



Sunday, December 25, 2022



Today is Christmas Day. The long-awaited Christ Child is born and we are celebrating the greatest gift of all, The Christ Child. May the hope, peace, joy and love of the season be gifts you receive this Christmas time. Enjoy time spent with family and friends as you make room for the Christ Child in your celebrations. Merry Christ-mas.

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



The staff of St. Andrew's want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Upcoming Services:

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.

Order of Service

GATHERING: *Christians, awake! Salute the happy morn* arr. Noel Rawsthorne

I saw three ships arr. Noel Rawsthorne

CENTERING WORDS

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: **VU48** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

♪ **Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King,
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"**

Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;

with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the ever-lasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.**

**Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!" ♪

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

Response: **Today we remember Jesus and the story of his birth.**

CANDLE LIGHTING: *Gathering 2019-2020*

In this season of expectant waiting, we have held hope in our hearts.

Hope in the infant Jesus who is the promise for transformation.

Hope leads us to pray for peace in our world and to cultivate harmony in all of our relations.

In that peace, we find the Prince of Peace.

Peace transforms into joyful celebration;

Joy inspires us to dance with abandon.

Joy embraced fosters love that makes all things new.

And, in that newness, we discover the deep meaning of love shared.

Love given through humility shows us that Christ, is the promise fulfilled.

Jesus Christ, is born today!

HYMN: *We Light a Candle* (Valerie Kingsbury and Christopher Bowman) vs. 5

**We light a candle for the baby
who will grow up to be**

**a light to brighten darkest days,
and set our spirits free.**

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of life is ours today.

A candle's light will guide our way.

The gift of life is ours today.

PRAYER (adapted from David Sparks, Christmas Day Service)

Celebrate Jesus' birth to a humble couple far from home.

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

Recognize this wonderful event, with shepherds out on the hillside.

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

The angel tells of good news of great joy to everyone.

Rejoice, Jesus is born!

Listen to the words of the angels, "Glory to God, and on earth peace."

Rejoice! Jesus is born.

We sing, we praise, we join with folk from pole to pole, from shore to shore.

Rejoice! Jesus is born. Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN: **VU64** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

♪ **O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!**

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;

**yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.**

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all
on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv-
en!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of
heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of
sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear
Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tid-
ings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel. ♫

CHILDREN'S TIME

SOLO: Katy Harmer - *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* (Polish
carol)
Infant holy, infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging Angels singing,
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil til the morning new;
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow,
Christ the Babe was born for you!

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-20 Read by Ruth
McKenzie
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

HYMN: **VU73** *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*
♫ The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
and they say that his name is Jesus.

(Refrain) He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious
kingdom.

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 and our
scripture reader, Ruth McKenzie.

He come from the glory,
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory,
he comes from the glorious kingdom.

The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
and they say his name is Jesus. R

The shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
and they say his name is Jesus. R ♫

THE PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS: A STORY SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:
Advent is finished. Christmas has come.
Sung response: **VU41** *Christ is Born*
Christ is born; give him glory!
Christ is born; give him glory!

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

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **VU81** *As with Gladness*
vs.3
As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger crude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
free from sin that would destroy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU59** *Joy to the World* vs.1
Joy to the World! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her king!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

POSTLUDE: *The Birthday of a King* by William Neid-
linger, arr. Mark Hayes

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

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day Service @ 10:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Rental—Sawyer Craig (sanctuary) @ 12pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Rental—Sawyer Craig (sanctuary) @ 1pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

New Years Day Service @ Westworth

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm
Annual Reports Due

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

Choir @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Worship meeting (lounge) @ 1:30pm
P&A meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

Choir @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

Worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

Rental—Lil Opera (sanctuary) @ 1pm
Choir @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

Piano tuner @ 9am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

Worship @ 10:30am
Rental—Lil Opera (sanctuary) @ 1pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 23

Announcements

The church office will be closed for Christmas break from Monday, December 26th to Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023. If there are any pastoral care needs, call Rev. Karen Lumley at 204-250-5073.

Reports for the Annual Report are due Wednesday, January 4, 2023. A copy of last year's report can be found on the publications on the website

Remember in prayer:

Omar Fraguera is in the Concordia Hospital, Room 111.

Colleen Watters has been moved to Misericordia Hospital.

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?

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.

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 breakfast program.

Scripture Readings for next week

Isaiah 63:7–9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10–18
Matthew 2:13–23



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!