

Welcome

Sunday, December 8, 2019



Advent is a time of HOPE! PEACE! JOY! LOVE!

Let this be our prayer this season. Holy One, the Christ of the season we seek and long for faith, justice and hope in these challenging times we live in. Help us, Christ of the season to be faithful even though it is difficult, to be hopeful even when it is hard and proclaim our hope. Christ of the season, help us to be people of peace, help us to work towards peace in our hearts, communities and in our world. O Christ of the season, may your presence of joy help us to be a witness in our world that you are present. Holy One, give us courage to take a different path, to seek help, to follow the star and be a part of The Christmas Story. Help us O God in all our preparations that amidst the business of the season we will not forget the Christ of Christmas God's wonderful gift 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.

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

BIBLE STUDY: We meet Tuesday mornings at 9am in the Lounge. Drop in anytime! Contact 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](mailto:mckenzieqrst@shaw.ca)

CARING COMMUNITY: We oversee pastoral care in collaboration with the ministry staff.

CENTERING PRAYER: A form of Christian meditation based on an ancient practice of prayer. Newcomers welcome - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7pm in the lounge. Contact clark_brownlee@mts.net for more information.

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

OUTREACH: Social justice in our community and beyond. We meet on an 'as needs basis'.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Teachers are always needed. Contact Jan Demeduk to volunteer @ j.demeduk@hotmail.com

ST. ANDREW'S MUSIC: Love to sing? Our senior choir meets Thursday evenings and welcomes new members! Choir Director—dmorphy1@mts.net

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 (*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming—arr. J. Brahms*)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN: **VU1**—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*VENI EMMANUEL*)

CENTERING WORDS

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (from Gathering 2019)

In this season of expectant waiting, we fear the conflict all around us, **as we long for peace.**
So many wars...Too much tragedy spread. **God's goodness commands us to work for peace**
We revere...between friends, between enemies. **As we come close to each other,**
we notice in each face the reason for harmony—while peace flames into resolve.

ADVENT HYMN: **VU7 vs. 2**—Hope Is a Star (*MOON BEAMS*)

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN: **VU445**—A Little Child the Saviour Came (*PUER NOBIS*)

CHILDREN'S TIME

PASSING THE PEACE

SOLO: "Grown Up Christmas List" (*by David Foster*)

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11:1-10 (read by Eleanor MacDougall)

Response: **May God bless the reading of the Holy Scriptures.**

ANTHEM: "A Shoot Shall Come Forth" (*Text: Isaiah 11 & 32:18; Music: Richard Horn*)

A shoot shall come forth out of Jesse,
and a bud shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of life shall be with him,
the spirit of wisdom and truth.

Refrain:

*Then the lamb shall lie down with the leopard,
and the lion eat straw with the ox,
For the hand of a Child shall lead them
to the peaceable kingdom of God.*

From out of the wells of salvation
will he draw us the water of life;
His waist shall be girdled with justice,
the heart of his heart shall be love. *Refrain*

He'll come from the end of his heaven,
and the earth shall be torn from its place;
Our lives shall be filled with his radiance
as flood waters cover the sea. *Refrain*

SERMON

*HYMN: **VU8**—Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (*ES IST EIN' ROS*)

OFFERING/OFFERTORY (*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming—arr. M. Burkhardt*)

*OFFERING SUNG RESPONSE (VU55 v4)

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER (VU914/916)

*HYMN: **VU20**—On Jordan's Bank (*WINCHESTER NEW*)

BLESSING:

*BENEDICTION (MV220)

**Hope shines as the solitary star. Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights, and illumine the pathway home.**

POSTLUDE (*O come, o come Emmanuel—arr. N. Rawsthorne*)

The Anthem this Week

There are several texts from the prophet Isaiah that we hear in Advent and Christmas, which foretell the coming of Christ at a time of impending threat from the Assyrians. Isaiah prophesies that from the "root of Jesse", the father of King David, will eventually come a descendent, a child that shall lead the Kingdom of Israel to "the peaceable kingdom of God". Composer Richard Horn (1938- 2004) was a church musician and composer who taught in several states in America.

Announcements

Memory Tree: Forms are due tomorrow December 9, 2019 to have the names of your loved ones printed in the 2019 Memory Book. You will find forms in the Narthex, the church office or on our website. Be part of the Memory Tree Tradition at St. Andrew's this Advent season. 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 15, 2019 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 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.

URGENT!!! St. Matthews Maryland Christmas Gift Store: We are seeking donations of new, unopened, toys, games, stuffed animals, books, craft supplies; whatever you think a child or teenager would be excited to open on Christmas morning! You can also donate new, unworn, winter wear for all ages. Think socks and underwear, hats, mitts, scarves... So all can be warm this winter! We also gratefully accept donations of beauty products, jewellery, chocolate and candies, and other similar items that we package as gift baskets for mothers - to make sure that they go home with something nice too! Finally, St. Matthews can also use gift wrapping supplies (wrapping paper, tissue paper, gift bags, tape...) because they make sure to wrap every gift you donate before it goes home with a family to brighten their Christmas. **We need more donations!** If you are able to donate any items for the Christmas Gift store, **please drop your items off to St. Andrew's by Monday, December 9 (we will deliver them on Dec 10).**

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 Mike and Jasper Lea for participating in the advent candle lighting, and to our greeter, Judy Bourcier.

ST ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Clergy | Rev. Karen Lumley | klumley@standrewsriverheights.com |
| | Rev. Noelle Bowles | noellebowles@gmail.com |
| Choir Director | Derek Morphy | dmorphy1@mts.net |
| Organist | Wes Elias | weselias@mymts.net |
| Sunday School | Jan Demeduk | j.demeduk@hotmail.com |
| Council Chair | Anne Grewar | nagrewar@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Bill Craddock | wjcdlc@mymts.net |
| Church Office | Andrea Moffatt | office@standrewsriverheights.com |

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.

If you do give through PAR or at other times during the year, we invite you to still touch the plate so that you add your blessing to our givings.



We are all branches rooted in Christ. Let us offer a portion of what God has provided us to bring glory and praise to God.

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Advent II Worship @ 10:30am
Charmaine Bacon (sanc.) @ 5:30pm
Rental—Oak St Block Party (auditorium & kitchen) @ 3pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Rental—Reid Harrison (chapel) @ 10am
Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Choir @ 8:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

RHS daycare (auditorium) @ 3 - 5pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Rental—Shevchenko recital (sanctuary) @ 1pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Advent III Worship @ 10:30am
Rental—Caron recital (sanc.) @ 1:30pm
Memory Tree Service (lounge) @ 4pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Rental—Things Meeting (chapel) @ 9am
Council Meeting (Chapel) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Choir @ 8:30pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

Advent IV Worship @ 10:30am
Charmaine student recital (sanc.) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Services:
Family Service @ 6:30pm
Communion @ 9:15pm
Lessons & Carols @ 10pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

Caroling Service @ 10:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Epiphany Worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Worship meeting (lounge) @ 7pm
P&A meeting (chapel) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Choir @ 8pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Baptism Sunday @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Choir @ 8pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-6pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Baptism Sunday @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-1pm
Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-6pm
Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Rental—Things Meeting (chapel) @ 9am
Council Meeting (Chapel) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-6pm
Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-1pm
Basement Bookstore @ 10am – 5pm
Choir @ 8pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Rental—Royal Conservatory Exams (sanctuary) 9-6pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Worship @ 10:30am
Choir show rehearsal following worship

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Rental—AFG (chapel) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Bible Study (lounge) @ 9am
Rental—Things Meeting (chapel) @ 9am
Centering Prayer (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

Rental—RCS (auditorium) @ 7pm

2019 Annual Reports are due on January 6. You can see last year's Annual Report on our website under publications.

