



Sunday, December 20, 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!](#)

Christmas Eve Services can be viewed online after the following times on Christmas Eve:

Family Christmas Eve Service -6:00 p.m.

Lessons & Carols-8:00 p.m.

Communion Service-9:00 p.m.

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.

Merry Christ-mas to you and your family. May the hope, peace, joy and love of the Christmas season fill your hearts this Christmas. Blessings to you and your family 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: Pastorale from 'Christmas Concerto' *Arcangelo Corelli*

CENTERING WORDS

GREETING

**Greetings, in the name of Christ.
God is with us now.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: **VU17** O Ancient Love vs. 1 & 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Rejoice in God our Saviour.

OPENING PRAYER: Written by Rita Swan

HYMN: **VU17** O Ancient Love vs. 3 & 4

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:

We gather as people of love.

HYMN: **MV 220** Love Shines as A Solitary Star

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING:

SOLO: Nolan Kehler - "O come, O come Emmanuel" Composer: Rebecca Belliston

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:26-38 read by Rita Swan

SERMON

PRAYER: Written by Rita Swan

HYMN: **MV134** There was a child in Galilee vs 2, 3 & 4

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.**

POSTLUDE: The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy *arr. Noel Rawsthorne*

Announcements

The Memory Tree Service was on Sunday, December 10th at 5:00 p.m. the service is viewable through our YouTube channel.

Thanks to all who make the Church services possible,

Charlotte Lindsay and Michael Cuthbert for recording and editing the services, Tyler Craddock on the Soundboard, organist Wes Elias, Derek Morphy our Music Director who ensure singers or soloists are available for each service, Colleen Watters who arranges readers every week and David Wreford who opens the church every Sunday.

A special thanks to our soloists and singers: Sarah Cory, Fred Cross, Chris Donlevy, Paul Forget, Nolan Kehler Heather Kozak, Nicki LeGrand, Judith Oatway, Diane Wreford. Thank you sharing your gift and ministry of music with us.

Wreaths

Thanks to **RBM** at 7521 Roblin Avenue for donating wreaths for our sale this year. We sold **96** wreaths which were delivered curbside all COVID protocols followed.

A special thanks to Verna McGuckin who had her staff working so hard to get the wreaths made and delivered to us.

Thanks to Allison Koots who organized the pickup and deliveries. Thanks to Jan Demeduck, Sharon Colina, Lori Miller and Allison Koots who made the curbside deliveries. Thanks to Charlotte our office administrator and Bill Craddock who helped with the administrative and money collection. Job well done!

\$556.00 was donated to Oak Table-1JustCity for bathrooms for their new space for the homeless and the public to use with dignity.

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

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:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

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

St. Matthew's Maryland Community Ministry-1JustCity

St. Matthew's Maryland Community Ministry want to thank you for your donations of Christmas gifts to the Christmas Store. On Thursday December 10 the gifts came, and in greater numbers than ever! Staff who've been here for more than one Christmas Store agree, this is the largest number of gifts we remember receiving! In addition, many of you made cash donations which we used to purchase toys, food, and gift cards from local coffee shop Scout Coffee + Tea.

The store itself ran on Saturday December 12, and it was a huge hit. It felt different from past years, more business than party as we enforced strict social distancing requirements and safety protocol. But by the end of the day we had provided gifts and gift wrap supplies to 64 families, representing 276 children and grandchildren.

Once more, THANK-YOU for making it happen!

