

# PRIDE

Sunday, June 7, 2026



Pentecost is celebrated on the 50th day from Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles. The disciples were filled with the Spirit and spoke in different languages, preaching to all the people there who heard the message in their own language. It must have been an amazing sight to behold the Spirit descending upon the disciples. That same Spirit is available to us as Christians to teach us and to empower us to continue the work of the disciples and Christ. Pentecost was on June 8th, and the season of Pentecost lasts until November 29th, the first Sunday of Advent.

## 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.

**There is no Sunday School today;** packages are at the back of the church for the children.

## Upcoming Services

- Sunday, June 14th - Worship
- Sunday, June 21st - National Indigenous Day of Prayer
- Sunday, June 28th – Worship with Westworth at Westworth United Church

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.

## Pride Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC: Here I am, Lord Dan Schutte, arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

UPDATE FROM COUNCIL – Dave Collins

CENTERING WORDS

CANDLE LIGHTING

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?**

It was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

**How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

HYMN: *Build a Longer Table* (tune: VU117)

♪ **Build a longer table, not a higher wall,  
feeding those who hunger, making room for all.  
Feasting together, stranger turns to friend,  
Christ breaks walls to pieces, false divisions end.**

**Build a safer refuge, not a larger jail;  
where the weak find shelter, mercy will not fail.  
For any place where justice is denied,  
Christ will breach the jail wall, freeing all inside.**

**Build a broader doorway, not a longer fence.  
Love protects all people, sparing no expense.  
When we embrace compassion more than fear,  
Christ tears down our fences: all are welcome here.**

**When we lived as exiles, refugees abroad,  
Christ became our doorway to the reign of God.  
So must our tables welcome those who roam.  
None can be excluded; all must find a home. ♪**

PRAYER:

**Loving God of us all, Your name makes all darkness disappear. We are grateful for your pervasive presence today that envelops us. Heavenly Lord, your joy overflows within us this morning, and we ask once more for your holy presence in this place of worship. We ask for guidance in our service of worship – and beyond that into the world in which we live, work and love. We ask that your presence overshadow our own doubts and the doubts those outside of this space have about us. Fill us with the strength of your Holy Spirit so that we may fulfill your purpose. We ask these things together in Jesus' name. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **MV169** *When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (*Prayer by Jordan Sullivan*)

Oh, Love that will not let us go... Our hearts are filled and overflowing with joy, deep love, and gratitude. We are thankful, for the gifts of all Affirming Ministries and communities of faith who open their churches, their homes and their hearts to Two-Spirit and LGBTQ+ people and all their intersecting identities. for music, friendship, and for family.

**We are thankful for the Love that will not let us go. We are thankful for Pride Marches and Pride Month, for all those who publicly, intentionally, and explicitly affirm that 2S-LGBTQ+ people are children of God. We are thankful most of all for the blessing of a Love that is and always has been there for us.**

The truth at the heart of our faith – that you are Love - echoes today in words and in music, in friendships and family, in our hearts and minds, and continues to challenge us to Love.

**We pray for our hearts and minds to be open to our own homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia, to be open to our own racism, sexism, ableism, sizeism, and all the ways we fear those who are different from us. We pray to learn how to recognize the kinship between our souls and the souls of those who, to us, are strangers. We pray that we will never cease in our journey to learn how to Love more radically.**

We pray in the name of the Love that flips tables and cracks whips, the Love that heals those judged by religious leaders and powers, the Love who lives and loves among the marginalized and outcast.

**In Jesus name. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Read by Khal Shariff  
 Reading: Genesis 12:1-9,  
 Reading: Romans 4:13-25,  
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26  
 This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

SOLO: SOLO: Susanne Reimer - "The Holy City" by  
 F. E. Weatherly and Stephen Adams  
 Last night I lay asleeping  
 there came a dream so fair.  
 I stood in old Jerusalem,  
 beside the temple there;  
 I heard the children singing  
 and ever as they sang.  
 Me thought the voice of angels,  
 from heav'n in answer rang,  
 Me thought the voice of angels,  
 from heav'n in answer rang.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
 Lift up your gates and sing.  
 Hosanna in the highest,  
 Hosanna to your King!

And then me thought my dream was changed,  
 the streets no longer rang.  
 Hushed were the glad Hosannas  
 the little children sang;  
 the sun grew dark with mystery,  
 the morn was cold and chill  
 as the shadow of a cross  
 arose upon a lonely hill,  
 as the shadow of a cross  
 arose upon a lonely hill.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
 Hark how the angels sing,  
 Hosanna in the highest,  
 Hosanna to your King!

And once again the scene was changed,  
 new earth there seemed to be,  
 I saw the Holy City  
 beside the tideless sea,  
 the light of God was on its streets,  
 the gates were open wide,  
 and all who would might enter,  
 and no one was denied.  
 No need of moon or stars by

night,  
 or sun to shine by day,  
 it was the new Jerusalem  
 that would not pass away.  
 It was the new Jerusalem  
 that would not pass away.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem!  
 Sing for the night is o'er!  
 Hosanna in the highest,  
 Hosanna forever more!  
 Hosanna in the highest,  
 Hosanna forever more!

SERMON: *Jesus Says, 'Follow Me!'*

HYMN: **VU509** *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

God, we remember how you have been with us  
 throughout the lives of our ancestors in the faith.  
 We thank you for creating light, where before there  
 was darkness. We thank you for Abraham and Sa-  
 rah, who journeyed to a strange place believing that  
 you would be there for them. We thank you for Mo-  
 ses and Meriam, who brought the children of Israel  
 out of bondage and into freedom. We thank you for  
 the prophets of old who were political people with a  
 religious imagination. We thank you for the apostles  
 who witnessed the resurrection. Most of all, we  
 thank you for Jesus, whom we call the Christ, who  
 proved to us that life is stronger than death.

**As we prepare for the season of Pentecost, we  
 pray to be breathed upon by your Spirit.**

We lift up the people of Gaza, Israel and Palestine –  
 who face the horrors of violence, fear and war.

**We lift up the people of Ukraine, and those Rus-  
 sians denouncing the ongoing invasion and vio-  
 lence still happening three years later.**

We lift up the people of Haiti living in a time of disas-  
 ter –

**We lift up all those other places in the world  
 where violence and upheaval are the norm.**

We lift up the people who face food scarcity and in-  
 security;

**We lift up people in our city who worry about  
 where the rent will come from.**

We lift up our 2S LGBTQIA+ siblings near and far  
 who are attacked, dehumanized,

**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, Susanne  
 Reimer and our scripture reader, Khal  
 Shariff. Thank you to our guest preacher,  
 Rev. Dr. Ray Cuthbert.

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

and despised for trying to be true to who You created them to be;  
**Gracious God, we pray for those who are pushed away by others  
and even by ourselves, and all those who feel broken or ignored by  
our world,**

May all your beloved children feel you meeting them in their lives as they are.

**As we pray for those close in our own lives, we remember that there  
are those who are without advocates and who need us to reach out  
our hands in solidarity with them. We pray this, joining our voices  
together to speak the prayer that Jesus taught:**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *A Trumpet Air* Henry Purcell

OFFERING/OFFERTORY SUNG RESPONSE: **VU541** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

♪ **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit One.** ♪

OFFERTORY PRAYER

BLESSING

BENEDICTION: **VU424** *May the God of Hope, Go with Us* vs.1

♪ **May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace,  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.** ♪

POSTLUDE: *Prelude in Classic Style* Gordon Young

**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.

*Rental—Claudette Caron (sanctuary) @ 6pm*

**FRIDAY, JUNE 12**

*Rental—Jane Petroni (sanctuary) @ 6pm*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 14**

*Rental—Cynthia Booden (lounge) @ 12:30pm*

**MONDAY, JUNE 15**

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm  
*Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm*

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16**

*Rental—Manitoba Choral Association (sanctuary) @ 7pm*  
Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17**

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

**FRIDAY, JUNE 19**

*Rental—Holly Harris (sanctuary) @ 5:45pm*

**Announcements**

**Name Tags** are available from the office if you are new and need one. Just contact Charlotte in the church office by phone or email. If we all wear them, we can learn each other's names.

**Coming Up...**

**MONDAY, JUNE 8**

Scouts (auditorium) @ 6pm  
*Rental—Judy Oatway (sanctuary) @ 6pm*

*Rental—AFG (lounge) @ 7pm*

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

*Rental—Christelle Gregorchuk (sanctuary) @ 5pm*

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10**

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

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11**

*Rental—Lili Wang (sanctuary) @ 1pm*

