

# THE HOPE OF THE NEW COVENANT

**Sunday, March 21, 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**

### **Holy Week Services**

**Join us as we partner with Westworth for Holy Week Services**

- Palm/Passion Sunday Live at Westworth **Sun., March 28 at 10:45am.**
- Maundy Thursday **April 1 at 7:00 pm.** (Bring a washcloth, towel, basin, water and communion elements to participate in the service)
- Good Friday **April 2 at 10:30 am**
- Easter Sunday Communion Service **April 4 at 9:00am** (bring your elements to participate in communion)
- Easter Sunday Celebration **April 4 at 10:30 am.**



**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: In heavenly love abiding no change my heart shall fear *Tune - Nyland, arr. Robert Hobby*

### CENTERING WORDS

HYMN: **MV12** Come Touch Our Hearts vs. 1 & 2

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Responsive Prayers, David Sparks, Year B.*

You are our God, and we are your people.

**As a covenant people, we praise you gloriously.**

You are our God, and we are your people.

**As a covenant people, we read your Word with hope.**

You are our God, and we are your people.

**As a covenant people, we ask careful questions.**

You are our God, and we are your people.

**As a covenant people we support our faith community confidently.**

You are our God, and we are your people.

**As a covenant people, we pursue justice relentlessly.**

### OPENING PRAYER

### WORDS OF WELCOME

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Update from the Church Council-Rob Siddall (Vice Chair of the Council)

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

HYMN: **MV12** Come Touch Our Hearts vs. 4 & 5

### CANDLE LIGHTING

### CHILDREN'S TIME

SOLO: Paul Forget - Lord, God of Abraham *by Felix Mendelssohn*

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 31:31-37 read by Diane Bewell

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

HYMN: **VU658** O Joy that will not let me go vs. 1 & 2

### SERMON

HYMN: **VU658** O Joy that will not let me go vs. 3 & 4

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

Response: **MV33** Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope

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:**

Be assured God’s promises are written on our hearts.

**We go scattered like seeds, ready to sow love.**

Empowered by the Spirit at work transforming our hearts.

**We go living in promise, trust, love, healing and hope.**

We go, scattered like seeds, ready to rise to new life!

**EXTINGUISHING CANDLES:**

Our Lenten journey is done.

We extinguish our Lenten candles. Extinguish each candle.

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

**God be with you till we meet again;**

**loving counsels guide, uphold you,**

**with a shepherd’s care enfold you;**

**God be with you till we meet again.**

**POSTLUDE:** Postlude in an old Irish church melody *Op.101 Set 1 #5 Charles Villiers Stanford*

**Announcements**

**A special thank you** to our soloist, Paul Forget, thank you for sharing your ministry of music with us. Thanks also to Diane Bewell for reading scripture today.

**Memorial Flowers**

What is the Memorial Flowers Fund? Every year during Lent, St. Andrew’s raises money for the St. Andrew’s Flower Fund in memory of loved ones. Donations can be made in amounts of your choosing and you can name as many people as you wish. All loved ones so named will be listed in an In Memoriam section in our order of service on Easter Sunday. This fund is used to purchase flowers/plants to decorate the church during special times of the year. If you would like your ‘In Memoriam’ to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please forward the form and your donation to the church office by mailing it in or dropping it off in the mailbox **no later than Wednesday, March 31st, 2021.** Any donation to the Memorial Flowers Fund will be included in your yearly income tax receipt. Forms can be found **online on our website or by emailing the office.**

Each week we will mention people from our congregation who are in care facilities. Remember them in your prayers. This week we will remember those in:

**The Parkway:**

Bob McKibbon Suite 413

**The Portsmouth:**

Bob & Alice Faveri Room 104

**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

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## Announcements

**It was with great sadness** that we announce the passing of David Drybrough on Tuesday, March 9th. Remember his wife Connie, their sons Dan and Keith, daughter Heather and their families in your prayers at this time.

**Rev. Ken Delisle's partner** of over 40 years passed away suddenly on Sunday, March 14. Ken has preached here at St. Andrew's. Remember him in our prayers.

**We pray for** Martha Graham's dear friend Bob McPhee, from Calgary who passed away last week.

**In regards to reopening for in person service. We are monitoring the situation and when it is safe, we will re-open**

**If you** or anyone you know has a special birthday, anniversary or celebration coming up let us know so that we can announce it.

**Kelly McKeag** will be celebrating her 65th birthday on March 25th!

**Derek Morphy** will be celebrating his 80th Birthday on March 30th!  
**Happy birthday and blessings to you both!**

Last week several of us joined together for a Zoom gathering and we brought our PIEs/desert to eat together. Our next Zoom gathering will be Tuesday evening, March 30. Bring a special Easter food you like to eat together online. We will chat about how we celebrate Easter especially during a second Covid Easter.

## Scripture Readings for next week:

Mark 11:1-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

## 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?

