



Tuesday, December 24, 2024



Joy to the world, the Lord is come! We join with Mary and Joseph, the Angels, the Shepherds, and the Wise Ones to celebrate the arrival of the Christ Child. After four weeks of waiting and preparation in Advent, Jesus is born and we rejoice! We rejoice with God, and with each other, that God's promise of new life has been fulfilled in the Christ Child. Merry Christmas!

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24th at 1pm-Christmas Family Service (posted on YouTube) - Pre-recorded and viewable online. This was performed by our youth.

Tuesday, December 24th at 9:15pm-9:30pm- Christmas Eve Communion

Tuesday, December 24th at 10:00pm - Lessons & Carols sung by the choir

The evening services will be recorded and edited and will be available as soon as possible after Christmas

Upcoming services

Sunday, December 29 - Worship with Westworth at Westworth

Sunday, January 5 - Worship with Westworth at St. Andrew's

We hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year

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.

Lessons and Carols— 10pm

Please join in singing the Hymns, found in the red Voices United hymn book, standing as you are able.

GATHERING: *Il est ne, le Divin Enfant (He is born, the divine Christ Child)* arr. Dale Wood
What Child is this (Greensleeves) arr. Vivien Harvey Slater
Rise up, shepherd, and follow Betty Roe

WELCOME: Rev. Karen Lumley

HYMN: VU62 *Once in Royal David's City*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

LESSON 1: Isaiah 9:2–7
Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah
Reader: Iris McKay

CAROL: *Yule-tide Fires* (text, Anonymous; music, Diane Loomer)
Light with the burning log of oak
The darkness of thy care,
Deck with the scarlet berried bough
The temple of the fair.
Spread pure white linen for a feast,
Perchance some guest may share.

Give forth thy gold and silver coins
For they were lent to thee;
Put out to usury [*profit on investment*]
thy dross [*surplus*],
One talent gaineth three.
Perchance the hungered and the poor
May pray to God for thee.

Once a pale star rose in the east
For wandering herds to see.
To Beth'lem came a child so weak,
And came strength to Gallilee!
Perchance if thou dost keep thy tryst [*trust*]
A star may rise for thee.

LESSON 2: Matthew 1:18-25
Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus
Reader: Jocelyn Carlson

HYMN: VU74 *What Child is This*

LESSON 3: Luke 2: 1-7
Luke tells of the birth of Jesus
Reader: Ben Dyck

CAROL: *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine* (trad. German carol; arr. Lloyd Pfautsch)
Joseph dearest, Joseph mine,
Help me cradle the child divine;
God reward Thee and all that's thine in paradise,
So prays the mother, Mary.

Refrain:
He came among us at Christmastide,
At Christmastide in Bethlehem;
Let us all bring from far and wide
Love's diadem: Jesus, Jesus,
Lo, he comes, and loves, and saves,
and frees us!

Gladly, dear one, lady mine,
I'll help you cradle this child of thine;
God's own light on us both shall shine
in paradise,
As prays the mother, Mary.
Refrain

Peace to all who have goodwill!
God, who heaven and earth doth fill,
Comes to turn us away from ill,
And lies so still within the crib of Mary.
Refrain

LESSON 4: Luke 2: 8-14
The angels appear to the shepherds
Reader: Izzy Dyck

HYMN: VU75 *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

LESSON 5: Luke 2:15-20
The shepherds go to Bethlehem
Reader: Leigh Carlson

HYMN: VU38 *Angels We Have Heard*

CAROL: *A Child is Born in Bethlehem* (text, 14th century Latin hymn; music, Philip Stopford)
A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia!
And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia!

Rejoice, rejoice, sing high, sing low, Alleluia!
Benedicamus Domino [*let us bless the Lord*],
Alleluia!

To thee, O Lord, be glory paid, Alleluia!
Thou Son of Mary, Mother maid, Alleluia!

To Holy Trinity give praise, Alleluia!
With Deo Gracias [*thanks to God*] always,
Alleluia!

LESSON 6: Mathew 2:1-12
The visit of the Magi
Reader: Rita Swan

CAROL: God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen (trad.
English carol; arr. Molly Ijames)
God rest ye merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
Remember Christ our Saviour
was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heav'nly Father
a blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

"Fear not," then said the angel,
"let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour
of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
from Satan's pow'r and might,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
And with true love and fellowship
each other now embrace;

This sacred time of Christmastide
all others now deface;
O tidings of comfort and joy!

OFFERTORY: *O come, all ye faithful (Adeste fideles)* arr. Wilbur Held & Noel Rawsthorne

HYMN: VU60 O Come All Ye Faithful

LESSON 7: John 1: 1-14
John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation
Reader: Rev. Karen Lumley

CAROL: All This Night Bright Angels Sing (text,
William Austin; music, Sir Arthur Sullivan)
All this night bright angels sing,
Never was such carolling;
Hark! A voice which loudly cries,
"Mortals, mortals, wake and rise.
Lo! To gladness turns your sadness;
From the earth is risen a Sun,
Shines all night, though day be done."

Wake, O earth, wake everything,
Wake and hear the joy I bring:
Wake and joy for all this night,
Heaven and every twinkling light,
All amazing, still stand gazing;
Angels, Powers and all that be,
Wake and joy this Sun to see!

Hail! O Sun, O blessed Light,
Sent into this world by night;
Let Thy rays and heavenly powers
Shine in these dark souls of ours.
For, must duly, Thou art truly
God of all, we do confess;
Hail, O Sun of Righteousness!

BLESSING

HYMN: VU67 Silent Night

POSTLUDE

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

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

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols service tonight!

To our Singers, thank you for raising your voices in song!

To our Organist Wes Elias, it is such a pleasure to have you play in our church. You are so talented!

To our readers: Thank you so much for gifting your time and talents in reading for this special evening.

And thank you to everyone working behind the scenes whether it is during or before the services, you ensure everything runs well and we appreciate your efforts!

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?

