



Sunday, February 4, 2024



Epiphany

Epiphany follows the Christmas story of the babe born in the manger. It is a season especially set apart for adoring the glory of Christ. It means manifestation of glory, revelation, leads us to the contemplation of Christ as King, and leads us to the Season of Lent. The Epiphany Season is a happy time for us to keep the bright lights about our homes, and to remember the miraculous birth and guiding star of Bethlehem so long ago.

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/>.

Bible Study is on Tuesdays, at 9:30am in the lounge. The passage we are studying this week is Mark 9:2-9.

Remember in prayer Joan Stevenson, who is in the Victoria Hospital and Jody Kerr, who is in Deer Lodge.

The ABC Valentine's Bake Sale will be held Sunday, February 11th after the service in the Auditorium. Get excited for some baked goodies!

Tuesday, February 13th is our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper in the auditorium! It will run from 5 pm-6:30pm, the price is \$5 per person and children under 3 years are free. All are welcome!

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.

Epiphany 5

GATHERING MUSIC: *Come and find the quiet centre* (Beach Spring) arr. Raymond Haan
I love to tell the story (Hankey) arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2024*

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told to you from the beginning?

**The Lord is the everlasting God,
the creator of heaven and earth.**

God sits above the circle of the earth
and stretches out the heavens like a curtain.

**Those who wait for the Lord
shall mount up with wings like eagles.**

They shall run and not be weary.
They shall walk and not faint.

How good it is to sing praises to our God.

HYMN: **VU374** *Come and Find the Quiet Centre*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **VU269** *The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *Adapted from, The Minister's Annual Manual 2011-2012*

O Holy One, we confess it is not easy for us to confront those things that divide us from you and from one another. We prefer prayer to be comforting, not challenging, or correcting; assuring, not inquiring or requiring. Forgive us for failing to trust in you. Draw us close to you, O God, that we may live faithfully and love graciously. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *I Give to You a New Commandment* (music, Peter Nardone)

I give to you a new commandment,
A new commandment I give to you:
That you love one another as I have loved you.

Ubi caritas est vera, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

[Where charity is true, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in God.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.]

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Derek Morphy
Responsive Psalm: **VU868-869** Psalm 147:1-11
Part One

Gospel reading: Mark 1:29-39

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

SOLO: Susanne Reimer - *There is a Balm in Gilead*, Arr Mark Hayes, Traditional Spiritual

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain; but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. If you can preach like Peter, if you can preach like Paul, go home and tell your neighbour, "He died to save us all."

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole.

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul, to heal the sin-sick soul.

SERMON

HYMN: **VU619** *Healer of Our Every Ill*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

In this chaos, there is silence.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **MV191** *What Can I Do?*

♪ **What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.** ♪

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU84** *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word* vs. 4

♪ **O light of Nations, fill the earth;
our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace,
as stars once led the way to you.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Overture (Suite#1)* Henry Purcell

Music Note

This morning's solo, sung by Susanne Reimer, is an arrangement of the African American Spiritual, "There is a Balm in Gilead." Like many Spirituals, the original composer of the tune is unknown, although it was likely composed in the 19th century. The text refers to a verse in Jeremiah 8:22: "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wounds of my [God's] people?" Spirituals often use Old Testament imagery of healing or freedom because enslaved people were taught Christianity, and found parallels between the stories they were told and their own circumstances. In this song, the "balm in Gilead" could have multiple meanings: a desire for literal physical healing from wounds or sickness, and perhaps also a desire for release from enslavement and strife.

Announcements

St. Andrew's AGM is on Sunday, February 25th at 11:30am. The annual report will be available soon.

During Lent, we will be studying together, "Act Fast," by Alydia Smith. This is the newest Lenten devotional book from the United Church Publishing House. "*In 2023 the Earth yelled in the exact way that scientists predicted; extreme weather, floods, drought, air pollution and fire.*" Together we will discuss the effects of climate change and question what can we do? What good could we possibly do? If you are interested in attending this Bible Study, let Rev. Karen Lumley know so that we can order more books so everyone can have one. The cost of the books is \$15.00 each.

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, Susanne Reimer and our scripture reader, Derek Morphy.

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, FEBRUARY 4

Worship @ 10:30am
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Worship meeting (lounge) @ 10:45am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
P&A meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

RHS yoga (lounge) @ 10am
Handbell choir (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Rental—Kelly Robinson (sanctuary) @ 5:30pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Worship meeting (lounge) @ 8:30am
Worship @ 10:30am
ABC Valentine's bake sale (auditorium) @ after worship service
Rental—Claudette Caron (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Rental—Chloé Thiessen (sanctuary) @ 4:30pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (auditorium) @ 5pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Handbell choir (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Rental—Bennet Charter (sanctuary) @ 6pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Worship @ 10:30am
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Handbell choir (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Piano tuner (sanctuary) @ 9:30am
Rental—Women's Music Club (sanctuary & lounge) @ 12pm

More Announcements

Knitters are needed for the baptismal blankets that we gift to children to be baptized. Contact the church office if you are willing to do this.

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?

Oak Table-1JustCity is collecting individual tuna/meat cans, hearty soups, stews, beans etc. for individual use. Pull-top cans are useful. Warm jackets, sweaters, boots, etc. are appreciated. Please bring your donations to the church and we can drop them off for you. We thank you for your generosity.

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:

2 Kings 2:1–12
Psalm 50:1–6
2 Corinthians 4:3–6
*Mark 9:2–9 B.S. Focus
* this reading is the preaching text

