



Sunday, May 4, 2025



We are an Easter people. People who celebrate the Risen Christ! The Season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until June 8th, 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 those who delivered flowers to those in care homes and institutions. A special thank you to the children who made the crosses each person received one with their flowers.

Sunday morning Book Study Group are reflecting on Something Sacred Reflections on Music and Faith pgs. 126 ff, Week 6 & Holy Week. Book Study is on Sunday after Church in the lounge.

Bible Study is cancelled this week, but will resume on Wednesday May 14th at 9:30am.

Marjorie Eckert, a longtime member of St. Andrew's, passed away on Sunday, April 27th. Remember her family in your prayers.

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.

Order of Service

GATHERING MUSIC: *Hymns of Creation*
(medley) arranged by Phillip Keveren

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN: **VU412** *This Is the Day*
♪ **This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made,
that our God has made,
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made.**

**Open to us, open to us
your gates, O God, your gates, O God;
we will go in, we will go in,
to your holy place, to your holy place.
Open to us your gates, O God
we will go into your holy place.
Open to us, open to us
your gates, O God.**

**You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name,
we will praise your name;
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.
You are our God, we will praise your name,
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.
You are our God, you are our God,
we will praise your name. ♪**

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TERRITORY: *Prairie Spirit United Church*
**For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples
have walked on this land.
The relationship with the land is at the center
of our lives.
We acknowledge the first peoples and their
stewardship of this land throughout the ages.
The land we worship and live on is part of Treaty 1.
Our water comes from Treaty 3 and our hydro
from Treaty 5 territories.
We acknowledge errors made in the past by
those arriving from other lands and we pledge
to work towards the right relationships with all
First Nations peoples.**

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say

rejoice!

Let us **rejoice** and celebrate. **Rejoice!**

PRAYER

ANTHEM: *Hymn of Promise* (words and music,
Natalie Sleeth)

In the bulb, there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter,
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody:
There's a dawn in every darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity.
In our doubt, there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 19:1-6

REFLECTION/QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Have you ever encountered someone or something that has enlightened you or changed the direction of your life?
Has your experience of church influenced or changed your life?

HYMN: **VU229** *God of the Sparrow*
♪ **God of sparrow, God of whale, God of the
swirling stars.
How does the creature say Awe. How does the
creature say Praise.**

**God of the earthquake, God of the storm, God
of the trumpet blast.
How does the creature cry Woe. How does the
creature cry Save.**

**God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of
the empty grave.**

How does the creature say Grace. How does the creature say Thanks.

God of the hungry, God of the sick, God of the prodigal.
How does the creature say Care. How does the creature say Life.

God of the neighbour, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook.
How does the creature say Love. How does the creature say Peace.

God of the ages, God near at hand, God of the loving heart.
How do your children say Joy. How do your children say Home. ♪

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *For the beauty of the earth* arr. Margaret Goldston

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE: **MV182 Grateful** (refrain)

♪ Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you. ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING:
We are called to **rejoice in the Lord always!**
Again, I say **rejoice!**
Go and celebrate and rejoice, for God is good!

BENEDICTION: **MV214** *May God's Sheltering Wings*

♪ **May God's sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you
May God's nurturing arms,**

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

**her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love,
and hold you in her love. ♪**

POSTLUDE: *Nature's Praise of God* (Die himmel ruhen des Ewigen Ehre) Ludwig van Beethoven

Music Note

"Hymn of Promise," also known as "In the Bulb There is a Flower," was written by American composer Natalie Sleeth in 1985. Her devotional book, "Adventures for the Soul," includes this poem, and she notes that she was "pondering the ideas of life, death, spring and winter, Good Friday and Easter, and the whole reawakening of the world that happens every spring." Her husband, Rev. Dr. Ronald Sleeth passed away from cancer just a few weeks after "Hymn of Promise" was premiered in Florida, and it was also sung at the memorial service for the composer in 1992.

Announcements

Rev. Karen Lumley will be on Study Leave from Monday, May 5th, to Wednesday, May 13th. She will be working on Worship Planning for the summer.

Ray was ordained in Winnipeg in 1979 and in addition to pastoral, served on the World Council of Churches' Central Committee and its Commission of the Churches on International Affairs. He was Moderator of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Canada from 2004-2006. Prior to retirement, he served 18 years as the founding minister at Broadway Disciples United Church here in Winnipeg. He has recently served as a member of the Full Communion Dialogue Group of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Canada.

Girl Guide Cookies are for sale today, next week, and, Karen has some in her office. One of our youth, Jocelyn Carlson, will be attending the Worldwide Girl Guide Conference in Switzerland this year and is raising money for that trip. Let's support her and her troop as they work towards this. Cookies are \$6.00 a box.

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 everyone involved in our service today. Thank you to those who helped with the organizing of our picnic!

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

Upcoming Services

- Sunday, May 11th – Mother's Day, guest preacher Rev. Ray Cuthbert

Fifty Years! The Anna Blair Circle - 1975-2025

Sunday, May 25, 2025, Special service and free lunch!

Come celebrate with the Anna Blair Circle. Please invite those you know who may be interested in this event - Friends of ABC (formerly UCW), and of St. Andrew's - to join us. We are looking forward to greeting old and new friends. Please sign up at the back of the church if you are attending the lunch.

Celebration Concert! Sunday, May 25, 2:00pm, at St. Andrew's River Heights.

Come celebrate 100 years of music in the United Church of Canada with the choirs of Westworth and St. Andrew's! The program features favourite hymns and anthems from each congregation and the United Church over the past 100 years. Everyone is invited to attend and join in singing the hymns! Entry is by donation (suggested \$20). You can get your tickets starting this week after the service, or stop by the church office during the week.

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.

Coming Up...

MONDAY, MAY 5

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 6

Wes organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am

P&A meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm

Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6:15pm

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm

Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Rental—Winnipeg Sonora Voices (sanctuary) @ 4:30pm

SATURDAY, MAY 10

Rental—Winnipeg Sonora Voices (sanctuary) @ 12:30pm

MONDAY, MAY 12

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Wes organ lessons (sanctuary) @ 10am

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am

Book club (lounge) @ 1:30pm

Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Rental—Judy Braun (lounge) @ 12:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 18

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.

'Did You Know' Message From Your Stewardship Team

Total revenues for St. Andrew's from all sources in 2024 were \$422,300. Member givings of that amount were 230,900 or 54.7% of the total. The very significant remaining balance (some 45%) is made up from other sources, including rental income, interest from investments, and income from the St. Andrew's Foundation. It is important to note that the 54.7% component from Member givings has been declining over the years. A sustained continuation of that trend, in the longer term, could threaten the viability of St. Andrew's and our Christian presence in the community we serve. **Something to think about.**

Rental—Charmaine Bacon (sanctuary) @ 2pm

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 5:15pm

MONDAY, MAY 19

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

