

Sunday, January 9, 2022

Epiphany follows the Christmas story of the babe born in the manger. It is a season especially set apart for adoring the glory of Christ. It means manifestation of glory and leads us to the contemplation of Christ as King upon a throne and leads us to the Season of

Lent. The Epiphany Season is a happy time for us to keep the bright lights about our homes, to remember the miraculous birth and guiding star of Bethlehem so long age.

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

Announcement of Change to Online Services Only

In light of the sharp escalation in covid cases in Manitoba and the Winnipeg region, your St. Andrew's Church Council has decided to move to Online Services only beginning as of Sunday, January 2, 2022. We will be minimizing the number of participants involved in these recording sessions. This is an interim measure to ensure the ongoing safety of our staff, volunteers and congregation.

We will monitor conditions as they change and return to in-person services as soon as it is deemed safe to do so. We will, of course, keep our congregation apprised of any further changes through the E-Blast communications. This move to online services only for the time being is consistent with what is occurring at many, if not most, of the United Churches in Winnipeg.





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: I was there to hear your borning cry (Tune - Waterlife) arr. Robert Hobby

CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: (Gathering 2022, Frances Flook, Emo, Ont)

Through the waters of baptism, Jesus was called. Through the sacrament of baptism we too feel God's call.

By the voice from heaven, Jesus was claimed as God's own.

We too find ourselves marked by the love of God.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was commissioned to his ministry.

By the Spirit's breath, we too take our place as God's servants.

We gather here called, claimed, and commissioned as God's people.

Thanks be to God!

HYMN: **VU100** When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized Good Lord, show me the way vs. 1 & 2

J When Jesus comes to be baptized, he leaves the hidden years behind, the years of safety and of peace, to bear the sins of humankind.

The Spirit of the Lord comes down, anoints the Christ to suffering, To preach the word, to free the bound, And to the mourner, comfort bring. ♪

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 online.

Let us prepare to worship God.

CANDLE LIGHTING

(Gathering2022, Beth Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nippawin, Saskl.) We light this candle.

Even one candle can be a beacon of hope. We pray that hope and love may fill our hearts. We light the Christ Candle.

May we carry this light with us, always.

OPENING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: **VU100** When Jesus Comes To Be Baptized vs. 4 & 5

♪ O Spirit help us to be like Christ: To live in love and charity, To walk in truth and justice now, And grow in Christian dignity.

We praise you, God source of all life, We praise you, Christ, eternal Word, We praise you, Spirit, gracious gift; Your triune presence fills our world. ♪

CHILDREN'S TIME

SOLO: Down to the River to Pray – *Traditional* As I went down in the river to pray Studying about that good ol' way And who shall wear the starry crown Good Lord, show me the way

Oh sisters, let's go down Let's go down, come on down Oh sisters, let's go down Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray Studying about that good ol' way And who shall wear the robe and crown Good Lord, show me the way

Oh brothers, let's go down Let's go down, come on down Oh brothers, let's go down Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray, Studying about that good ol' way and who shall wear the starry crown Good Lord, show me the way.

Oh fathers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh fathers, let's go down Down in the river to pray.

As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way And who shall wear the robe and crown Good Lord, show me the way.

Oh mothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh mothers, let's go down, Down in the river to pray.

As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good old way and who shall wear the starry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good old way and who shall wear the robe and crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 3:15-22 read by Sarah Witiuk This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN: VU376 Spirit of the Living God

♪ Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fill afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all; Make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love: Humble, caring, selfless, sharing/ Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love! ♪

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

This is God's purpose.

Sung response: VU41 Christ is Born

Christ is born; give him glory!

Christ is born; give him glory!

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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!

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Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
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Activities & Events—see our website for more details

THE LORD'S PRAYER VU916 A Paraphrase

Eternal Spirit,

Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be.

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from form one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love now and 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: VU96 Will You Come and See the Light vs.1

Will you come and see the light from the stable door?

It is shining newly bright,

though it shone before.

It will be your guiding star,

it will show you who you are;

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

POSTLUDE: Toccata Perpetua Lani Smith

Announcements

A big thank you to our soloist and scripture reader Sarah Witiuk Thanks to Tyler Craddock and Fred Cross for arranging the recording of the service today.

Remember Kit Jarvis who is in the Concordia Hospital now recuperating from surgery.

Remember Holly McHaffie's mom who is in a Senior's Residence in Ottawa, she has Covid and is isolating in her room.



Get the benefits of a Tax Receipt for your Donation! Let us know who you are and sign up for PAR. Preauthorized 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?