

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 28, 2024



We are an Easter people. People who celebrate the Risen Christ! The Season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until May 19th 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.

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 on our website.

FIND YOUR PLACE

WASHROOMS: A wheelchair-accessible and gender-neutral bathroom is located in the hallway North of the lower auditorium. It can be accessed by the elevator near the office or any of the stairways and is available to all 24 / 7. The Childcare and Nursery have full and exclusive use of the washrooms in the lower hallway Monday to Friday 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The use of the lower Narthex washrooms is for church use 24 / 7 plus the lower hallway washrooms may be used by all on evenings and weekends when the childcare and nursery are closed.

Thank you to Evan Demeduk for sharing his story with us.

Indoor/Outdoor picnic on Sunday, May 5. Service downstairs games and activities outside weather permitting. Wear red to remember and honour the MMIWG.

Remember in prayer

Rita Swan is preaching at McClure United
Gladys Mildren, who is in the hospital.

Bible Study is on Tuesdays, at 9:30am in the lounge. We are studying together John 15:9-17.

Scripture Readings for next week: Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6 & *John 15:9-17

* This reading is the preaching text

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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING MUSIC: *Musette* Edwin Lemare

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH
Minute for Council – Michael Duncan

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Minister's Annual Manual 2009*

We come every day to the waters of baptism.

We come to wash away the clutter of our lives.

We come to wash away our prejudice, our anger, our despair.

We come every day to the waters of baptism.

We come wondering, "What is preventing us from accepting this new life?"

HYMN: **VU333** *Love Divine, All Love's Excelling*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

OPENING PRAYER:

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **MV144** *Like a Healing Stream*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *The Minister's Annual Manual 2009, Adapted.*

Creating and Ever-Renewing God, you have made us in your own image.

You have invited us to be recreated in your image, to let go of everything that masks your image in us. We confess that sometimes we prefer to make ourselves into images of worldly success.

We confess that sometimes we like the illusion of masks that hide us from one another and from you. Awaken our souls to the need of forgiveness and awaken us to the meaning of our baptismal vows. In Jesus' name, we ask. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *Beloved, Let Us Love One Another* (words, 1 John 4:7-8; music, Pepper Choplin)

Beloved, let us love one another,
With love that comes from God.

For love is from God,
And everyone who loves is born of God.
For love is from God,
And everyone who loves surely knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God
For God is love, God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another,
With love that comes from God.
Let us love one another;
So let us love.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Vinny Ashton

Responsive Psalm: **VU746** Psalm 22 (Part 3 & 4)

Reading: Acts 8:26-40

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

DUET: Fred Cross & Linda Fearn - *From J. S. Bach's St. Matthew Passion*
Mache dich, mein Herze, rein, Make thyself pure, my heart,
Ich will Jesum selbst begraben. I myself will entomb Jesus.

Note: Joseph of Arimathea has just recovered Jesus' body from Pilate. The text does refer to literally placing Jesus into the grave, but expresses Joseph's desire that his heart will become Jesus's resting place.

SERMON

Evan Demeduk shares his story

HYMN: **VU320** *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Jesus is the true vine; the vine of Christ produces good fruit.

Sung response: **VU833** *Psalm 11*

♪ **Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.** ♪

THE LORD'S PRAYER: **VU916** *A Paraphrase*

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

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, duo, Fred Cross & Linda Fearn, and our scripture reader, Vinny Ashton.

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

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: **VU168** *The Risen Christ* vs. 4
♪ **May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity** ♪

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU965**

♪ **The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
the Lord make his face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace. Amen.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Finale on 'Hyfrydol'* (Love divine, all loves excelling)
Henry Coleman

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)
@ 7pm

Rental—MRTA (sanctuary)

MONDAY, MAY 6

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Rental—Melissa Organ practice
(sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 7

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)
@ 7pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Rental—Melissa Organ practice
(sanctuary) @ 1pm
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)
@ 7pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, MAY 9

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

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Choir (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Rental—Pembina Trails Voices
(sanctuary) @ 4:30pm

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Rental—Melissa Organ practice
(sanctuary) @ 11am

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Rental—Pembina Trails Voices
(sanctuary) @ 12:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Church Picnic

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Rental—Charmaine Bacon

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?

(sanctuary) @ 2pm

MONDAY, MAY 13

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 2pm
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium)
@ 7pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 7pm

THURSDAY, MAY 16

Choir (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

MONDAY, MAY 20

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
RHS yoga (lounge) @ 2:30pm

