

# God's Promise of Ministry

Sunday, January 25, 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.

**Bible Study** is on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the lounge. This week, we will be studying Matthew 5:1-12 The Beatitudes. All are welcome!

### Sunday Recital Series:

The St. Andrews River Heights Choir invites you to join us for a recital today, 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.

### 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.

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 Ministry

GATHERING MUSIC: *Jesu, Joy of our Desiring* J. S. Bach

### WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF TERRITORY: *Called to be the Church, Discipleship Is Stewardship, UCC, 2021, adapted.*

Long before those of us who are settlers and those who are descendants of settlers came to this land, there were people here. Many Nations of people live-and still live-on the land we call Canada, given responsibility by the Creator to be stewards of this land and all that lives on it. We know these people as Indigenous, Metis and Inuit.

**Today, as we remember what it means to love our neighbours, let us give thanks for the Indigenous peoples of this land, the Metis and Inuit peoples. Let us give thanks and let us remember that we worship God on this historic and unceded territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Anisinew, and Dakota people and in the heart of the Metis Nation.**

**As Christ's people, let us be the people of Love, of Truth, and of Reconciliation.**

### CENTERING WORDS

INVITATION TO WORSHIP: *A/C/E 2025/2026 The Gathering, Resources for Worship Leaders, written by George Allan, Chatham, Ontario.*

Arise, your light has come!

**We come to be part of that light.**

Open yourself to the grace of God!

**We offer ourselves.**

Arise, your light has come!

**We are children of the Light.**

### PASSING THE PEACE

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

### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### PRAYER

### CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **VU753** *Safe in Your Hands*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *A/C/E 2025/2026 The Gathering, Resources for Worship Leaders, written by Ian Robb, adapted, Trinity St. Andrew's U.C. Brighton, Ontario.*

**God of Light, Love, and Hope,**

**We confess that often we let the events and demands of our day-to-day life crowd you out of our thoughts and our actions.**

**Help us to recognize the many ways in which you bless and care for us. Help us to be people who reach out to others in thanksgiving and in loving compassion, always ready to listen, really listen, to the story of their lives. Where we find community, help us to enjoy the togetherness as a present and the love shared as a gift that you have given to us.**

**When we long for community, guide us to those who will welcome us.**

**We also confess the gratitude we so often forget to share. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *Lord, Lead Us Still* (Helen Dickinson, text; Johannes Brahms, music)

Along the varied paths of life,  
Through hours of joy and sorrow keen,  
In grim temptation's mortal strife,  
In doubt or confidence serene,  
Lord, lead us still.

Through all the changes of the years,  
Whate'er of good or ill betide,  
In laughter gay or bitter tears,  
O keep us ever at Thy side;  
Lord, lead us still.

And when at last the tale is told,  
The victory won by Thy good grace,  
May we Thy glory, Lord, behold,  
In that blest Homeland see Thy face;  
Lord, lead us still.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Carol Neufeld  
Responsive Psalm: **VU754** Psalm 27

Gospel reading: Matthew 4:18-23

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

SERMON: *A Day by the Sea*

HYMN: **MV133** *Jesus Laughed Out Loud*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

We are bearers of the Christ Light,  
**the light of peaceful change that can never be extinguished.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: **VU916** *A Translation*  
**Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,  
May your name be made holy,  
May your dominion come,**

**May your will be done,  
On Earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today the bread we need;  
And forgive us our debts,  
As we have forgiven our debtors;  
And do not put us to the test,  
But rescue us from evil.**

**For yours is the dominion, and the power,  
And the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *Trio in A major* Josef Rheinberger

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: *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* Dietrich Buxtehude

### Music note

Helen Dickinson (1875-1957), the poet of our anthem's text, was born in Port Elmsley, Ontario, eventually attending Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and receiving a Master of Arts in 1895. In 1901, she was the first woman to receive a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Heidelberg. Most of her life's work was in translating German hymns, writing her own hymn texts, and as an art history lecturer. She and her husband, a church organist and composer, also wrote many chorales and anthems together.

### Announcements

**The Anna Blair Circle** will hold their annual Valentine Bake Sale on Sunday, February 8th, in the auditorium following the service. Tasty home-baked goodies, cookies, cakes, and more!

### 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 and our scripture reader, Carol Neufeld. Thank you to Linda Fearn and Anne-Marie Bakkleund for playing the organ

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

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 17th

Time: 5pm to 6:30pm

Price \$5.00 per person

children under 3 years are free

**The Outreach group** (Peter B, Allison K, Vinny A, Sonja L and Kathy K) worked together to host the first speaker series of 2026 with Cynthia Drebox who is the Executive Director at the North End Women's Centre (NEWC) with 20+ people in the lounge on January 18. A lot of information was shared and Cynthia appreciated the interest, questions and donations from the members. Follow NEWC on facebook, instagram to learn more about the work they do and how you can support them. You can always contact Cynthia directly with any questions at [cynthia@newcentre.org](mailto:cynthia@newcentre.org) We are still collecting socks for Just a Warm Sleep (JAWS) until March 31, 2026

**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](mailto:klumley@standrewsriverheights.com) if you are interested.

**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 25**

**Sunday recital series (sanctuary)**

@12pm

Rental—*Erica Schultz (sanctuary)* @

1:30pm

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26**

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm

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**

**Trustees AGM (board room) @**

11:30am

Rental—*Erica Schultz (sanctuary)* @

1:30pm

Rental—*Judy Oatway (sanctuary)* @

6pm

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm

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

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

Handbell choir practice (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.

Choir practice (sanctuary) @ 7:30pm

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Rental—*Kelly Robinson (sanctuary)*

@ 6pm

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

**ABC Valentine's Bake Sale**

(auditorium) @ 11:30am

Rental—*Erica Schultz (sanctuary)* @

1:30pm

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm

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**

