



Sunday, December 4, 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

Saturday, December 24th at 12pm-Christmas Family Service (online only) - Pre-recorded and viewable online. This was performed by our youth.

Saturday, December 24th 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 4 - Advent 2.

Sunday, December 11 - The Sacrament of Baptism. Advent 3.

Sunday, December 11 Memory Tree service in the sanctuary, starting at 4:45pm, with the lighting of the Memory lights at 5pm.



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

(Advent 2 - Hope)

GATHERING: *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming* arr. Paul Manz and Gordon Young

Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding (Merton) arr. Malcolm Arche

BREAKING NEWS: Jamie Mainprize & Andrew Dolinsky

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY: (*Kairos-a religious organization that works together for ecological justice and human rights around the globe*)

Welcome to this service of worship.

We acknowledge the traditional territory upon which we gather this morning.

For many thousands of years, the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota Nations and Metis nations have sought to walk gently on this land.

They offered assistance to the first European travelers to this territory and shared their knowledge for survival in what was at times a harsh climate.

We seek a new relationship with the Original peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: **VU1** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* vs.1, 2, 4 & 5 ♪ **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.**

(refrain) **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. R

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. R

CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *Gathering 2022, written by Wanda Winfield.*

We await the one who shall come from the shoot of Jesse.

The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon them.

We await the one who comes in the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

With righteousness, they shall judge those impov-

erished and decide equitably for those who are oppressed.

We await the one who comes in peace and hope.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

CANDLE LIGHTING: *Gathering 2019-2020 written by Gordon Dunbar.*

In this season of expectant waiting, we wonder **and we hope.**

So many marvels. So much that confounds us.

So much that is unique. So much richness.

So many things we can touch, taste, smell, see, hear.

Hope rises within us.

Look at life, abundant in growing complexities and with bewildering intricacies.

Look at the variety!

Look how they work together-connected.

Hope bubbles to the surface.

We bask in wonder t God's creativity, at blessings showered abundantly-

while hope flames into promise.

HYMN: *We Light a Candle* (Valerie Kingsbury and Christopher Bowman) vs. 1

We light a candle for all people

who hear the spirit's call

to nurture hope and to birth

the light of life for all.

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of hope is ours today.

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of hope is ours today.

PRAYER

HYMN: **VU5** *All Earth is Waiting*

♪ **All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows await the seed of God.**

All the world, bound and struggling seeks true liberty;

it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,

"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel."

One whose name is "God with us," our Saviour

shall be,

through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain, open new highways, new highways for our God, who is now coming closer, so come all and see, and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.

Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today, for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now; again, on arriving Christ brings us liberty. ♪

CHILDREN'S TIME

ANTHEM: *Thou Shalt Know Him* (Mark Sirett)
Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by his crown or by his gown,
But his coming known shall be,
By the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11:1-10 Read by Linda Paul

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

SOLO: Judy Oatway – *The Little Road To Bethlehem*
Music- Michael Head, Text - Margaret Rose
As I walked down the road at set of sun,
The lambs were coming homewards, one by one,
I heard a sheepbell softly calling them
Along the little road to Bethlehem.

Beside an open door as I drew nigh,
I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby.
She sang about the lambs at close of day
And rocked her tiny Boy among the hay.

Across the air the silver sheepbells rang,
"The lambs are coming home," sweet Mary Sang
"Your star of gold, your star of
Gold is shining in the sky,
So sleep, my little King, go lullaby."

As I walked down the road at set of sun
The lambs were coming homewards, one by one,
I heard a sheepbell softly calling them
Along the little road to Bethlehem.

SERMON

HYMN: **VU680** *Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old*
♪ **Isaiah the prophet has written of old
how God's new creation shall come,
instead of the thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow;
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.
The mountains and hills shall break forth into
song,
the peoples be led forth in peace,
for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of
God
as the waters cover the seas.** **ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST**

**Yet nations still prey on the meek of the world,
and conflict turns parent from child.
Your people despoil all the sweetness of earth;
the brier and the thorn tree grow wild.
God, bring to fruition your will for the earth,
that no one shall hurt or destroy,
that wisdom and justice shall reign in the land
and your people shall go forth in joy. ♪**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:
We live in Advent hope, O God.
Sung response: **VU900** *Song of Zechariah*
**God shall fulfill the promise
and bring the people hope.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: **VU916** *A Paraphrase*

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *Each of Us Has Treasures*
(Valerie Kingsbury and Christopher Bowman)
**Each of us has treasures, off'rings we can share.
Arms to hold and comfort, words to show we care.
Gifts of time and talent at the manger lay.
All we have to give, we offer on this day.**

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU10** *Prepare the Way of the Lord*
**Prepare the way of the Lord!
Prepare the way of the Lord!
Make a straight path for him make a straight path;
Prepare the way of the Lord!**

POSTLUDE: *Grave and Allegro* from 'Christmas Con-
certo' Arcangelo Corelli

Announcements

A special thanks to the youth, Jamie Mainprize & Andrew Dolinsky, who participated in the Breaking News this morning.

Bible Study is on Tuesdays, at 9:30 am. This week we are studying Isaiah 35:1-10.

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.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you!

A thank you today to our singers, soloist, Judy Oatway and our scripture reader, Linda Paul

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

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Advent 2 Worship @ 10:30am

Cookie Walk @ 11:30am

Rental—Claudette Caron (sanctuary)

@ 1:30pm

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)

@ 7pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Worship Meeting (lounge) @ 1:30pm

P&A Meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm

Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @

6:15pm

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)

@ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Handbell choir (lounge) @ 5:30pm

Choir @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Rental—Virtuosi (sanctuary)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Rental—Virtuosi (sanctuary)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Advent 3 & Baptism Worship @ 10:30am

Memory Tree Service @ 4:45pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Rental—Kelvin High School

(sanctuary) @ 6pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm

Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @

6:15pm

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)

@ 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Handbell choir (lounge) @ 5:30pm

Choir @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Rental—Joy Cooper (sanctuary) @

6:15pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

Rental—Holly Harris (sanctuary) @

3:15pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Advent 4 Worship @ 10:30am

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @

2pm

Announcements

This year we are pleased to announce that we will be able to gather for the lighting of the Memory Tree. To accommodate social distancing, we will gather in the sanctuary at 4:45 pm on December 11 for a short celebratory service, followed by the lighting of the memory tree promptly at 5pm. Dress warmly. This is a marvelous way for the community to dedicate lights in memory of deceased family members and friends.

Memory Tree lights can be purchased by contacting Charlotte in the church office, by completing the order form available at the back of the church. Each light is \$10.00 per name and represents the person that you wish to remember. You will also receive a beautiful keepsake card for each light you purchase.

Their name will be permanently displayed in the Memory Book in the Narthex.

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.



Stewardship
Seconds

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

The order forms must be received by today, December 4 to ensure the name/s is included in the Memory Book. All proceeds go to Jocelyn House Hospice. Tax receipts will also be mailed out. We look forward to seeing everyone.

You will have recently received your pledge card for the 2023 year. Please prayerfully consider your gift to the church for the new year. Every commitment is welcomed and appreciated! As we continue to move through Covid-19 we are reminded of the gifts that we have received and how our lives have been impacted.

Scripture Readings for next week

*Isaiah 35:1–10

Psalms 146:5–10

or Luke 1:46b–55

James 5:7–10

Matthew 11:2–11



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