



Sunday, November 19, 2023



Last month was World Communion, Thanksgiving, All Saint's Day and Remembrance Day and now for the next few weeks until Advent, we rest in the Hope of God's presence in our faith journey knowing that God is at work in our world. We wait for the coming of the Christ Child even now for He is the Hope of the World.

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 on our website at <http://standrewsriverheights.com/life-work/church-groups/>.

Time for Fellowship and great food! We are holding a perogy lunch in the auditorium on Sunday, November 19, 2023, immediately after the service. Lunch will consist of perogies, ham, coleslaw, and dessert. There will be a free will offering. This is a great opportunity to get together. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Wreaths are for sale:

The wreaths are \$30 and the proceeds are for Just a Warm Sleep, which is part of Augustine Centre, 1JustCity. The wreaths are available on Sundays after the service and during the week upon request. Cash or cheque accepted. Wreaths are available immediately beginning today, November 19th.

Rev. Karen Lumley will be on Study Leave from Monday, November 20 until Wednesday, November 28th. She will be working on services for Advent and the Christmas Season and also celebrating her mom's 92nd birthday. Rev. Tricia Gerhardt from Westworth United will be on call for that time; her numbers are; (431)-294-3149 cell, church (204)-489-6974 or minister@westworth.ca.



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 MUSIC: *If you will trust in God to guide you* (German Chorale "Neumark") Settings by Georg Bohm and J.S. Bach

WELCOME/LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN: **VU506** *Take My Life and Let It Be* vs. 1, 2, 3 & 5

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*

We lift up our eyes to you, O God, **longing for a glimpse of your grace.**

We watch for you...and wait, **trying to keep awake and aware,**
trying not to fall asleep, **trying not to miss your presence,**
trying not to miss our very lives.

Today, we come to you awake-clothed in faith,
decked out in love,
wearing hope for all to see.

Come and meet us here, O God, in your mercy
and your grace.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM: *In the Morning, O Lord* (text, Mozarabic prayer; music, W.H. Anderson)

In the morning, O Lord,

Let our prayer come before Thee.

Grant us to pass this day in gladness and peace,
Without stumbling and without stain;

That reaching the eventide we may praise Thee,
The eternal, through Thy mercy,

Who art blessed and doth govern all things,
World without end.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *Adapted Prayers to Share, Year A by David Sparks*

You call us to use the talents you have given, O God

when we deny their existence, help us to see them.

You call us to use the talents you have given, O God:

when we are afraid give us confidence.

You call us to use the talents you have given,

O God;

help us to use them for your service and not keep them to ourselves.

You call us to use the talents you have given, O God;

help us not to hold back but to lift our eyes to Jesus and the cross.

(Time of Silence)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN: **MV139** *True Faith Needs No Defence*

SCRIPTURE READING: Read by Leigh Harris
Carlson

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Judges 4:1-7

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 14-30

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

SOLO: Fred Cross - *Lord God of Abraham* - Music by Félix Mendelssohn - Text based on 1Kings 18:36-39

Draw near, all ye people, come to me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel,

This day let it be known that Thou art God,

And that I am Thy servant!

Lord God of Abraham!

Oh shew to all this people

That I have done these things according to Thy word.

Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel,

Oh hear me and answer me,

And shew this people that Thou art Lord God.

And let their hearts again be turned!

SERMON

HYMN: **VU286** *If You Will Trust in God to Guide You*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

You give us all different gifts, Loving God. Help us to use them wisely.

Sung response: **VU810** *Psalm 92 refrain*

**It is good to sing your praises
and to thank you, O Most High.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **MV136** *When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace* vs. 5
Your Spirit gives us differing ways to serve you well and offer praise. When all are joined as one, we'll be your able, strong community.

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU481** *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* vs. 2 shortened
With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

POSTLUDE: *Voluntary in A major* Leon Boellmann

The anthem this week

Today's anthem uses the text of a Mozarabic prayer. The Mozarabs were Christians living in the Muslim-ruled territories of Iberia (present-day Spain) between 711-1492. They kept their Christian traditions, while also incorporating and taking influence from the Islamic/Arab culture around them. Over time, many Mozarabic people converted to Islam, and Arabic eventually started to replace Latin as the spoken vernacular of the Mozarabic Christians. There was a small community who kept their unique Mozarabic Christian traditions, and there are still some Mozarabic parishes in Spain. In my research, I found this text referred to as a morning prayer, but also as a prayer for "Joy and Peace in the Daily Walk."

Announcements

Next week, Rev. Irene Greenwood will be our guest preacher.

Irene Greenwood is a retired United Church minister serving in both rural and city ministry for 38 years in the three prairie prov-

inces. Now retired, Irene lives in Winnipeg with her partner, Joan, and enjoys spending time with their five grandchildren. On a volunteer basis, Irene continues her work for the church as a support person for ministry personnel and through social justice work. In addition, she occasionally offers leadership for study group in her own congregation. Since retiring, Irene has renewed her interest in music by learning a new instrument - the ukulele. She and Joan participate in jam sessions, playing along with other ukulele players.

Deck the Halls

Each year the church is decorated for Advent and Christmas. It's a job where lots of helpers are needed. This year, we plan to do the decorating on Thursday, November 30 and Friday, December 1, 9:30 until 4:30. The first day, we bring all the decorations out of their various storage locations and start assembling trees and hanging wreaths and garlands. The next day, we hang the decorations on the various trees and tidy up. That covers the inside work.

Outside, we have a wooden nativity set. As it is very large, we need a full complement of helpers to set it up. This year, we are asking adults and children to stay for about one-half hour after church on December 3rd, to put the display together. Many hands make light work.

If you can help with the decorating for an hour or two or three or more, please let Ruth know. (e-mail: mckenziegrst@shaw.ca or leave a message on her phone: 204-489-1537). Many thanks.

There seems to be from time-to-time issues with the microphones and people are unable to hear. There are hearing aid devices that are available from the back of the church; just ask an usher. If you cannot hear, put your hand up and I will then know to adjust the mic or send a note up to the minister and I will try to deal with it. We want you to be able to hear. We try to have people test the microphones before reading in church to ensure they are heard. If there is any way we can help with this matter, please let us know.

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. Thank you to our singers, soloist, Fred Cross and our scripture reader, Leigh Harris Carlson.

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

Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 9:30am in the lounge. The passage we are studying this week is Matthew 25:31-46. Patricia Baker, our Minister in a formal association with us at St. Andrew's, will be leading the study group this week.

Cookie Walk December 2 & 3, 2023: The Cookie Walk will continue in the modified format. Boxes will be pre-packaged and each box will contain 3 dozen homemade cookies consisting of shortbread and an assortment of cookies. The price per box is \$20.00. To order cookies, please complete the order form available at the back of the church or contact Charlotte in the church office. Cookies will be available for pick up on Saturday, December 2nd from 9:00 to 10:00am or Sunday, December 3rd after the service. Order early as quantities are limited. All orders must be prepaid before pick up. **Note to all Council and Interest group members:** We require your support to make this a successful event. Please sign up to make 10 dozen cookies. **To the congregation:** We need your continued support to help to make this event a success. All donations are welcome.

Memory Tree December 10, 2023

Be part of the Memory Tree Tradition at St. Andrew's this Advent season. We will gather in the sanctuary at 4:45pm on December 10 for a short celebratory service, followed by the lighting of the memory tree promptly at 5pm. Dress warmly. This is a marvelous way for the community to dedicate lights in memory of deceased family members and friends. Memory Tree lights can be purchased by contacting Charlotte in the church office, by completing the order form available at the back of the church. Each light is \$10.00 and represents the person that you wish to remember. You will also receive a beautiful keepsake card for each light you purchase. Their name will be permanently displayed in the Memory Book in the Narthex. The order forms must be received by December 5 to ensure the name/s is included in the Memory Book. All proceeds go to Jocelyn House Hospice. Tax receipts will also be mailed out. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Thank you for your continuing financial support of St. Andrew's!

We are returning to a new sense of normalcy at the Church, which is great. The choir sings an anthem each Sunday, people are signing up for adult confirmation and other events are starting to re-appear.

There, as always, has been death among major givers and filling that gap is challenging. We would urge you to assess your situation and, if possible, increase your givings.

The Church continues to support 1JustCity and other social justice causes. It is refreshing to have people like Josh Ward return and explain how meaningful our support is to the organization.

We also continue to support Mission and Service so that the broader work of the Church can continue.

There is a Sunday School program available and the Anna Blair Unit is functioning again. There are concerts, like the recent 100th Anniversary of the Royal Canadian College of Organists which saw many individuals attend. So, if you have not been at worship for a while, come and join us! We would love to see you!

A new senior's program is happening in the River Heights area and the first one is on November 24th at 10am, which is Games at Westworth. Seniors are welcome to attend.

Scripture Reading for next week: *Matthew 25:31-46

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?



St. Andrew's River Heights United Church | 255 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3P7 | Sunday Services @ 10:30am
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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!