



Sunday, November 30, 2025



Advent is a time of waiting, anticipation, peace, hope, joy, and love as we look forward to the long-awaited birth of the Christ Child. In Advent, we are anticipating the arrival of the baby Jesus, the Prince of Peace, King of Kings, Saviour, and Coming King. It is a time we are waiting for God, for the birth of hope, for the arrival of new life. As we wait, we prepare our hearts to receive the gifts of God. We ask God to shape us and to prepare our hearts for the long-awaited Prince of Peace. May we begin to understand God's vision of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love each week as we light the candles and decorate our Christmas tree.

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.

Traveling Youth Group- December 19th 7:00pm-9:00pm

Join us this December at St. Andrew's River Heights United Church as they host the 3rd annual Traveling Youth Group Christmas Extravaganza: Gingerbread House Edition. Come build gingerbread houses as we explore "Where is the Candy Cane in the Bible?"

What is a Traveling Youth Group? Traveling Youth Group is a 2-hour Youth Retreat hosted by a variety of United Churches across Winnipeg each month; consisting of worship, Theme, and snacks. Come and bring your friends and meet new ones too!

Who: Youth Grade 6-12

Where: St. Andrew's River Heights United Church, 255 Oak Street

When: Friday, December 19th 7:00pm -9:00pm

Register: <https://forms.gle/JNgbpF2XfChFYAP6>

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.

Advent 1 - God's Vision of Hope

*Liturgy & Prayers from Advent Unwrapped 2025,
United Church of Canada*

GATHERING MUSIC: *Noel* (on the Flutes)
Louis-Claude Daquin

WELCOME

HIP HAPPENIN' NEWS: Andrew Dolinsky &
George-Antony Shariff

WORK OF THE CHURCH

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *The Abingdon
Worship Annual, 2025, written by Mary Pe-
trina Boyd, adapted.*

We begin the journey of Advent that leads to
Christmas.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is a journey of peace.

Let us beat swords and plowshares.

This is a journey of hope.

Let us walk with God.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: **VU1** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (text from
the Unitarian Universalist hymnbook, "Singing the
Living Tradition")

♪ **O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and with your captive children dwell.
Give comfort to all exiles here,
and to the aching heart bid cheer.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come within as Love to dwell.**

**O come, you Splendor very bright,
as joy that never yields to might.
O come, and turn all hearts to peace,
that greed and war at last shall cease.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come within as Truth to dwell.**

**O come, you Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your presence here.
And dawn in every broken soul
as vision that can see the whole.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come within as Light to dwell.**

**O come, you Wisdom from on high,
from depths that hide within a sigh,
to temper knowledge with our care,
to render every act a prayer.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come within as Hope to dwell. ♪**

CHILDREN'S TIME & CANDLE LIGHTING: Read by
Fred Cross

CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN: *We Light This Candle*
(Pat Mayberry, arr. David Kai)

We light this can - dle for hope. A - wait the
new life with - in. May our hearts now live each
day, so hope can find a way, so
hope can find a way.

HYMN: **VU7** *Hope Is a Star*

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 2:1-5 read by Khal
Shariff

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

ANTHEM: *Little Drop of Heaven* (Pepper Choplin,
words and music)

Let a little drop of heaven come to earth.
Bring peace, sweet peace.
Bring peace to this world.
Let peace come, Your will be done,
Let it be done on the earth as it is in heaven.
Let Your peace come down from heaven to this
world.
We pray for peace.

Let a little drop of heaven fall to earth.
Bring love, true love.
Bring love to this world. Bring peace to this world.
Let love come...We pray for love.

Let a little drop of heaven come to earth.
Bring joy, sweet joy.
Bring joy to this world.
Let a little drop of heaven come down
Bring peace, love, and joy to this world.

SERMON

HYMN: **VU473** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Communion Setting E VU942/943

*Communion Liturgy written by Alydia Smith, Advent
Unwrapped, UCC.*

As we come to this table...
...are welcome here.

God be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift our hearts in prayer.**
Let us give thanks to God. **It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

♪
Blessed are you ...
...tenderness and compassion.

♪ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.** ♪

At this time...
...now and forever.

♪ **Amen, amen, amen, amen.** ♪

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:
We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and experiences. We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *"Sleepers, wake!" the watch are calling (Wachet auf)* arr. Martha Sobaje

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE:
VU55 In the Bleak Midwinter vs. 4
♪ **What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him – give my heart.** ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU75 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks vs. 6**

♪ **"All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; good will to all from highest heaven begin, and never cease."** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Picardy)* arr. Noel Rawsthorne

Music Note

The hymn "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence," is a Advent/Christmas hymn hidden in the Communion section of the hymnbook. It isn't your typical, upbeat song of the season, but the grand melody in a minor key (a traditional French Christmas carol tune) does evoke a sense of awe for the mystery and anticipation of Advent and Christmas. The text comes from the communion liturgy of St. James, used since the fourth century, during the presentation of the bread and wine.

Announcements

Wreaths are ready for pick-up. If you have preordered a wreath, they are available for pick-up today!

Decorating the Tree: This Season of Advent, we as a faith community are decorating the tree in the sanctuary together. The children and youth are making ornaments for the tree on the theme of each of the four Sundays of Advent. Their ornaments will be hung on Sunday mornings during Children's time. Adults may put on ornaments before or after church begins; there are some ornaments here provided. But if you have an ornament that you would like on our Church tree for the season, bring it to church. Ornaments you brought can be picked up from the Narthex after Epiphany, when the tree is taken down.

For those of you who purchased lights on the Memory Tree, your Memory cards are available to pick up in the Narthex on Sunday mornings - they are in individual envelopes in a basket. Please call or email the office if you are not going to be at the church in person and we will mail your cards out to you.

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, Hip Happenin' News Reporters Andrew Dolinsky and George-Antony Shariff, Candlelight reader, Fred Cross. Thank you to our Communion Servers and Co-officiant Roberta Popoff and our scripture reader, Khal Shariff.

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

Bible Study is on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am-10:30am in the lounge. We will be studying together, Isaiah 11:1-10. All are welcome to attend

Upcoming Services

- Sunday, December 7th - Advent II
- Sunday, December 14th - Advent III - Memory Tree Service & Pre-Recording Family Christmas Eve Service after Church

Wreaths are for sale! All proceeds go to the 1JustCity program at Augustine Centre. You may purchase wreaths after church on Sunday or by contacting the church office. Wreaths are \$35 and cash, cheque and e-Transfer are accepted. The wreaths make a great gift for neighbours, friends and family. Please consider supporting this outreach fundraiser.

Cookie Walk December 6th & 7th, 2025

Boxes will be prepackaged and each box will contain 3 dozen homemade cookies consisting of shortbread and an assortment of cookies.

The price per box is \$20.00.

To order cookies, please complete the order form available at the back of the church or contact Charlotte in the church office.

Cookies will be available for pick up on Saturday, December 6th from 10:00 to 11:00am or Sunday, December 7th after the service.

Order early as quantities are limited. All orders must be prepaid before pickup.

Note to all Council and Interest group members:

We require your support to make this a successful event. Please sign up to make 10 dozen cookies.

To the congregation: We need your continued support to help to make this event a success. All donations are welcome.

Please deliver the cookies to the church upstairs kitchen on Thursday, December 4th. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Board Game Night, Sunday, December 7th at 7:00pm in the Lounge. Everyone in their 20s-40s is welcome! Bring a game to share. Contact Katy for more information.

Memory Tree December 14th, 2025

Be part of the Memory Tree Tradition at St. Andrew's this Advent season. The Memory Tree Service will be a part of the Sunday morning service on December 14th. The lights will be lit after the morning service. A reception will be held after church upstairs. Come and join us for this special Memory Tree Service and Reception.

This is a marvellous way for the community to dedicate lights in memory of deceased family members and friends.

Memory Tree lights can be purchased by contacting Charlotte in the church office, or by completing the order form available at the back of the church. Each light is \$10.00 and represents the person that you wish to remember. You will also receive a beautiful keepsake card for each light you purchase.

Their name will be permanently displayed in the Memory Book in the Narthex. The order forms must be received by December 7th to ensure the

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.

name/s are included in the Memory Book.

All proceeds go to Jocelyn House Hospice.

Tax receipts will also be mailed out. We look forward to seeing everyone.

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...

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Rental—Sandra Bender (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

Rental—Winnipeg Singers (sanctuary) @ 6:30pm

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

