

HOLY HUMOUR SUNDAY

Sunday, April 12, 2026



We are an Easter people. People who celebrate the Risen Christ! The Season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and lasts until May 24th, 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.

Youth who are in the Confirmation class are to go to the Lounge for their classes today before church begins.

Rev. Jeff Cook retired in 2023 after 39 years in ministry. Jeff served four years in Saskatchewan Conference, then served 35 years in team ministry with Rev. Carol Fletcher at Transcona Memorial United Church. Jeff and the Rev. Walter Farquharson co-authored the book "An Audacious Invitation: A Reflection on the Gospel According to John." Jeff was a nominee for Moderator in 2012. He enjoys writing, sketching, and reading, and has been learning to play the Bodhran (the Irish flat drum).

If anyone is interested in transferring their membership from another church to St. Andrew's, please contact Rev. Karen Lumley or the church office.

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.

Holy Humour Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC: *Adagio* (Georg Philipp Telemann, arr. Hopson)

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING WORDS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: **VU185** *You Tell Me That the Lord Is Risen*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

We gather to worship as companions of Jesus.

We gather to worship as an Easter people!

We gather to worship in a world disrupted by resurrection.

We worship as companions of the resurrected Christ.

Let our hearts be filled with joy.

Let us worship in faith and hope.

CANDLE LIGHTING

PRAYER:

God, give us faith to trust even when life is difficult, even when we experience doubt, even when we cannot see You with us. Give us faith to trust that nothing can ever remove us from Your love, to trust that we live in Your world, in Your love, now and always. Amen

CHILDREN'S TIME/STORY FOR ALL

HYMN: **VU166** *Joy Comes with the Dawn*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God, when we close our lives to the sufferings of others, to the sufferings of Your creation, open our hearts with compassion. When we lock ourselves into rooms of despair and resignation, touch us with resurrection. When we feel lost, lead us to new creation, as companions of Jesus the Christ. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM: *Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise* (Edward Caswell, text; Richard Runciman Terry, music)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let the holy anthem rise

And the choirs of heaven

Enchant it in the temple of the skies

Let the mountain skip with gladness

And the joyful valley ring

With hosannas in the highest

To our Saviour and our King.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Like the sun from out the wave,

Christ has risen up in triumph

From the darkness of the grave.

He, the splendour of the nations,

He, the lamp of endless day;

It is Christ, the Lord of glory,

Who is risen up today.

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Blessed Jesus, make us rise
 From the dust of sin's corruption
 To the life that never dies.
 May we share with thee thy glory
 When the days of time are past,
 And the dead shall be awakened
 By the trumpet's mighty blast.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 20:19-31 read by
 Loralie Friesen
 May God speak to us through this reading of
 scripture.

Thanks be to God

HANDBELL CHOIR: *Air with Holy, Holy, Holy* (arr.
 Linda R. Lamb)

SERMON

HYMN: **VU624** *Give To Us Laughter*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *Offering - The rejoicing*
 (from 'Fireworks Suite') G. F. Handel

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE:
VU581 *When We Are Living*
 vs. 2

♪ **Through all our living, we our fruits must
 give.
 Good works of service are for offering.
 When we are giving, or when receiving
 we belong to God, we belong to God.** ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU582** *There's a Spirit in the Air*
 vs.7

♪ **There's a Spirit in the air,
 calling people everywhere:
 praise the love that Christ**

**revealed,
 living, working, in our world.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Give Thanks* (Henry Smith, arr. Ges-
 chke)

Music Note

The handbells' "Air with Holy, Holy, Holy" combines
 two well-known melodies: J.S. Bach's "Air" from the
 Orchestral Suite 3 in D major (BWV 1068), and the
 hymn tune NICAEA (Voices United #315) that starts
 with the words, "Holy, Holy Holy! Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning, our song shall rise to thee."
 Linda Lamb has put these two songs together,
 seamlessly flowing between them. You'll have to lis-
 ten closely to catch when it switches! There are
 some tricky moments in this piece for the bell play-
 ers, where the harmonies become unexpected, yet
 we all trust that it will work itself out in the end -- and
 it does! If you would like to hear more handbell mu-
 sic, the annual Spring Ring is happening at 2:30 on
 Saturday, April 18, at Balmoral Hall School! Choirs
 from across the city, including St. Andrew's hand-
 bells, will join together to present songs on their own
 and as a massed group.

Announcements

Remember Rev. Scott McCauley, who is the minis-
 ter at Prairie Spirit, in prayer as he undergoes sur-
 gery and recuperates at home. Rev. Karen Lumley
 will act as their Pastoral Oversight Minister until he
 returns to work in a couple of months.

Sunday Recital Series:

The St. Andrews River Heights Choir invites you to
 join us for a recital on Sunday, April 19th at 12pm in
 the sanctuary. Come and hear Rachel Tarrant and
 Sarah Schellenberg present an afternoon filled with
 music! Free admission, with donations gratefully ac-
 cepted. Tax receipts will be available, and all pro-
 ceeds benefit the music program at St. Andrews.

Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the
 lounge. This week, we will be studying Luke 24:13-
 35. All are welcome!

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, handbell choir,
 and our reader, Loralie Friesen. Thank you
 to our guest preacher, Rev. Jeff Cook.

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	Fred Cross	fcross@mymts.net
Treasurer	Bill Craddock	wjcdlc@mymts.net
Church Office	Charlotte Lindsay	office@standrewsriverheights.com

St. Andrew's Choir presents

THE GREAT CANADIAN SONGBOOK

A CONCERT

Saturday, May 9
255 oak street

1:30 and 7:30

\$25

\$15 kids (12&under)
includes snacks,
cash bar available

call 204-488-1130 for tickets

featuring favourite Canadian folk songs
performed by the choir, soloists, and handbells

Four strong winds are pulling you to mark your calendars and get your tickets for the **2026 Choir Show: The Great Canadian Songbook!** The choir, soloists, and handbells invite you to come and hear your favourite Canadian Folksongs, new and old, on **Saturday, May 9, at 1:30 and 7:30.** **Tickets are on sale now** on Sundays after service, or through the office during the week. \$25/adults, \$15/kids (12&under), which includes snacks, and cash bar will be available. We hope to see you there!

St. Andrew's is at the Wellington, Tuesday, April 14th, for the service for residents there. Come and join us; help is needed with singing and playing the piano. If you can help out, contact Rev. Karen Lumley or the church office.

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.

On Sunday, April 26th, during church service in the auditorium, there will be an opportunity to engage in a conversation about "The Deep, Bold, Daring Toward 2035" document and visioning for St. Andrew's. If you have not read the document and need one, please pick one up at the back of the church or by Karen's office. After service, **please join the Fellowship Interest Group** for a Soup and Bun lunch. Lunch will consist of home-made soups, fresh rolls, and dessert. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds will be designated for the new boiler. What better time to get together with friends and raise funds for this important cause? We are looking forward to seeing everyone!

Upcoming Services

- Sunday, April 19th - Rev. Jeff Cook
- Sunday, April 26th - Visioning - *Service downstairs with Soup & Bun*
- Sunday, May 3th - Indoor/Outdoor Picnic (*downstairs*)

Coming Up...

MONDAY, APRIL 13

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm

