

Sunday, May 14, 2023



We are an Easter people. People who celebrate the Risen Christ! The Season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until May 28th which is Pentecost Sunday. The cross remains in the sanctuary with the

white cloth on it until Pentecost. Easter is the most important and oldest festival of the Christian Church, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

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.

Upcoming services:

Sunday, May 21st is Ascension Sunday. Communion will be served. Sunday, May 28th is Pentecost Sunday, and our guest preacher is Rev. Irene Greenwood.



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: I love to tell the story (Hankey) arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME

HYMN: VU343 / Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story,
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else can do.

(Refrain) I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, more wonderful it seems than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams. I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. R

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.

And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. R ♪

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY: Prairie Spirit United Church

For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples 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 peoples.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

And Jesus said, "Come!"

To all mothers and all children: he said, "Come!" to the motherless and the childless: he said, "Come!" to all who long to be mothered: he said, "Come! Come unto me all ye who labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls."

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: VU489 When Love is Found (tune VU490)

↓ When love is found and hope comes home, sing and be glad that two are one.

When love explodes and fills the sky, praise God, and share our Maker's joy.

When love has flowered in trust and care, build both each day, that love may dare to reach beyond home's warmth and light, to serve and strive for truth and right.

When love is tried as loved-ones change, hold still to hope, through all seems strange, till ease returns and love grows rise through listening ears and opened eyes.

When love is torn, and trust betrayed, pray strength to love till torments fade, till lovers keep no score of wrong, but hear through pain love's Easter song.

Praise God for love, praise God for life, in age or youth, in calm or strife.

Lift up your hearts! Let love be fed through death and life in broken bread.

CHILDREN'S TIME

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of tender mercies, we admit that sometimes we don't know what to do with ourselves. We anger at the slightest insult and imagine great vengeance upon those who wronged us. We laze about in the good news of our faith and do not consider the deep commitment of faith. We care for ourselves but not for others. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive us, help us to repent, and make us whole. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SOLO: Judy Oatway - *Arise, My love* by Richard Hundley Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away. O my dove, that dwelleth in the clefts of the rock. In the covert of a steep place, let me see they countenance.

Let me hear thy voice;

For sweet is thy voice and the countenance is comely. Arise, My love, my fair one.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Reading: Acts 17:22-31
Gospel reading: John 14:15-21
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM: O Source of All (Brian Tate)
O Source of all, You shine Your light within,
And then surround with Holy silence.
Primal sound, You breathe life into our being

,You touch our hearts with Your love. We awaken and we rise.

May we walk in peace united, May we live in love enlightened And know that we are one.

Grant us the bread of life. Help us to understand. Let Your forgiveness pass From hand to loving hand.

Free us from thoughts that bind. Remind us who we are, A part of earth and sea, Of sky and shining star.

A single note becomes a song.
A spark of light becomes a flame.
Your sacred promise is renewed,
Your cosmic cycle comes again, and again.
O Source of all, help us to grow.
May it be so.

SERMON: How Do We Love God?

HYMN: VU333 Love Divine All Love Excelling

↓ Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver; let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, them, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee, changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise. \$\mathcal{L}\$

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Lord, on this day set aside to honour and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. We are grateful that you chose to give us life through them, and that they received the gift of life from your hands, and gave it to us. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in carrying us and giving us birth. We thank you for the women who raised us; who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms.

We pray for older moms whose children are grown.

Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done. We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.

We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms. Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.

We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

Grant them strength and wisdom.

We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

Grant them relief and justice.

We pray for step-mothers.

Grant them patience and understanding and love. We pray for moms who are separated from their children. Grant them faith and hope.

We pray for moms in marriages that are in crisis.

Grant them support and insight.

We pray for moms who have lost children.

Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.

Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.

We pray for adoptive mothers.

Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.

We pray for women who desperately want, or wanted, to be moms.

Grant them grace to accept your timing and will.

We pray for all women who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.

We pray for those who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection.

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 to our singers, soloist, Judy Oatway and our scripture reader. Thank you to our guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Ray Cuthbert.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER VU914

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: VU538 For the Gift of Creation For the gift of creation, the gift of your love, and the gift of the Spirit by which we live, we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands. May the grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: VU586 We Shall Go Out vs.1
We shall go out with hope of resurrection,
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.

POSTLUDE: Love divine, all loves excelling (Hyfrydol) arr. Healey Willan

Announcements

Ray was ordained in Winnipeg in 1979 and in addition to pastoral, served on the World Council of Churches' Central Committee and its Commission of the Churches on International Affairs. He was Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Canada from 2004-2006. Prior to retirement, he served 18 years as the founding minister at Broadway Disciples United Church here in Winnipeg. He has recently served as a member of the Full Communion Dialogue Group of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Canada.

Remember in Prayer:

- Cheryl Duffy who is in the Women's Hospital at HSC.
- Holly McHaffie, whose father, Alexander Taylor McHaffie, passed away.

Rev. Karen Lumley will be on Study Leave from Monday, May 8th until Wednesday, May 17th.

On Sunday, May 21st communion will be served at the front of the church for those who are comfortable. If you prefer the pre-packaged elements, they are available from an usher.

On Sunday, May 28th, the children and youth will be having a Pentecost Party, celebrating Pentecost the birth of the church. Come for a fun-filled time of celebrating, feasting, and remembering.

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.

Sunday, June 4th at United Church in Meadowood (1111 Dakota Street) The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne will be preaching at the celebration of ministry service. She is the Moderator of the UCC of Canada and is the first Indigenous Woman to lead a religious denomination in Canada. The service is open to all United Church people. It will also be live-streamed for those who prefer to view it online. Time to be announced.

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?

Sunday, June 4th, as Churchill Park did last year, SMRUC has registered "The United Church of Canada" to walk in Wpg's 2023 PRIDE parade. All United churches welcome. We will bring the region's United Church banner to lead the group, but other banners/signs are welcome. Wearing bright colours is encouraged. The rally is before the parade at the Legislature Building and 10:00 am is the Parade. Meet us at our Church Banner behind the United Church Banners. This service will also be live -streamed for those who wish to view it online.

Scripture Readings for next week

*Acts 16:6–14, Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35, 1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11, John 17:1–11

