Sunday, January 5, 2025

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.

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.

Reports for the Annual report are due January 8th, 2025. A copy of last year's report can be found on our website under publications.

The Outreach group is collecting socks to donate to 1Just City. Please bring new warm adult socks. There will be a box located at the back of the church. We will continue to collect socks throughout the winter. This is one of the greatest needs for those who experience poverty or homelessness. Thank you for supporting our relatives who are less fortunate and need our help.

Knitters are needed for the baby baptismal shawls. Contact Ruth McKenzie or the church office for the pattern and instructions.

Make sure to subscribe to our weekly Online newsletter 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

(Resources adapted from 2021 The United Church of Canada)

GATHERING MUSIC*: Creator of the stars of night (Conditor Alme Siderum)* arr. Raymond Haan

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING WORDS

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR COMMITMENT TO TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:
Arise! Shine!
For our light has come!
The glory of the Lord is in this place.
The glory of the Lord is in you, in me.
See! Be radiant!
Our hearts thrill and rejoice!
Let us worship in gratitude, in joy, together.

HYMN: **VU48** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **VU96** *Will You Come and See the Light*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
Holy One, on this day of Epiphany, we hear a story of travelers who bring extravagant gifts to Jesus, which sometimes causes us to think that our gifts are not good enough. We hold ourselves to the world's standards of what gifts should be and fail to see that what we offer is like those early gifts-what we offer is the best that we have. So, forgive us, when we compare ourselves with others. Forgive us when our fear stops us from rising up to shine. Inspire us to look at what we have in gratitude, so that we might then share these parts of ourselves for your glory for the transformation of the world that you love so much. We long to be reflections of your Light, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *A Christmas Blessing* (words, trad. Irish blessing; music, John Purifoy)
The light of the Christmas star to you,
The warmth of home and hearth to you.
The cheer and goodwill of friends to you,
The hope of a childlike heart to you.

The joy of a thousand angels,
The light of the Christmas star,
The love of the Son of God to you,
And the peace he brings to all.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Kathy Wilson
Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

HYMN: **VU79** *Arise Your Light is Come*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:
Hear our prayer O Lord.
May the light of Christ shine in us and through us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *The first Nowell* arr. Noel Rawsthorne

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE:
VU74 *What Child Is This* vs.3
**♪ So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings, salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary! ♪**

BLESSING:
We have heard the words of the prophet.
As we go, may we too Arise and Shine!

BENEDICTION: **MV213** *Take Up His Song*
**♪ Take up his song of peace
and go into the world.
Take up his song of peace,
in ev'ry moment.**

**In ev'ry moment of the journey,
we're laying down our lives;
lay them down, in peace,
lay them down,
and take up his song. ♪**

POSTLUDE: *Break forth into joy (from "The Christmas Oratorio")* J.S. Bach (arr. Van Denman Thompson)

Announcements

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas Eve services, many hands make light work.

Welcome to all those who are attending from Westworth United Church. It was wonderful to worship together last week at Westworth and wonderful to worship together at St. Andrew's this Sunday.

Today there are no Sunday School classes. Sunday School will resume next week.

A special thanks to the Fellowship Group who baked cookies for our shut-ins and those in nursing care homes. The cookies and cards from Ellen Bruneau brought a little joy to those who received them.

Marjorie Eckert has moved to Oakview Place on Ness Avenue.

St. Andrew's Stewardship Pledge Campaign

The St. Andrew's annual Stewardship Campaign is well underway and the Pledge packages have been prepared with individually addressed envelopes. As a result of the Postal disruption, we had asked folks to pick up their packages from the narthex when attending services over the past few Sundays. Many have done so and we thank you for your attention. With the Postal Service just starting to get back in operation, the balance of the packages will be put in the mail this week. Please watch for them in your mailbox.

The annual Pledge Campaign is an essential component in seeking your financial support for 2025 to allow St. Andrew's to continue as a viable and thriving Church.

Walks on Tuesdays with Westworth continue every week at 1pm. If you would like to be informed about the routes of these walks and would like to have your email provided to the organizers, please let the church office know.

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, and our scripture reader, Kathy Wilson.

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Choir Director	Katy Harmer	music@standrewsriverheights.com
Organist	Wes Elias	weselias.mail@gmail.com
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

Activities & Events—see our website for more details

Coming Up…

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
Westworth joins us for worship @ 10:30am

MONDAY, JANUARY 6
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7
Wes Organ Lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
Worship meeting (board room) @ 1:30pm
P&A meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11
Rental—Katy Harmer(sanctuary) @ 10am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
Rental—Virtuosi (sanctuary)

MONDAY, JANUARY 13
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14
Wes Organ Lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
ABC (lounge) @ 1:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15
Service at the Wellington @ 11am
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
Rental—Bennet Charter (sanctuary) @ 6pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 2pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 20
Rental—RCM Exams (sanctuary) @ 8am
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21
Rental—RCM Exams (sanctuary) @ 8am
Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 6:30pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23
Rental—RCM Exams (sanctuary) @ 8am
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 2pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 27
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28
Wes Organ Lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 6:30pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

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?

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Rental—Raymond Ding (sanctuary) @ 6:30pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3
Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4
Wes Organ Lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am
Worship meeting (board room) @ 1:30pm
P&A meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 6:30pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6:15pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church | 255 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB R3M 3P7 | Sunday Services @ 10:30am
Phone: 204-488-1130 ~ Fax: 204-488-1132 | Rev. Karen Lumley Cell: 204-250-5073 Email: klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
Office Email: office@standrewsriverheights.com | Website: www.standrewriverheights.com
Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 3:00pm | Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!