, wrapping, decorating, baking, planning, parties, family gatherings, school celebrations, club wind-ups, Christmas Concerts and eating, we “WAIT!

WATCH! WONDER! and WAKEN!” to the mystery of the season & to the mystery of the Christmas story as it unfolds in the anticipation of the birth of the Christ Child, God’s gift of grace to the world. This is the Advent of our Christ. Come Celebrate God’s gift of love to us all.

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.

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.

FIND YOUR PLACE

There are many ways to get involved at St. Andrew’s. Everyone is welcome so please reach out and step into places that inspire you the most. More details found at <http://standrewsriverheights.com/life-work/church-groups/>.

AFFIRMING: Our continuing mandate is to encourage ongoing understanding of what it means to be affirming and to evaluate the programs at St. Andrew’s for inclusivity. *Tara - mctara@shaw.ca*

ANNA BLAIR CIRCLE: Monthly functions that are social in nature and promote fellowship and camaraderie.

BIBLE STUDY: We meet Friday mornings at 9:15am in the Lounge. Drop in anytime! *klumley@standrewsriverheights.com*

BOOK CLUB: We are a group of book lovers who meet Wednesday afternoons, every 5-7 weeks. Anyone is welcome! *Ruth - mckenzieqrst@shaw.ca*

CARING COMMUNITY: We oversee pastoral care in collaboration with the ministry staff. *Ardelia - abburrow@shaw.ca*

CENTERING PRAYER: A form of Christian meditation based on an ancient practice of prayer. Newcomers welcome - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month in the lounge. *clark_brownlee@mts.net*

CIRCLE OF CARE: Lay pastoral care-giving and ministry for all ages and stages of the congregation. *klumley@standrewsriverheights.com*

GUATEMALA: Senior youth, ages 14 & older, are eligible for our biennial mission trip to Guatemala. *klumley@standrewsriverheights.com*

MESSY CHURCH: Once a month gathering where families can enjoy being together. Crafts, stories and potlucks! *klumley@standrewsriverheights.com*

OUTREACH: Social justice in our community and beyond. We meet on an ‘as needs basis’. *Nancy - neh@mts.net*

PRAYER/BAPTISM SHAWLS: Do you love to knit? If so, we could use your talents.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Teachers are always needed. Contact Karen Lumley to volunteer @ *klumley@standrewsriverheights.com* or 204-488-1130.

STEWARDSHIP: Encourage stewardship of time, talents and resources throughout St. Andrew’s. *clark_brownlee@mts.net*

ST. ANDREW’S MUSIC: Love to sing or play the handbells? Both choirs meet Thursday evenings and welcome new members! *Choir Director - dmorphy1@mts.net*
Handbell Choir - carolynlutes@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are always looking for volunteers to help out with events, fundraising, outreach, Sunday morning coffee & tea, and the Circle of Care interest groups. If you are interested, email the church office at volunteer@standrewsriverheights.com.



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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERING MUSIC

CENTERING WORDS

*HYMN: **VU2**—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLE LIGHTING

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (from Gathering 2018)

One: Wait. Watch, Wonder. Waken. **All: This is the Advent of our Christ!**

One: Wait. Watch. Wonder. Waken. **All: This is the Advent of our God!**

One: And so we wait. **All: And so we wait.**

One: In this world that hustles and bustles...where do we find a place to wait? **All: Here.**

One: What are you waiting for? **All: A baby. A child. The Christ.**

One: How long will you wait? **All: 35 days. Nine months. All our lives.**

One: How will you wait? **All: With hope. With love, with each other.**

One: With God? **All: With God's love, filling our lives!**

One: Alleluia. **All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

OPENING PRAYER

ADVENT HYMN: **MV20**—God of Still Waiting (vs 1 only)

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 21:25-36 (read by Katy Hedalen-Shariff)

ANTHEM: "O Thou, the Central Orb" - Text: H. R. Bramley; Music: Charles Wood

O thou the central orb of righteous love, pure beam of the most high, eternal light

Of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright, awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine;

Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move, as stars about thy throne, set in the height

Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight, gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin, our nature all shall feel eternal day,

In fellowship with thee, transforming clay, to souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

SERMON

*HYMN: **VU473**—Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: Come, Thou long expected Jesus—arr. P. Bryan

*OFFERING SUNG RESPONSE (VU81 vs 3)

**As they offered gifts most rare at that manger crude and bare, so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heavenly King.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (Communion Setting MV206)

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God most holy. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

...we join with all the company of heaven and earth to give you praise:

♪Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes, who comes in God's name.

Hosanna in the highest.

Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth...
...that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:
♪**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts...
...all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.
♪**Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**As we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child, we give thanks for all that births new life.
May we be the hands and feet of Christ, bearing Christ's life into the world. Amen.**

*HYMN: **VU25**—Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

BLESSING: **Response—Christ is coming soon!**

*BENEDICTION (VU97 vs. 3)

**Lead us on, O Daystar, in the quiet night; guide us through the shadows with your gentle light;
show us in a manger our redemption's sign; bring us to a morning where the promise shines.**

POSTLUDE: Let all mortal flesh keep silence—arr. N. Rawsthorne

The Anthem this Week

This fine stately anthem is one of the staples of English sacred choral music. Charles Wood is a central figure in the great English music revival of the late nineteenth/early twentieth century, with composers such as Stanford, Parry, Elgar and Holst. Like Stanford, he was born in Ireland, and followed Stanford to Cambridge where he took up the post of Professor of Music.

The text is particularly appropriate to Advent. The "central orb" is Jesus himself, who is also described by the poet as "pure beam of the Most High" and the "eternal Light" with "radiance bright." Light is a common theme when describing Jesus Christ. An English poet would naturally relate the Advent season to "our wintry world" amid "darksome heaven", and here in Winnipeg, we surely relate! It is a time of waiting, but infused with hope for the "light" to come.

Announcements

The Memory Tree: Be part of the Memory Tree Tradition at St. Andrew's this Advent season. Don't delay—you have one more week to get your forms in! For those who are not familiar with the Memory Tree, memorial lights are sold at a cost of \$10 per light per person. You can purchase as many lights as you like, one light per name, and you can also buy multiple lights for one person. Names of those remembered will be permanently recorded in our Memory Book in the back of the church. Plan to come to a special gathering on December 16, 2018 for an informal reception in the Lounge (255 Oak St. entrance) from 4:00 to 5:00pm. As darkness falls at 5:00pm, the Memory Tree on the Oak Street side of the church will be lit up and will stay continuously lit through the Advent and Christmas season until the New Year. This is very heart-warming to all of us who participate and remember, but it also warms the grounds of St. Andrew's and the neighbourhood. Most proceeds from the Memory Tree are donated to Jocelyn House Palliative Care Home. Forms are due by **Monday, December 10, 2018** to have the names of your loved ones printed in the 2018 Memory Book. You will find forms in the Narthex, the church office or on <http://standrewsriverheights.com/publications/forms/>.

ST ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

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
Sunday School	Jan Demeduk	j.demeduk@hotmail.com
Service Team Lead	Paul Webster	paulwebster@shaw.ca

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

Thank you to our greeters, Iris McKay and Glenn Neufeld, as well as our candle lighter, George Antony Shariff.

YOUR GIFTS MATTER.

Get the benefits of a Tax Receipt for your Donation! Let us know who you are and sign up for PAR. Pre-authorized remittances throughout the year make it easy to donate to the United Church.

Donations are always accepted either through your weekly giving envelopes, the weekly worship offering, or can be dropped off at any time through the church office.

Check out our website for more information and forms.



Now is the time to prepare the way of the Lord, with overflowing love for those around us.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

Advent I—Communion @ 10:30am
Elizabeth Rotoff (sanctuary) @ 6:30pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Charmaine Bacon rehearsal @ 7pm
Worship (chapel) @ 7pm
P&A (lounge) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

Office closed until 1pm (open 1-3pm)
Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

Bookstore Sale today @ 10am – 5pm



Come to the 7th anniversary sale of the Basement Bookstore. What can you buy for \$7.00? Will you select 7 books? You may find in the Basement Bookstore, *3rd Degree, On the 5th day, 7th Heaven, A Thousand Farewells, Three Sisters, Three Queens, The First Man in Rome, or The 2 1/2 Pillars of Wisdom*. On Thursday, December 6, come and celebrate. Buy books for yourself, your friends and/or your family. Do your Christmas shopping. See you December 6!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

Bible Study – All welcome! @ 9:15am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

Craft Sale (auditorium) 10-3pm

A NEW FUND-RAISING EVENT for St. Andrew's! A Holiday Craft Show on December 8, 2018 from 10-3pm. Choose gifts from a variety of great vendors, Sunset Gourmet, Tiber River, Tupperware, Pampered Chef, Purses Etc, ZenEclectic Jewelry, to name a few. If you have something you'd like to sell, tables are still available. Contact Alexis at 204-489-4308 or Lyla at 204-488-7425. Mark the date on your calendars to stop by and get some great gifts.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

Advent II—Worship @ 10:30am
Handbell Choir will be playing
Soup & Sandwich @ 11:45am
Wes Elias (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

AFG (lounge) @ 6pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Kelvin High School (sanctuary) @ 6pm
Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Bible Study – All welcome! @ 9:15am

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Advent III—Worship @ 10:30am
Caron Recital (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Memory Tree (lounge) @ 4pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

AFG (chapel) @ 7pm
Caron Concert (sanctuary) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Pres Exec Meeting (chapel) @ 2pm
Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Handbells (lounge) @ 6:30pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 8pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

Bible Study – All welcome! @ 9:15am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

Bacon Recital (sanctuary) @ 1pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

Advent IV—Worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

No AFG

Christmas Eve Services:

- Family Service @ 6:30pm
- Communion @ 9:15-9:30pm
- Lessons & Carols @ 10pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

Caroling Service @ 10:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Epiphany Sunday @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 7

AFG (lounge) @ 6pm

Annual Reports Due!

2018 Annual Reports are due on January 7. You can see last year's Annual Report on our website under publications.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

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

