



**Sunday, December 13, 2020**



Advent is a time of waiting, anticipation, hope, peace, joy and love as we look forward to the long awaited birth of the Christ Child. In Advent we are anticipating the arrival of the baby Jesus the Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Saviour and Coming King. It is a time we are waiting for God, for the birth of hope, for the arrival of new life. As we wait, we prepare our hearts to receive the gifts of God.

We ask God to shape us and to prepare our hearts for the long awaited Good News that Jesus Christ is born!

#### **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

## **FIND YOUR PLACE**

**Good News!** This Sunday you will be able to watch Sunday service at our usual time at 10:30am! We want to guarantee a beautiful service that everyone can listen to and enjoy in high quality!

### **Advent & Christmas Services**

Christmas this year will be different with the COVID restrictions however, we are celebrating each week with our tradition of lighting the Advent Candles always following the protocols and regulations to ensure the safety of all participating. Other services will be celebrated just differently. Each Sunday we are pre-recording the Church service and sharing it on Sunday **morning** through our Facebook page and YouTube Channel!

The **Christmas Eve Services includes: The Family Service, Communion Service, Lessons & Carols.** All the services will be pre-recorded following the protocols of Covid restrictions at the time. We will be recording the Lessons & Carols at two different times to ensure the safety of all. Christmas is happening, differently and we as a faith community adjust accordingly.

We will be joining with Westworth on YouTube On Sunday, December 27 for Carols & Stories. Westworth will be joining us on Sunday, January 3rd at 10:30am online.

May the hope, peace, joy and love of the season fill your hearts and homes at this special time of the year.



**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: The angel Gabriel from heaven came *arr. Paul Manz*

CENTERING WORDS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **VU 899** Song of Mary vs. 1& 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

**Response: We are waiting**

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: **VU 899** Song of Mary vs. 3 & 4

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:

**Response: We gather as people of joy.**

HYMN: MV 220 Joy Shines as the Solitary Star

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:47-55 read by Rita Swan

SOLO: Nicki LeGrand - "Mary, Did You Know?" Words and Music by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?  
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new;  
this Child that you delivered will soon deliver you?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand?  
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod,  
and when you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God?

Mary, did you know?  
Oh, Mary, did you know?  
The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again,  
the lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is the Lord of all creation?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?  
Did you know that your baby boy was Heaven's perfect Lamb,  
and the sleeping Child you're holding is the Great I Am?

SCRIPTURE READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28 read by Rita Swan

SERMON

HYMN: **VU 14** A Maid Whose Name was Mary vs. 4 & 6

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER pg. 914/916:

OFFERING/OFFERTORY:

**VU 55** In the Bleak Midwinter vs. 4

BLESSING

BENEDICTION (**VU 1** O Come O Come Emmanuel vs. 7)

**O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;**

**O bid our sad divisions cease,  
and be for us the Prince of Peace.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,  
O Israel.**

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#### ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

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

|                    |                   |                                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Clergy             | Rev. Karen Lumley | klumley@standrewsriverheights.com |
| Lay Worship Leader | Rita Swan         |                                   |
| 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      | Charlotte Lindsay | office@standrewsriverheights.com  |

**A special thanks** to all who helped to decorate the church for Christmas following Covid protocols. Thanks to Ruth McKenzie, John Swan, Paul Bennet & Betty Jubinville for the indoor decorations and Bruce & Luba Scott and Gord and Kay Shawcross for setting up the Manger Scene outside.

**Scripture Readings for Next Week:**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  
Romans 16:25-27  
\*Luke 1:26-38

**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.



In a generous act of hospitality, God invites us into ministry. How shall we then respond?

**Announcements**

**Give Tuesday means Twice your Impact!**

This winter, with your help, Just a Warm Sleep will be a haven for those in need.

The need is perhaps the greatest our city has ever faced.

Thankfully, your gift today will have twice the impact.

Every dollar donated today a donor will match, up to \$10,000. That's one whole month of 30 people resting safely, with some added bonuses this year.

We've expanded our hours as so many of our guests have even less options to stay warm. We'll now offer 12 hours of safety and warmth overnight (instead of 10), open from 8pm to 8am.

We'll also offer a meal at intake thanks to our partnerships with TransCanada Brewery and Fionn's MacCools.

You've heard us say that the numbers of women have drastically increased, so this year we're adding a second security guard from our partner Bear Paw Security, so we'll always have a female and male guard to care for all our guests' needs.

The space will get a COVID-19 deep clean three times a day.

For 30 people to be safe and warm this winter, STARTING EARLY on December 24th, we need you to make a donation of:

\$150 to cover everything we don't have funding for: smiling team members, PPE, TP, rent.

\$300 to cover dinner, so everyone gets to go to bed full of nutritious food.

\$450 to cover it all.

But GIVE TODAY and \$225 will cover one night because a matching donor will double your donation!

The donor matching your gift said "I am so inspired by the no-barrier aspect of Just A Warm Sleep. The team at 1JustCity truly meets people where they're at. I am so grateful to donors who make your work possible and this year I have enough to match their gifts, stretching the impact of their generosity. It's my honour to grow their gift."

