



Welcome

Sunday, December 16, 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: **VU1**—O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs. 1, 2, 6, 7)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LITURGY (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 wonder. **All: And so we wonder.**

One: We wonder where mystery has gone...

Today. Now. Where are the people who wonder? **All: Here.**

One: What are you wondering on? **All: A baby. A child. The Christ.**

One: How long will you wonder? **All: 9 days. Nine months. All our lives.**

One: How will you wonder? **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! AMEN!**

PRAYER

*ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING/HYMN: **MV20**—God of Still Waiting (complete song)

SOLO: "For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the earth" Text: Isaiah 60; 2, 3; Music from "Messiah" (Handel);
Soloist: Paul Forget

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people,
and gross darkness the people.

But the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

SCRIPTURE READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18 (read by Colleen Watters)

ANTHEM: "Watchers, Tell Us of the Night" Text: Sir John Bowring; Music: Jacob Hintze; arr. Carl Strommen

Watcher, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.

Trav'ler, o'er yon mountain's height, see that glory shining star.

Watcher, does its beauteous ray aught of joy or hope foretell?

Trav'ler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Watcher, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.

Trav'ler, wonderness and light, peace and light its course portends.

Watcher, with its beams alone mark the spot that gave them birth.

Trav'ler, ages are its own; see it shines all o'er the earth.

Watcher, tell us of the night, as the morning seems to dawn,

Trav'ler, darkness takes its flight, doubt and worry are withdrawn.

Watcher, let your travels cease; go you to your quiet home.

Trav'ler, lo, the Prince of Peace, and the Son of God is come!

SERMON

*HYMN: **VU4**—God of All Places

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: Prepare the way, O Zion—arr. D. Wood

*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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 916)

*HYMN: **VU30**—Hail to God's Anointed

BLESSING

*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: Noel Suisse—L.C. Daquin (Marlon Goolcharan, organ)

We welcome Rev. Lesley Harrison as our guest preacher today!

The Anthem this Week

The text of the recitative which Paul will sing this morning comes from the Book of Isaiah, and like past week's solo text "Comfort ye", the prophet Isaiah is speaking to the Israelites in the latter part of their captivity in Babylon, and is trying to assure them that happier times will soon happen. The anthem also carries a message of assurance, and promises light will appear out of darkness. Sir John Bowring wrote the text, *Watchman, tell us of the night* (we have changed the title to the less gender specific "Watcher...") in 1825, and soon after it was being used as a hymn in English churches. It is a wonderful dialogue between someone who keeps guard, a sentry, through the night, and therefore is the first to see the brilliance of the Star, and a traveller who asks questions about what it means. The poem has a beautiful symmetry, by which the significance of the star is gradually revealed.

Bowring was a remarkable man; he had a distinguished career as a politician and diplomat (there are several places in Hong Kong named after him following his spell as Governor there), but his passion was a study of, and the translation of, foreign, especially Eastern European, literature. He was one of the world's greatest hyperpolyglots: it is said that he could converse in a hundred foreign languages, and knew as many as two hundred.

The tune was written by 17th century composer Jacob Hintze, who was court musician to the Elector of Brandenburg in Berlin.

Announcements

Thank You: The final meeting of Winnipeg Presbytery was held at the United Church in Meadowood on December 11. We want to give a special shout out to all of you who have acted as Presbytery Reps over the course of the history of Presbytery. We give a special acknowledgement to the 4 reps who have served St. Andrew's for the past number of years—Peter Brehaut (lead rep), Rita Swan (longest serving rep), Vinnie Ashton, Heather Mian and Linda Paul (Member-at-large). Your faithful attendance at all the meetings has not gone unnoticed. Thank you very much for your dedication.

Tomorrow! Wind Dixtour: Join us for a concert fundraiser on Monday, December 17, 2018 at St. Andrew's River Heights @ 7pm. Two quintets join forces for this rare event: a double woodwind quintet in concert, featuring repertoire by Mozart, Albeniz, Francaix, and Janacek. With special guest Allen Harrington on contrabassoon. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door.

Flutes: Kenzie Perry, Charmaine Bacon ~ Oboes: Liz Miller, Kelsey Nordstrom
Clarinets: Colin Mehmel, Amanda Forest ~ Bassoons: Vincent Ellin, Scott Miller
Contrabassoon: Allen Harrington ~ French Horns: Callie Siverson, Ryan Wehrle

Bridge Luncheon: Save the Date! St. Andrew's River Heights United Church is hosting their Annual Bridge Luncheon on Monday, April 29 at 11:45 - 3:15 in the St. Andrew's Auditorium. Get four of your favorite bridge players together and watch for ticket info in the new year. \$60 per table.

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 Deborah Metcalfe, Eric Jensen and Karen Jensen for greeting today, our candle-lighter, Ben Dyck, and worship leader, Rita Swan

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

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.



Blessings have many faces; so do the needs of those around us. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and look for others with whom we can share it.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

AFG (lounge) @ 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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

Caroling Service @ 10:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

AFG (lounge) @ 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, 2019. You can see last year's Annual Report on our website under publications.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

Bible Study – All welcome! @ 9:15am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

Worship @ 10:30am
Soup & Sandwich @ 11:45am
Choir Recital (sanctuary) @ 12:15pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 14

AFG (lounge) @ 7pm
ABC (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

Service Team Meeting (chapel) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Golden Chords (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Bible Study – All welcome! @ 9:15am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

Worship @ 10:30am

Holiday Office Closure: The office will be closed from December 24—28, 31 and January 4. The office will be open on Jan 2 & 3. There will be a newsletter that goes out on Jan 3, so have any announcements into the church office by noon on Jan 2. If you have any pastoral concerns during this time, contact Rev. Karen Lumley on her cell @ 204-250-5073. Emails and voicemails will be monitored during this time.



Save the date! St. Andrew's will be hosting another Quiz Night on Saturday, February 16 @ 7pm. Get your team of 4-6

people organized early! Single entries are welcome and encouraged—we will add you to another team or create a new team. Tickets are \$20 per person including snacks and beverages, with wine and beer available to purchase for \$5. Tickets will be available to purchase from the Narthex on Sunday mornings starting Sunday, January 6 and from the church office starting on Monday, January 7. Enjoy a night out with friends on a cold winter evening. (If you would like to give tickets as a stocking stuffer, please contact the office by Wednesday, December 19.)



Christmas Eve Services:

Family Service @ 6:30pm
Communion @ 9:15-9:30pm
Lessons & Carols with St. A's
Senior Choir @ 10pm

