



Sunday, March 6, 2022



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 elevator outside the church office.

FIND YOUR PLACE

Re-Start of In-Person Services at St. Andrew's

Your Church Council is excited to announce that In-Person services at St. Andrew's will be reinstituted beginning Sunday, March 6. It has been a long wait and we thank you for your patience. The indications are that the Omicron wave has peaked with hospitalizations and ICU numbers starting to decline. As such, we feel it safe to begin meeting in person.

Manitoba Health Orders have now removed capacity restrictions for religious gatherings and for rules related to vaccination status. However, we will continue to require proof of vaccination for persons 12 years and older and the wearing face masks to attend services in person. We will also continue to follow social distancing protocols regarding seating and the interactions with others attendees. All of this is with the proviso that pandemic statistics continue to decline.

With the start of in-person services on March 6, we will then record the service on Sunday mornings, to be uploaded for viewing the following Monday or Tuesday. It is important to continue to offer this on-line option for those who may not yet be comfortable to attend in person or cannot attend for health reasons.

We look forward to getting back to some form of normalcy in worshipping together.

Your 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: *Prelude on 'Aberystwyth'* (Jesus, lover of my soul) Healey Willan

CENTERING WORDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

The Abingdon Press, 2022

When disasters strike, where can we go?

God is always there.

When enemies surround us, whom can we trust?

Christ is always with us.

When life is hard, who can ease the load?

The Spirit is always there to sustain us.

Come! Let us worship the God of our salvation.

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

Candle response: **MV67** Kyrie Eleison (Bridget)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

(Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy)

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM: *Be Still, and Know That I am God* (text by Gene Grier, music by David Lantz III)

Be still, and know that I am God,
The God of strength, the God of truth;
I am your refuge in your time of fear,
And you will know that I am near.

Be still, and know that I am God,
The God who gave My only Son to you;
You will find hope in His great sacrifice.
Your faith leads to eternal life.

Though waters may roar and mountains may shake,
And danger fills your heart with deep despair,
With faith and hope and love,

You'll find Me through your prayers, and know that I am near.

Be still, and know that I am God,
In times of pain, in times of war;
In Me, find solitude and perfect peace.
Keep faith, My wonders never cease.

Be still, and know that I am God,
the God of strength, the God of truth.
With love, I speak the heavenly words you hear
so you will know that I am near.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 91 read by Diane Bewell

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

SERMON

Readers: Fred Cross & Katy Harmer

Response: VU807 Eagle's Wings (Psalm 91)

♪ "And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of my hand." ♪

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We need you O God.

Sung response: **VU950** Stay with me
Stay with me, remain here with me,
Watch and pray, watch and pray.
Stay with me, remain here with me,
Watch and pray, watch and pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: **VU460** All Who Hunger

♪ **All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.**
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

**All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good. ♪**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Communion Setting E VU942 page
Liturgy: Gord Dunbar

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us open our hearts to God's love.
We open them to God and to one another.
Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Our transformation is gestated in ...
...Whenever we needed God's presence,
**God was there in the gift of love,
speaking through the voices of stories alive,
interpreted through the eyes of children.**
When there were times of aimlessness and wandering,
when there were times of violence and rejections.
When there were times of homecoming and welcome.
**God was there in the gift of love,
in the giving away of what was most precious.**

When people sought ...
...of the challenge to avoid criticisms of others.
**God was there in the gift of love,
in the assurance that we are all worthy in God's eyes,
that God's narrative lives within hearts transformed.**
When new influences and difficult circumstances challenged,
when uncertainty and doubt moved in...
when security and certainty seemed the only shelter from fear.
**God was there in the gift of love,
teaching us deep connection with God and with each other,**

showing us our narrative rooted in God's heart.

Yet we too often ...
...Spirit's truth within us.
We forgot our story.
We forgot that God is with us in the gift of love.
Yet God gave God's own self-unconditionally-in Love,
that we might once again remember our story and our identity in Christ.

Still people turned away ...
...we join the angels in their praise:
♪**Holy, holy, holy God of power and might.**
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes, in the name of the Lord. ♪

We gather at this table we remember that ..
...and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
♪**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. ♪**
Help us, Loving God...
...God most holy, now and forever.
♪**Amen, amen, amen, amen. ♪**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

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
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Treasurer	Bill Craddock	wjcdlc@mymts.net
Church Office	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Through communion with you, O Christ, we are made new.
Through what we have said and done we remember your self-giving.
Through your Spirit, we become empowered in your name,
to go into the world to tell your story as our story.
Thanks you, O God, in your blessing,
for the seas of uncertainty have ceased their raging. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: MV191 What Can I Do?

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: Go With Us

May the blessing of God,
Who made us in love,
Who made us for companionship,
And who made us to enhance the world,
Go with us as we leave this place,
Go with us where life calls us to be.
We go, but not alone.
We go, but not alone.
We go, we go, loved and blessed,
To be a blessing. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Canzona in D minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

Announcements

A big thank you to our quartet of singers: Sarah Witiuk, Susanne Reimer, Nolan Kehler, Fred Cross, to our scripture reader Diane Bewell, readers Fred Cross & Katy Harmer and communion liturgist Ruth McKenzie. Thank you to Tyler Craddock and Fred Cross for arranging the recording of the service today.

The Sox Box at Just A Warm Sleep is getting scarily low. Drop off warm socks gifting warm feet again. The socks can be dropped off at the back of the church.

Scripture Readings for next week:

Deuteronomy 26:1–11
Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16
Romans 10:8b–13
Luke 4:1–13

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?



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