



**Saturday, December 24, 2022**



Advent is a time of waiting, anticipation, peace, hope, joy and love as we look forward to the long-awaited birth of the Christ Child. In Advent, we are anticipating the arrival of the baby Jesus the Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Saviour and Coming King. It is a time we are waiting for God, for the birth of hope, for the arrival of new life. As we wait, we prepare our hearts to receive the gifts of God. We ask God to shape us and to prepare our hearts for the long-awaited Prince of Peace. May we begin to understand God's vision of Peace, Hope, Joy and Love each week as we light the candles.

#### **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.

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

### **Christmas Eve Services**

**Friday, December 23rd in the morning-Christmas Family Service (online only)** - Pre-recorded and viewable online. This was performed by our youth.

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:15pm-9:30pm- Christmas Eve Communion**

**Saturday, December 24th at 10:00pm - Lessons & Carols sung by the choir**

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

### **Upcoming Services:**

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day Service, Westworth will be joining us.

Sunday, January 1 - Service at Westworth at 10:00am - "Around the Table"  
(Please sign up to bring 6 muffins or cheese. Sign-up sheet is at the back of the church.)



**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.

## Lessons and Carols— 10pm

Please join in singing the Hymns, found in the red Voices United hymn book, standing as you are able.

GATHERING: *Vivace, Allegro and Pastorale* from 'Christmas Concerto' Arcangelo Corelli

**HYMN 1: VU62** *Once in Royal David's City*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CAROL 1: *In Dulci Jubilo* (arr. R.L. Pearsall)  
*In dulci jubilo* [in quiet joy] Let us our homage show;  
Our heart's joy reclineth *in praesepe* [in a manger]  
And like a bright star shineth, *matris in gremio*. [in the mother's lap]  
*Alpha es et O* [thou art Alpha and Omega].

*O Jesu parvule!* [O tiny Jesus] I yearn for thee alway!  
Hear me, I beseech thee,  
*O Puer optime!* [O best child] My prayer let it reach thee,  
*O Princeps gloriae! Trahe me post te!* [O Prince of glory, draw me unto thee]  
*O Patris caritas, O Nati lenitas!* [O love of the Father, o gentleness of the son]  
Deeply were we stained *per nostra crimina*; [through our sins]  
But thou hast for us gained *Coelorum gaudia*. [the joy of Heaven]  
O that we were there!

*Ubi sunt gaudia*, [where are joys] where, if that they be not there?  
There are angels singing *Nova cantica*, [new songs]  
There the bells are ringing in *Regis curia* [in the King's court]  
O that we were there!

LESSON 1: Isaiah 9:2–7  
*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah*  
Reader: Rob Siddall

**HYMN 2: VU43** *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

LESSON 2: Isaiah 11:1-9  
*Isaiah speaks of the peace that Christ will bring*  
Reader: David Wreford

CAROL 2: *The Rose Carol (Two Christmas Carols)* - Gordon Young  
*The text is found at VU8*

LESSON 3: Luke 1:26-38  
*The Angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary*  
Reader: Linda Paul

**HYMN 3: VU55** *In the Bleak Midwinter*

LESSON 4: Luke 2: 1-7  
*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus*  
Reader: Evan Demeduk

CAROL 3: Nativity Carol (words and music, John Rutter)

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago;  
Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so.

Far away silent he lay, born today, your homage pay,  
For Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby;  
Over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky.

Wise ones from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills  
Worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills.

Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow;  
Innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know.

LESSON 5: Luke 2: 8-14

*The angels appear to the shepherds*

*Reader: Leigh Harris-Carlson*

**HYMN 4: VU38** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

CAROL 4: Night of Silence (Daniel Kantor, arr. John Ferguson)

Cold are the people, winter of life,  
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,  
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,  
Flowers that will echo the sunrise,  
Fire of hope is our only warmth,  
Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night,  
On wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,  
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly,  
Rumours of a dawn so embracing,  
Breathless love awaits darkened souls,  
Soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star,  
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar,  
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely,  
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love,  
Star unknowing of night and day,  
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.

#### 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
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

LESSON 6: Luke 2: 15-20  
*The shepherds go to Bethlehem*  
Reader: Rhonda Kennedy Rogers

OFFERTORY

**HYMN 5: VU60** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

CAROL 5: *Ding Dong! Merrily on High!* (arr. D. Willcocks)  
Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing.  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,  
And i-o i-o i-o by priest and people sungen.

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers.  
May you beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers.

LESSON 7: John 1: 1-14  
*John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation*  
Reader: Bernard Boland

BLESSING

**HYMN 6: VU67** *Silent Night*

POSTLUDE: *Of the Father's Love Begotten* arr. Wilbur Held

**A big thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols service to-night!**

To our Singers!

To our Organist Wes Elias, it is such a pleasure to have you play in our church. You are so talented!

To our readers: Thank you so much for gifting your time and talents in reading for this special evening.

**The flowers near the pulpit are in loving memory of Geoffrey C. Morrow, from his family.**

And thank you to everyone working behind the scenes whether it is during or before the services, you ensure everything runs well and we appreciate your efforts!

**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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Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!