



## Sunday, December 12, 2021



Advent is here! A time for waiting! A time to reflect on the coming Christ Child.

As we anticipate the birth of Jesus we light candles. Each Sunday we light candles:

The First Sunday of Advent we light the Candle of the Angels

The Second Sunday of Advent we light the Candle of the Shepherds.

The Third Sunday of Advent we light the Candle of the Magi.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent we light the Candle of Mary.

### 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

### Christmas Eve Services

**Christmas Family Service Friday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 12pm:** Pre-recorded and viewable online. This will be performed by our youth.

**Christmas Eve Communion Friday December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:15pm.**

**Lessons and Carols Friday December 24th at 10:00pm**

*\*The evening services will be recorded and edited and will be available as soon as possible after Christmas\**



**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: Good Christians all, rejoice (In dulci jubilo) *arr. Wilbur Held*

### CENTERING WORDS

#### INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Praise the Holy One's name.**

Sing praises to God on High for his glorious works.

**Sing praises and shout for joy!**

Give thanks to God and praise God's name.

**God is our strength and our song.**

Raise your hearts and voices! Shout and sing your praise.

**For great is the Holy One in our midst. God is great and God is here.**

Let us worship God together.

HYMN: **VU29** Hark the Glad Sound

#### GREETING/ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF LAND:

Welcome in the name of Christ.

**Welcome to this place of worship, situated on the Traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree and Dakota Nations and homeland of the Métis Nation.**

Welcome to this place of retreat and refuge, worship and wonder.

**It is good to be here. It is good to be together.**

It is good to be together here in this place and it is good to connect on line.

Let us prepare to worship God.

CANDLE LIGHTING: The Candle of The Wise Ones – **VU38** Angels We Have Heard on High vs.3

### OPENING PRAYER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: **VU249** Rejoice in the Lord Always

### CHILDREN'S TIME

ANTHEM: A Cradle Waits (*Jean Anne Shafferman*)

See, amid the winter's snow, in humble manger low,

A cradle waiting for the tiny Child, tender, meek and mild, the Saviour.

Soon He'll come, the Promised One, God's incarnate Son, Messiah.

See, amid the winter's snow, in humble manger low, a cradle waits.

See, upon a lonely hill, a shepherd standing still is keeping

Watch o'er silent flock by night, in the starry light.

But soon the angel host in heaven will sing, joyous news they bring: the Saviour!

See, upon a lonely hill, in the twilight still, a shepherd waits.

See, in distant Eastern land, a noble wise man stands and gazes

Far into the Eastern sky, looking for a sign: a blazing star!

It will be a sign. Soon its light will shine to guide him;

Guide him to the tiny Child, tender, meek and mild, the Saviour.

SCRIPTURE READING: read by Diane Bewell  
Gospel Reading: Luke 3:7-18

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?

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

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is 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?

Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4-7  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN: **VU9** People, Look East

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Sung response: **VU754** Psalm 27

**God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER **VU916** A Translation

Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,  
may your name be made holy,  
may your dominion come,  
may your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today the bread we need;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we have forgiven our debtors;  
and do not put us to the test,  
but rescue us from evil.

For yours is the dominion, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **VU74** What Child is This vs. 3

**So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU17** O Ancient Love vs. 1  
**O ancient love, processing through the ages;  
O hidden love, revealed in human form;  
O promised love, the dream of seers and sages:  
O living Love, within our hearts be born,  
O living Love, within our hearts be borne.**

POSTLUDE: Break forth into joy (*from 'Christmas Oratorio'*) J. S. Bach

#### 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	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
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

### **Announcements**

**Thanks to our** quintet: Nicki LeGrand, Nolan Kehler, Fred Cross, Katy Harmer & Sarah Witiuk. Thank you to Diane Bewell for reading the scripture, for offering their gifts in the service today.

**A special** thanks to Rita Swan for writing the liturgy prayers for worship and leading worship. Rita is finishing up her assignments for her Lay Worship Leader courses with the United Church of Canada.

**A big thank you** to all who participated in the Cookie Walk, the bakers, the buyers and the Fellowship Group who organized it all.

**Bible Study** this is our last week of the year! This Wednesday in the lounge from 9:30am-10:30am, we will be studying Ecclesiastes 12.

**Remember the Kozak/Regier family** in your prayers. Marion's mom, Peggy Phillips passed away this past week. Peggy was grandma to Heather Kozak, Laura Kozak and great grandma to Abigail, Blake, Daphne & Claire. Remember them, Lawrence and Cam in your prayers at this time.

**Remember in your prayers** Bruce Holland who has recently been moved to Riverview. Also remember Kit Jarvis who is in Victoria hospital.

**Gordon McDiarmid** is in Palliative Care at the Grace Hospice.

**For those** of you who purchased lights on the Memory Tree, your Memory cards are available to pick up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings - they are in individual envelopes in a basket. Please call or email the office if you are not going to be at the church in person and we will mail your cards out to you.

**The Memory Tree** service is this evening at 4:45pm with the lighting taking place promptly at 5:00pm. We will be following all of the COVID protocols – wearing masks, 6 feet apart and outside. You may also remain in your vehicles to watch the lighting.

**Betty Lorimer and Roy Drewett** send season greetings from Ontario and wish everyone a wonderful Christmas.

**Thanks to all** who donated toys to St. Matthew's Maryland Community Ministry for their Toy Store.

**Sunday, December 26th**, at 10:45am we will be joining Westworth United in worship. You can go in person by pre-registering (information available next week), watching it live-streamed or later in that week.

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

Donations to the church can be mailed in, dropped off at the church, or by contacting Bill Craddock our Treasurer for an E-transfer at 204-488-1130 just leave a message on the phone and Bill will return it.

### **Scripture Readings for next week:**

Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:47-55  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45

### **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, through E-transfer by contacting Bill Craddock our Treasurer at 204-488-1130 just leave a message on the phone and Bill will return it, or can be dropped off at any time through the church office.

Check out our website for more information and forms. The church is very grateful for any and all donations. Thank you so much.



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



St. Andrew's River Heights United Church | 255 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3P7 | Sunday Services @ 10:30am  
Phone: 204-488-1130 ~ Fax: 204-488-1132 | Rev. Karen Lumley Cell: 204-250-5073 Email: klumley@standrewsriverheights.com  
Office Email: office@standrewsriverheights.com | Website: www.standrewsriverheights.com  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!