

God's Promise of Faithfulness

Sunday, January 18, 2026

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.

Our greeters this month are members of the Worship group. Be sure to say hello!

Bible Study starts on Wednesday, January 21st, at 9:30am in the lounge. We will be studying Matthew 4:12 -23. All are welcome!

Sunday Recital Series:

The St. Andrews River Heights Choir invites you to join us for a recital on Sunday, January 25th at 12pm in the sanctuary. The program will be an eclectic mix of songs presented by Fred Cross and Linda Fearn. Free admission, with donations gratefully accepted.

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.

God's Promise of Faithfulness

GATHERING MUSIC: *Prelude in G major*
Mendelssohn

Felix

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.
Lord, listen to your children praying...

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

Something's gonna happen like the world has never known,

CENTERING WORDS

When the people of the Lord get down to pray;
A door's gonna swing open, and walls come a-tumbling down,
When the people of the Lord get down to pray.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *Prayers to Share, Year A, David Sparks, pg. 38.*

You can trust God.

Lord, listen to your children praying...

In the shifting sands of life, God is our rock.

You can trust God.

You're gonna know i when the Lord stretches out His hand,

Among the conflicting values and views, God's Word clarifies,

You can trust God.

And the people of the Lord get down to pray,
There's gonna be a brand new song of victory in this land,

Faced with self-serving opportunities, God asks us to help those in need.

You can trust God.

When the people of the Lord get down to pray.

When the world confuses and threatens, God's Spirit assures of hope of peace.

Come! Let us worship.

And all the people sang:

Lord, listen to your children praying...

HYMN: **VU288** *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Vinny Ashton
Responsive Psalm: **VU764** Psalm 40:1-11

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SOLO: Fred Cross - *O Rest in the Lord* (from "Elijah," Felix Mendelssohn)

OPENING PRAYER

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,
And He shall give thee thy heart's desires.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Commit thy way to Him, and trust in Him,
And fret not thyself because of evil doers.

HYMN: **VU84** *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word*

O rest in the Lord, and wait, wait patiently for Him.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2026, pg. 12.*

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Merciful God, when we succumb to despair and get lost in our fears of inadequacy, remind us who we are and whose we are.

SERMON

We long to feel worthy of your love and to rest secure in your call to be a light to the world.

HYMN: **MV139** *True Faith Needs No Defence*

Remind us, Loving Presence, to speak words of hope like Isaiah,

and words of encouragement like Paul.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

God calls us to **work out God's purposes prayerfully and practically.**

When others ask us if we have found the Christ Child,

give us courage and the faith to boldly proclaim:

Come and see! Amen.

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:

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
(Ken Medema, text and music; arr. Jack Schrader)

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

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.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *All glory be to God on high* G. P. Telemann

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE: **VU93** *When Heaven's Bright with Mystery* vs. 4

♪ **When heaven's bright with mystery
and stars still lead an unknown way,
when love still lights a gentle path
where courts of power can hold no sway,
there with the Magi, let us kneel,
our gifts to share, God's world to heal.** ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU82** *A Light is Gleaming* refrain

♪ **A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
is burning bright, living in the light.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *'Allegro' from Suite in D* John Stanley

Music note

American poet Thomas O. Chisholm wrote the text of 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' in 1923. He wrote about it: "I must not fail to record here the unfailing faithfulness of a covenant-keeping God and that He has given me many wonderful displays of His providing care, for which I am filled with astonishing gratefulness." Chisholm sent the poem to his friend and composer William M. Runyan, who noted: "This particular poem held such an appeal that I prayed most earnestly that my tune might carry over its message in a worthy way."

Announcements

It is time for Confirmation classes for youth and adults, and membership classes for adults who would like to join the church or transfer their membership. Please send an email to Rev. Karen Lumley at klumley@standrewsriverheights.com if you are interested.

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, soloist, Fred Cross and our scripture reader, Vinny Ash-ton.

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

Board Games Night: Saturday, January 31

Everyone in their 20s-40s is welcome for Board Game Night, 7:00 on January 31 in the Lounge! See you there! See Katy for more info.

A pair of black winter boots, Sorels, size 11 were left at the church downstairs after Sunday School. They are upstairs by the coat rack outside the church offices if they are yours.

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, JANUARY 18

Outreach speaker series (lounge) @ 9am

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

ABC (lounge) @ 1pm
Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Rental—Opera Idol (sanctuary) @ 5pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Trustees AGM (board room) @ 11:30am
Sunday recital series (sanctuary) @ 12pm
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

Board game night (lounge) @ 7pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm
Rental—Judy Oatway (sanctuary) @ 6pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6pm

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.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm
Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

ABC Valentine's Bake Sale (auditorium) @ 11:30am
Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 1:30pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Rental—Crystal Music Sound Bath (sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Bible study (lounge) @ 9:30am
Rental—River City Sound (auditorium) @ 5:15pm
Rental—Joy Cooper (lounge) @ 6pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm

