

Sunday, October 2, 2022



Today is World Communion Sunday which is a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October which is today. World Communion Sunday promotes Christian unity and ecumen-

ical cooperation. It focuses on an observance of the Sacrament of Communion. Come and celebrate with us with The Bread and The Wine.

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

There are many ways to get involved at St. Andrew's. Everyone is welcome so please reach out and step into places that inspire you the most. More details found at http://standrewsriverheights.com/life-work/church-groups/.

Postlude and Clapping

Over the past few years it has become customary, some will call it obligatory, to clap for the Postlude. As organist I appreciate the sentiment of support and gratitude this gesture extends while at the same time asking the question - is it worshipful? There are moments in our worship which seem to demand a response - applause or 'Amen'. Sometimes that response happens, other times there is an awkwardness that 'hangs in the air'. I wonder if the applause which seems directed at the Postlude is actually an affirmation of everything that we have experienced during the service, like a communal gesture of gratitude for all our blessings. This seems appropriate to me.

At any rate I believe the perceived need to applaud after the Postlude has become awkward. I would like to suggest that we agree to refrain from clapping. I will not be insulted. In fact I will be relieved that I no longer need to measure noise level as a judgment of the quality of my choice or my performance. To me it is enough that you take the time to listen to my offerings of music as part of our worship, and I expect nothing more.

I welcome further discussion of the matter. As ever I am happy to serve with the congregation in expressing our worship together.

Soli Deo Gloria - to God alone be the glory. Wes Elias



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: Variations on 'O Gott du frommer Gott' (O God, Thou faithful God) J.S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: Prayers to Share, Year C, David Sparks.

We gather as members of St. Andrew's River Heights United faith community, to pray, to praise, and to remember.

In bread and wine unite us, O God.

We gather in solidarity with Christians of every continent; Christians of many denominations.

In bread and wine unite us, O God.

We gather as disciples of Jesus Christ, to hear words of truth, compassion, and justice.

In bread, and wine unite us, O God.

We gather in the tradition of the saints, to be strengthened and serve faithfully.

In bread and wine unite us, O God.

HYMN: VU288 Great is Thy Faithfulness

♪ Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail
not;

as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain) Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest.

sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. R

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow

wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. $\ensuremath{\mathsf{R}}$

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS
An update from our Church Council – Rob Siddall

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY
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 continue to worship with our God.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: VU859 By the Babylonian Rivers

♪ By the Babylonian rivers we sat down
in grief and wept, hung our harps upon a willow,

Zion while we slept.

There our captors in derision did require of us a song; so we sat with staring vision, and the days were hard and long.

How shall we sing songs of Zion in a strange and bitter land? Can our voices veil the sorrow?

O God, hear your lonely band. J

CHILDREN'S TIME

ANTHEM: A Song of Thanks (Carl Nygard Jr.) As the sun brings morning to the summer day, And the time of golden warmth begins; As my eyes lift up to see its shining ray, In my heart I hear a song of thanks.

As the fall turns summer green to red and gold, And the sky betrays its deepest blue. In the midst of harvest season, as of old, In my heart I hear a song of thanks.

For I know my God is watching me And He sends His blessings down Even through the chill of winter wind Heaven's providence is with me all around.

As the seeds of spring begin their life again, And the world of seasons is renewed; I can feel the promise of the moment when, In my heart I hear a song of thanks. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING: Read by Susanne Reimer Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

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

SERMON

HYMN: MV198 When We Gather at the Table ♪ When we gather at the table wine is poured and bread is broken. Then love claims us, offering and healing, we hear welcome, gently spoken.

Jesus offers our thanksgiving blessing God for life we're given. From the earth comes grain to feed us watered by the rains of heaven.

Word of promise claims attention earth renewed by God's designing. All the creatures join in praises God's intended wholeness finding.

Come, invited, now draw nearer, join this holy celebration. Here be strengthened, called to justice, living now God's new creation.

Christ, your coming and your hosting give us place at widening table now embracing world and neighbour Spirit, strong, by love enabled. ♪

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNNION (From B. J. Beu and Mary Scifres, Is It Commun-Sunday Already?! Communion Resources for All Seasons) Kingsfold Communion Set MV 203,204,205

With Christians around the world, come to the festival of love. We come with thanksgiving and praise. With believers from every continent on earth, come to the festival of grace. We come with thanksgiving and praise. With the whole body of Christ. come to the festival of life.

We come with thanksgiving and praise.

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good... ...salvation in his name

And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn, saying,

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the one who comes and bears your name always!

Holy are youwe proclaim the mystery of faith

Sing, Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! Send. O God...

...God most holy, now and forever.

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen! Amen. amen. O Holy One Hosanna and Amen!

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need, Here we have tasted your goodness and hungered for a world more just.

Rev. Karen Lumley klumley@standrewsriverheights.com

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Clergy

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped with today's service couldn't have pulled it off withou A thank you today to our singers

who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you!	Choir Director	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
	Organist	Wes Elias	weselias@mymts.net
A thank you today to our singers and our to scripture reader, Susanne Reimer.	Sunday School	Jan Demeduk	j.demeduk@hotmail.com
	Council Chair	Rob Siddall	rgs123@mymts.net
	Treasurer	Bill Craddock	wjcdlc@mymts.net
	Church Office	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

Here we have heard your call to be a people of a healing communi-

Though daily we touch our limits,

Here we have received the fullness of your grace.

Send us forth, O God,

in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We give thanks for the Christian Community worldwide.

Sung response: MV123 Day After Day Day after day, night after night, you speak through everything.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **VU299** Teach Me, God, to Wonder vs.1 Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see; let your world of beauty capture me. Praise to you be given, love for you be lived, life be celebrated, joy you give.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU228** Sing Praises to God vs. 4 Sing praises to God! Thanksgiving and song be ever outpoured, all ages along: for love in creation, for hope spread abroad, for grace of salvation, sing praises to God.

POSTLUDE: Final Variation of 'O Gott du frommer Gott' J. S. Bach

YOUR GIFTS MATTER.

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 Etransfer 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?

Announcements

Bible Study will be starting Tuesday, October 18th, please note the change from Wednesdays to Tuesdays at 9:30 am.

Remember in Prayer:

Joyce Barber passed away on September 27th, 2021. Her internment was held on September 30th, 2022 at Brookside Cemetery.

Lu MacLeod passed away on September 2nd, 2022. A service was held on Saturday, October 1st. **Got any loose change**? The Coin Canister is at the back of the church. Drop-in spare coins for Oak Table-1JustCity for their needs for food for their new breakfast program.

Scripture Readings for Next week

Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7 or 2 Kings 5:1–3, 7–15c Psalm 66:1–12 or Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:8–15 *Luke 17:11–19

