

LET EVERY Heart PREPARE HIM Room

Sunday, February 28, 2021



Lent is defined as the period of 40 days that Christians observe from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is often marked with giving up something one really likes. It is a reflective time of penitence in preparation for Easter. It is a time of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert of 40 days. Let us as ponder these things in our hearts.

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

Update on Church Re-Opening

A new Health Order was issued on February 12 that provides for a modest relaxation of restrictions on attendance at religious services. The Church Council met Tuesday and we decided that for the time being, we will continue with on-line services only. We recognize the spiritual needs of our members and know that some members are unable to access the service on line. We are not re-opening for anyone to attend, but are wanting to offer the opportunity for those who would like to come who cannot access it on a computer at home. You are certainly welcome to attend the recording sessions.

Please call or email the Church Office to register if possible, however, you can come and be screened at the door. You can enter the sanctuary through the Kingsway entrance (east side door). Come join us Thursday, at 6:00 p.m. for our recording.

Glenn Neufeld

Re-Opening Committee and Member of Church Council



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 God of Abraham praise *Tune - Leoni (traditional Hebrew). Arr. Edward Broughton*

CENTERING WORDS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

(Gathering Resources for Lent & Easter 2021 written by Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, Ont.)

Come into this virtual space,

Gathered as a cloud of witnesses.

**We come, from our living rooms,
from our home offices,
from our phones, from our tablets,
from our computers.**

Come and gather in spirit and in truth.

**We come in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic,
discovering new ways to worship as one,
leaning into the Spirit's guidance as we share the good news.**

Across the community and within our family of faith, let us pray as one:

Loving God, we've never done it this way before.

We feel at sea, unstable-with our footing insecure.

In our uncertainty, we come to commune with you.

We pray for your strength, for your humility, for your insight, for your caring.

May you heal what divides us so that our hearts may be united. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: **VU217** All Creatures of our God & King vs. 1 & 2

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND:

HYMN: **VU217** All Creatures of our God & King vs. 3 & 4

CANDLE LIGHTING

CHILDREN'S TIME

SOLO: Sarah Cory - "How Can I Keep From Singing" *(Traditional, arr. by Richard Walters)*

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 read by Anne Grewar (Chair of Church Council)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN: **MV148** Hope of Abraham & Sarah vs. 1 & 2

SERMON

HYMN: **MV148** Hope of Abraham & Sarah 3 & 4

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

Response: VU#649 Walk with Me (Chorus)

Verse 4 & Chorus

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **VU149** Were the whole realm of nature mine vs. 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

that were a present far too small:

love so amazing, so divine,

demands my soul, my life, my all.

BLESSING: (*The Worship Annual, 2021*)

Go forth with the voice of God calling your name.

We go in the love of God.

Go forth to hear Christ claiming you as his own.

We go in the mercy of Christ.

Go forth to follow where the Spirit leads us.

We go in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Go forth, called, named, and claimed by God.

We go in faith and trusting in our God.

BENEDICTION (**VU422** God be with you till we meet again vs.1)

POSTLUDE: O God, thou faithful God (*German chorale*). Arr. Johannes Brahms

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	ritamswan1@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	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

Just A Warm Sleep Just Opened!

Here's a shot of our crew before we opened the doors.

- Bear Paw Security thanks to funding from End Homelessness Winnipeg.
- **Smiling Intake staff thanks to YOU!!!!!!**
- Housing Coordinators thanks to the United Church of Canada Foundation.
- Meals from Fionn MacCools on every mat thanks to Fionn's Food Fund Donors.
- **Masks for guests (everyone tonight needed one) toiletries and socks thanks to YOU!**

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.

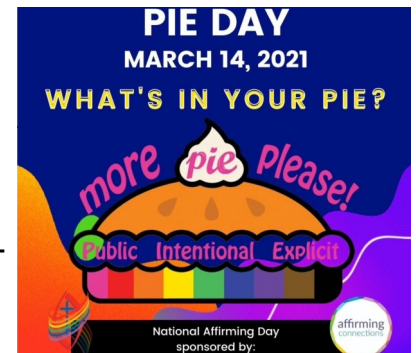


In a generous act of hospitality, God invites us into ministry. How shall we then respond?

Announcements

A special thank you to our soloist Sarah Cory this morning, thank you for sharing your gift with us. Thanks to Anne Grewar, our Chair of the Church Council who read scripture today.

Sunday, March 14th is PIE Day (Public. Intentional. Explicit) These are the standards we hold ourselves and our welcome to when we become affirming, welcoming, or inclusive communities. It is a day to serve some pie and roll out the PIE by celebrating the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people in faith communities and beyond. Bake a pie of your choice and join us for a special worship that Sunday.



AGM is today at 11:30 join us through ZOOM or if that is not available for you call on the phone there is dial up. Sign up today.

Scripture Readings for next week:

*Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22



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Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!