



Sunday, November 26, 2023



Today is the Reign of Christ Sunday or Christ the King Sunday. It refers to a feast in the liturgical year which emphasizes the true Kingship of Christ. The color white is used during seasons of celebration such as Christmas/Epiphany and Easter and on special Sundays like Transfiguration Sunday, Trinity Sunday, All Saint's Day, and Reign of Christ Sunday. This Sunday is the last Sunday of the liturgical year.

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/>.

Rev. Karen Lumley is on Study Leave from Monday, November 20 until Wednesday, November 29th. 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.

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.

Make sure to subscribe to our weekly eblast to know what is happening in the Church community!

<https://standrewsriverheights.com/news-4/newsletter/>



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: *Selections from 'Music for the Royal Fireworks'* G. F. Handel
O Worship the King (Johann M. Haydn, arr. Linda Lamb)

WELCOME/LIFE & WORK OF THE CHURCH

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Long before those of us who are settlers and those who are descendants of settlers came to this land to live, there were people here. We acknowledge that many Nations of Indigenous peoples have lived on this land. We give thanks for this land, the territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Inuit peoples in the heart of the Métis Nation. We gather on Treaty 1 land and commit to the stewardship of this land and to right relationships.

HYMN: **VU579** *The Church is Wherever God's People*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

Hear and speak these words from long ago:
"True evangelical faith cannot lie dormant. It clothes the naked, it feeds the hungry, it comforts the sorrowful, it shelters the destitute, it serves those that harm it, it binds up that which is wounded, it has become all things to all people."
~ Menno Simons, 1539

OPENING PRAYER:

In the life of Jesus, we see what it means to love.
In this time of worship, show us what it means to love with a love that is forgiving.
Teach us what it means to be gentle with those who are hurting, generous with those who need help.
Help us to recognize that
in those we meet on the street, in those we see sheltering from bombs, in those who sleep in bus shelters, in those who live forgotten by family, in those who struggle to make ends meet in these and so many more, we see the face of Jesus.
May we recognize and welcome him into our lives and into our hearts.
Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

ANTHEM: *Christ, the Fair Glory* (H. Hugh Bancroft)
Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,
Glory of us all, author of creation,
Grant us in mercy, grace to win by patience,
Joys everlasting.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

In these troubled times, when so much love is needed in our world,
When we don't always search for the truth,
When we make judgements without all the facts,
When we fail to see sacredness in the lives of those caught in the midst of war,
open our hearts and minds.
When we see people crying, begging, hurting, but fail to see holiness in their eyes:
open our eyes and our hearts.
When we hear people demonstrating in the streets, but don't listen to what is being said,
Open our ears and our hearts.
When we see pain and suffering, but don't see you,
Open our eyes, our hearts, our entire being. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN: **MV114** *Behold the Face of Christ*

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 25:31-46 read by Rita Swan

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

HANDBELLS: *St. Anthony Chorale* (Franz J. Haydn, arr. Kevin McChesney)

SERMON

HYMN: **VU183** *We Meet You, O Christ* (tune: **VU228**)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We honour the holy among us and offer our prayers for the world
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: *Crown Him the Lord of Life (Diademata)* arr. Wilbur Held

Announcements

Thank you to our guest preacher Rev. Irene Greenwood.

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

If anyone would like to transfer their church membership from another church to St. Andrew's, please contact the church office. We will be having an Adult Confirmation and Transfer of Membership Sunday in December.

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.

Bible study won't be meeting this Tuesday, November 28th.

Scripture Readings for next week: Isaiah 64:1-9 & Mark 12:24-37

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, handbell choir, and our scripture reader, Rita Swan.

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

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.

Please deliver the cookies to the church upstairs kitchen on Thursday, November 30th. 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!

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.



Stewardship
Seconds

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!