My yoke is easy, and my burden light.

Sunday, July 9, 2023

Summer is a time to be! A time to relax. A time to rest! A time to be with family and friends.

Summer is a time to celebrate! Weddings, friends, family and yes, even Church.

We are glad you chose to be here today or join us online. If you are from Westworth United Church, we are glad to be partnering with you again this summer. It is good to have services together. Actually, it is great! If you are visiting or new to River Heights feel free to come anytime! Come relaxed in shorts and a T-shirt. Be comfortable! Let's all connect! Let's all be together and just be!

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 *klum-ley@standrewsriverheights.com*

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

This summer, we will be partnering with Westworth United Church. Westworth will be joining us in July. We will join Westworth in August and for the long weekend in September.

We want to give a big warm welcome to Westworth!



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: Vesper Voluntary Edward Elgar How sweet the name of Jesus sounds (St. Peter) arr. Healey Willan

WELCOME

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT: United Church Worship Resources 2023

We begin this time of worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on the land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. This land has been inhabited by Indigenous peoples from the beginning. We thank all the generations of Indigenous peoples who have taken care of this land and been its stewards for thousands of years. We also recognize the contributions of the Inuit and other Indigenous peoples who have helped to shape this region, provinces, and Canada as a whole. We give thanks for the countless ways they have assisted the settler peoples who came to inhabit the land. May the Creator hold us gently in this time of hope, healing, and rec- Young Mary Magdalene was sure onciliation as we journey together on this land.

HYMN: VU344 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes the sorrows, heals the wounds, and drives away all fear!

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast: 'tis mana to the hungry soul, and to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the rock on which I build my shield, and hiding place, my never-failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King, my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

The effort of my heart is weak, and cold my warmest thought: but when I see you whom I seek, I'll praise you as I ought. ♪

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023

Christ calls those who are weary and heavy-laden. In Christ, we find rest.

Christ calls us to bear his yoke and learn from him. In Christ, we see God's ways.

Christ is gentle and humble in heart.

In Christ, we know God's love.

Come, for Christ calls us here.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: VU649 Walk with Me ↑ (Refrain) Walk with me, I will walk with you and build the land Gord has planned where love shines through.

When Moses heard the call of God he said, "Lord, don't send me." But God told Moses, "You're the one to set my people free." R

Now Peter was a most unlikely man to lead the flock: but Jesus knew his holiness and he became the Rock. R

her life cold be much more. and by her faith she dared to let God's love unlock the door. R

And when you share your faith with me and work for life made new, the witness of your faithfulness calls me to walk with you. R ♪

CHILDREN'S TIME PRAYER OF CONFESSION: The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2023

Merciful God, we do not understand why we do the things we do. Forgive our foolish ways. Give us the strength and the courage to bear your yoke and to heed your call. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SOLO: Sarah Witiuk - 'Just a Closer Walk with Thee', Traditional; arr. Richard Walters I am weak, but Thou Art strong Jesus, keep me from all wrong I'll be satisfied as long As you walk, dear Lord, close to Thee Through this world of toil and snares, If I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. Just a Closer Walk with Thee. Grant it Jesus, is my plea. Daily walking close to Thee. Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 read by Kathy Wilson

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to

God

SERMON

HYMN: VU506 Take My Life and Let It Be vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5 ♪ Take my life, and let it be consecrated, all for thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet, and let them be swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee; take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my love: and I will pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee. ♪

MINUTE FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Your peace, O God, is beyond our understanding. Sung response: **VU949** *Grant to Us* **Grant to us, O God, a heart renewed; speak to us a fresh forgiving word.**

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.

VU542 We Give You But Your Own We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU374** Come and Find the Quiet Centre vs. 3

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

POSTLUDE: Allegro from 'Concerto del Signor Vivaldi' Johann Walther

Announcements

Remember in prayer:

- The family of Carol Ferguson. Carol was an office administrator at St. Andrew's from 1981-1988. A service of Celebration of her life was held this past week.
- Holly McHaffie, whose mother passed away two weeks ago.

As many of the Fellowship Interest Group are away during the summer, we will not be preparing refreshments for after the service from July 2 to September 3. We require volunteers to prepare refreshments for the 5 Sundays in July.

Thank you to those who have signed up, we still need a volunteer for Sunday, July 30th. There is a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary if you can prepare refreshments for one of these weeks. If you require any information on what is required, please contact Betty Jubinville. The Fellowship Interest Groups would like to thank you for your continued support.

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.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: 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, Sarah Witiuk and our scripture reader, Kathy Wilson.

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

Announcements

Moose Hide Campaign is an Indigenous-led grassroots movement of men and boys-and all Canadians-who are standing up against violence towards women and children. Wearing this moose hide signifies your commitment to honour, respect, and protect women and children in your life and to work together to end violence against women and children, and all those along the gender continuum. Help spread the Moose Hide Campaign by sharing with your family, communities, and organizations. The pins are available at the back of the church and by Karen's office. share them with family and friends. For more information contact: https://

moosehidecampaign.ca/

Scripture Readings for next week:

Genesis 25:19–34 Psalm 119:105–112 Isaiah 55:10–13 Psalm 65:(1–8), 9–13 Romans 8:1–11 Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

Coming Up... SUNDAY, JULY 9 Worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JULY 10

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

SUNDAY, JULY 16

Worship @ 10:30am Rental—Charmaine Bacon (sanctuary) @ 6:30pm

MONDAY, JULY 17

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

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?





