



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

Sunday, December 18 - Advent 4.

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



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 3– Joy)

GATHERING: *Noel sur les Flutes* Louis-Claude Daquin

BREAKING NEWS: Izzy Dyck & Evan Demeduk

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: **VU29** *Hark the Glad Sound*

♪ **Hark, the glad sound! The Saviour comes, the Saviour promised long: let every heart prepare a new throne, and every voice a song.**

He comes, the prisoners to release in Satan's bondage held; the gates of brass before him burst, iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, your welcome shall proclaim; and heaven's eternal arches ring with your beloved name. ♪

CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon Press, 2022*

Rejoice! God's promises are ever near.

We wait for Christ's birth with patience.

Rejoice! God's strength is with us.

We rest in the power of God's mighty love.

Rejoice! We gather in the joy of our salvation.

In God's love, we gather and pray.

CANDLE LIGHTING: *Gathering, 2019/2020*

In this season of expectant waiting, we rejoice, **dancing the choreography of grace.**

In the dance we find partners: the senior and the newborn,

The wounded and the weary,

The sick and the healthy,

All the genders and expressions.

Divine choreography weaves us into complex patterns of connection.

Rooted in joy, regarding each person as worthy, embracing each soul as God's beloved,

joy flames into grace-filled celebrations of diversity.

HYMN: *We Light a Candle* (Valerie Kingsbury and Christopher Bowman) vs. 3

We light a candle for all people

who have the will to see

the joy reflected in a star;

a sign of liberty.

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of joy is ours today.

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of joy is ours today.

PRAYER

HYMN: **VU35** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* vs. 2 & 3

♪ **Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!**

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!

Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door,

and we are blest forever more.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!

Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and call you all

to gain his everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save! ♪

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (see booklet)

Hebrew Benediction **VU965**

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:

the Lord make his face shine up on thee,

and be gracious unto thee:

the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,

and give thee peace. Amen

CHILDREN'S TIME

(Children may come up to the front if they are comfortable, social distance if they need to or remain in their seats, and all go to go to Sunday School after the Children's time)

ANTHEM: *Magnificat* (text by Valerie Kingsbury - based on Luke 1:47-55, music by Chris Bowman) Shelli Traskovski - Clarinet

My soul sings glory to God, to my God.
And my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour!

I have been chosen and know not why.
But I am blessed, and God's glory will be revealed in me.

I will praise God's name and proclaim what God has done!

I will praise God's name!

Mercy and love surround us and justice will prevail.

The proud ones are scattered and the powerful brought low.

The hungry ones are fed and the victims are set free.

God's people are remembered, and promises of old fulfilled.

I will praise God's name!

My soul sings glory to God, to my God.
And my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour!
Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 35:1-10 Read by Martin Reed

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

DUET: Evan and Izzy - *Who Would Send a Baby* (Mary Kay Beall)

Who would send a baby to heal a world in pain?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is crying for the Promised One,

Who would send their only Son?

Who would send a baby to light a world with love?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is hoping for the Promised One,
Who would send their only Son?

Who would choose a manger to cradle a King?

Who would send angels to sing?

Who would hang a star in the sky above

To shine on the gift of God's infinite love?

Who would send a baby to bless a world with peace?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is yearning for the Promised One,

Who would send a baby?

Who would send God's only begotten Son?

SERMON

MODERN READING OF ISAIAH 35:1-10

(Katy Harmer & Paul Forget)

HYMN: **VU445** *A Little Child, the Saviour Came*

**♪ A little child the Saviour came,
the mighty God was still his name;
and angels worshipped as he lay
the helpless infant of a day.**

**He who, a little child, began
the life divine to show God's plan
proclaims from heaven the message free,
"Let little children come to me."**

**We bring them now, and in your name
the saving love of Christ proclaim.
Through living water, grace endow;
baptize them with your Spirit now.**

**O God, who by an infant's tongue
can hear your perfect glory sung,
may these with all the heavenly throng,
praise you: Creator, Spirit, 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!

A thank you today to our singers, Evan and Izzy for their duet and our scripture reader, Martin Reed.

Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Choir Director	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
Organist	Wes Elias	weselias@mymts.net
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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We live in Advent joy, O God.

Sung response: **VU900** *Song of Zechariah*

God shall fulfill the promise and bring the people joy.

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

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: *Variations on 'In dulci jubilo'* Denis Bedard

Announcements

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.

Harrison William Rex is being baptized.

His parents are Tim Rex & Ainsley Wray

A special thank you to our guest clarinet player, Shelli Traskovski. Thank you to Katy Harmer and Paul Forget for the modern reading of scripture.

During the children's time today, families that are comfortable with their children coming to the front may do so.

Sunday School children and youth will be recording the Christmas play immediately following church on Sunday, December 18th. Please visit and enjoy coffee in the entranceway as we must be out of the church by 1:30pm for a concert. Thanks.

This is the last week for Bible Study. If you would like, bring some Christmas treats. We will be studying Isaiah 7:10-16.

Wreaths are for sale: The wreaths are \$30.00 and the proceeds are for Just A Warm Sleep (JAWS) which is a part of Augustine Centre-1JustCity. The wreaths are available Sundays after the service and during the week upon request. Christmas wreaths are selling fast only 10+ left. Please get yours now.

Remember in prayer:

Omar Fraguera is in the Concordia Hospital, Room 111.

Colleen Watters had a fall at work and is in the Concordia Hospital (room 317A) with a broken pelvis. She may be moving to another hospital in the future for rehab. She will be in the hospital for a few weeks.

A big thank you to all who participated in the Cookie Walk, the bakers, the buyers and the Fellowship Group who organized it all. They raised \$1,460.

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?

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.

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 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25



St. Andrew's River Heights United Church | 255 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3P7 | Sunday Services @ 10:30am
Phone: 204-488-1130 ~ Fax: 204-488-1132 | Rev. Karen Lumley Cell: 204-250-5073 Email: klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Office Email: office@standrewsriverheights.com | Website: www.standrewsriverheights.com
Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!