

Lent is defined as the period of 40 days that Christians observe from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is often marked with giving up something one really likes. It is a reflective time of penitence in preparation for Easter. It is a time of reflection and preparation before the cel-

ebrations of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert of 40 days. Let us ponder these things in our hearts as we begin our Lenten journey as a faith community.

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/.

ANNA BLAIR CIRCLE: Monthly functions that are social in nature and promote fellowship and camaraderie.

BIBLE STUDY: We meet Tuesday mornings at 9:30am in the Lounge. Drop in anytime! Contact klumley@standrewsriverheights.com

BOOK CLUB: We are a group of book lovers who meet Wednesday afternoons, every 5-7 weeks. Anyone is welcome! *Ruth - mckenziegrst@shaw.ca*

OUTREACH: Social justice in our community and beyond. We meet on an 'as needs basis'.

PRAYER/BAPTISM SHAWLS: Do you love to knit? If so, we could use your talents.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Teachers are always needed. Contact Jan Demeduk to volunteer at j.demeduk@hotmail.com

ST. ANDREW'S MUSIC: Love to sing? Our senior choir meets Thursday evenings and welcomes new members! Choir Director—music@standrewsriverheights.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are always looking for volunteers to help out with events, fundraising, outreach, Sunday morning coffee & tea. If you are interested, email the church office at office@standrewsriverheights.com.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, April 2 at 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 pm
Good Friday at St. Andrew's with Westworth, April 7 at 10:30am
Easter Sunday Communion, April 9 from 10:00-10:10 am
Easter Sunday Celebration with the Choir and Trumpeter, April 9 at 10:30 am



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: Two settings of 'The King of Love my Shepherd is'

"Dominus regit me" arr. Eric Thiman; "St. Columba" arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY: Prairie Spirit United Church

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on this land.

The relationship with the land is at the center of our lives.

We acknowledge the first peoples and their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

The land we worship and live on is part of Treaty 1. Our water comes from Treaty 3 and our hydro from Treaty 5 territories.

We acknowledge errors made in the past by those arriving from other lands and we pledge to work towards the right relationships with all First Nations people.

INTROIT: *Psalm 4:8* (E. Thiman) I will lay me down in peace and sleep: For thou, Lord, only, makest me to Dwell in safety.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023.

Christ, you are the Light of all lights, be our vision today.

Open our eyes to behold your glory.

Christ, you are the Light of all lights, be our vision today.

Open our hearts to the warmth of your love.

Christ, you are the Light of all lights, be our vision today.

Open our minds to the flame of your truth.

Christ, you are the Light of all lights, be our vision today.

Open our souls to the glory of the living as children of light.

That others may see in our living the sacred mystery of your

Kingdom

Christ, you are the Light of all lights, be our vision today.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: VU273 The King of Love

∫ The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I stayed; but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me; thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever!

CHILDREN'S TIME: The Lenten Tree

SOLO: Shea Carter - Ave Verum Corpus (W.A. Mozart)
Ave verum corpus natum
ex Maria virgine vere passum,
immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum
unda fluxit et sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.

Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for our sake.
From whose pierced side flowed water and blood:
Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE: (The Minister's Annual Manual 2013)

Familiar words come readily to the lips, yet not so readily to the heart.

Without thinking we can recite that you are our shepherd, O God - and yet,

we carry on as if we are alone.

We face difficult paths only to forget you are with us, offering strength and comfort in the most difficult of times.

Open our hearts to seek new ways of celebrating your presence.

Help us to trust that you will lead us in spaces safe and gentle, if we will but let you. Amen.

Where streams of living water flow

HYMN: VU241 Oh, Sing to Our God

∫ Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing a new song.

Oh, dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.

Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit. J

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Psalm 23 read by Ruth McKenzie

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to

God

ANTHEM: Brother James' Air - Psalm 23 (arr. Gordon Jacob)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie in pastures green. He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make within the Paths of Blessedness, e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I pass through shadowed vale, Yet will I fear no ill; for Thou art with me, And Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; My head with oil Thou does anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my days will surely follow me; And in my Father's heart alway my dwelling place shall be.

And in my heart for evermore thy dwelling place shall be

SERMON

HYMN: MV182 Grateful

∫(Refrain) Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son, joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of Love.

Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word, joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.

You are more than we imagine, Ancient, Holy, Living Lord. Even when we doubt your presence you are faithful to your Word. R

May our lives proclaim your justice, may our voices sing your praise. May our hands work in your service to the glory of your name. ♪

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

You give us the insight we need, Loving God. Sung response: **MV100** Lord God, You Love Us Lord God, you love us, source of compassion.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: VU916 A Translation
Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
May your name be made holy,
May your dominion come,
May your will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
And forgive us our debts,
As we have forgiven our debtors;
And do not put us to the test,
But rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power,
And the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: VU539 God of All Good vs.

God of all good, our gifts we bring to you, use them your holy purpose to fulfil; tokens of love and pledges brought anew that our whole life is offered to your will.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU121** *Tree of Life* Lenten vs. 3 Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul; springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole, flow in us and make us whole.

POSTLUDE: Voluntary in A minor William Boyce

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, soloist, Shea Carter, and our scripture reader, Ruth McKenzie.

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, MARCH 19

Speaker Series #2 (auditorium) @ 9am

Worship @ 10:30am
Rental—Winnipeg Music Festival Gala Concert (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—Charmaine Bacon
(sanctuary) @ 6pm

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 21 Bible study @ 9:30am

Announcements

Thanks to all those who donated pies for our PIE Day Celebration last Sunday. Thanks to all who came and participated. We raised \$100.00 with the leftover pies and slices for 1JustCity - St. Matthew's Maryland Community Ministry where Josh Ward is the minister. The Church donated \$500.00 to the ministry to help them in their re-opening due to the break-in and the vandalism that occurred there. Continue to remember them in your prayers.

Actors are needed for the Maundy Thursday Service, on Thursday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m. The following actors are needed: Peter, Jesus, Dorcas, Woman, Thomas, Judas, Narrator and Scripture Reader.

If you are attending the service and willing to participate, please let Rev. Karen Lumley know. Thank you so much!

The Sunday School children will be practicing their Palm Sunday Play immediately following the church service on Sunday, March 26th. The Sunday School children will be creating symbols for the Lenten Tree, which will be hung every Sunday during Lent and Easter Sunday. Also, a special play will be shared on Palm Sunday by the children and youth for the congregation during the service.

Memorial Flowers: What is the Memorial Flowers Fund? Every year during Lent, St. Andrew's raises money for the St. Andrew's Flower Fund in memory of loved ones. Donations can be made in amounts of your choosing and you can name as many people as you wish. All loved ones named will be listed in an 'In Memoriam' section in our order of service on Easter Sunday. This fund is used to purchase flowers/plants to decorate the church during special times of the year. If you would like your 'In Memoriam' to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please forward the form and your donation to the church office by mailing it in or dropping it off in the mailbox no later than Monday, April 3rd, 2023. Any donation to the Memorial Flowers Fund will be included in your yearly income tax receipt. Forms are located in the narthex or can be found on our website under 'publications/forms".

The St. Andrew's Senior Choir is pleased to announce the return of its annual Choir Show: "A Crazy Little Thing Called Love" on April 22, 2023. There will be a 7:30pm performance, as well as a 1:30pm matinee. Tickets are \$20 (12 and under: \$10) with reserved cabaret seating; snacks and punch are provided. Wine and beer will also be available for purchase by the glass. Tickets are available for purchase through the office Mon-Fri 8:30am-2:30pm. If you would like to pick up your tickets on Sunday mornings in the Narthex, please email or call the church office to order your tickets ahead of time. Tickets are also available online through Eventbrite. Seating is limited, so please get your tickets early!

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?

Remember in prayer:

 Omar Fraguela is in the Poseidon, room 227-2.

Bible Study is on Tuesdays, at 9:30 am. This week we are studying Ezekiel 37:1-14.

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

Ezekiel 37:1–14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6–11 John 11:1–45

