

INDIGENOUS DAY OF PRAYER

Sunday, June 21, 2026



Summer is a time to be! A time to relax. A time to rest! A time to be with family and friends.

Summer is a time to celebrate! Weddings, friends, family and yes, even Church.

We are glad you chose to be here today or join us online. If you are from Westworth United Church we are glad to be partnering with you again this summer. It is good to have services together. Actually, it is great! If you are visiting or new to River Heights feel free to come anytime! Come relaxed in shorts and a T-shirt. Be comfortable! Let's all connect! Let's all be together and just be!

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.

We will join Westworth for worship at Westworth United Church from June 28th until the end of July. Then they will join us for worship in August and the long weekend in September. We are truly grateful for our partnership.

The recording of the Sunday morning services has taken a summer break from Sunday, June 28th, to September 6th. Thank you, Fred, for your faithful service of recording and editing all year long.

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.

Indigenous Day of Prayer

*Resources from 2020 Indigenous Day of Prayer:
The Seven Grandfather Teachings by Deb Ander-
son Pratt*

GATHERING MUSIC: *Aria* - Paul Manz

WELCOME & WORK OF THE CHURCH

CENTERING WORDS

RECOGNITION OF THE LAND AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

As we gather here today, let us take a moment to acknowledge the land upon which we stand and the Indigenous Peoples who have stewarded this land since time immemorial. We recognize that our worship space is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples on the homeland of the Metis and Inuit peoples. We extend our gratitude and respect to them for their enduring presence and care for this land.

In this moment of recognition, we honour the diverse cultures and spiritualities of the Indigenous Peoples who continue to shape and enrich our communities. We commit ourselves to the ongoing work of reconciliation, healing, and justice, walking alongside Indigenous Peoples with humility, empathy, and open hearts.

As we worship and celebrate together, let us be mindful of our shared responsibility to protect and nurture the land, to honour the wisdom and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, and to cultivate relationships rooted in respect, understanding, and unity. In doing so, we contribute to a more inclusive, equitable, and compassionate world for all.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN: **VU296** *This is God's Wondrous World*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP:

We gather to share in Creator's gift of abundant life for all.

We fix ourselves on you, Creator.

Come fill our hearts with your endless love, and send the wind of your Spirit to bring new hope through our lives.

Come light our souls to rise in faith, to reach out for your kingdom.

Come pour out your Spirit upon us as we stand together as brothers and sisters.

Creator, we rise to worship and join our hearts together.

With gratitude, we gather as a community in

praise, to seek transformation and to celebrate the power of your Spirit.

PRAYER OF FOUR DIRECTIONS:

We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN: **VU308** *Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *The 1986 Apology to First Nations Peoples, 1986 Record of Proceedings, p. 85.*

Long before my people journeyed to this land your people were here, and you received from your Elders an understanding of creation and the Mystery that surrounds us all that was deep, rich, and to be treasured.

We did not hear you when you shared your vision. In our zeal to tell you of the good news of Jesus Christ we were closed to the value of your spirituality.

We confused Western ways and culture with the depth and breadth and length and height of the gospel of Christ.

We imposed our civilization as a condition of accepting the gospel.

We tried to make you be like us, and in so doing, we helped to destroy the vision that made you what you were. As a result, you and we, are poorer, and the image of the Creator in us is twisted, blurred, and we are not what we are meant by God to be.

We ask you to forgive us and to walk together with us in the Spirit of Christ so that our peoples may be blessed and God's creation healed.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: *Response to the 1986 Apology, 1988 Record of Proceedings, p.79.*

The Native people of the All Native Circle Conference hope and pray that the apology is not symbolic but that these are the words of action and sincerity. We appreciate the freedom for culture and religious expression. In the new spirit that this apology has created, let us unite our hearts and minds in the wholeness of life that the Great Spirit has given us.

SOLO: Melwin Agravante - *A Whisper From the Universe* (Carl P. Daw Jr., text; C. Hubert Parry, music)

A whisper from the universe
As distant stars appear,
The murmur of a whippoorwill,

The sleeping forest, deep and still:
Each wordless voice we hear
Reveals that God is near.

But God did more than scatter stars
Or make the planets spin;
In humble love God came to earth,
Took human form to show our worth,
When Christ redeemed our sin
To let new life begin.

To guide and guard our life of faith
The Holy Spirit came,
As once to breathe life into dust
Now sent again to mend mistrust,
And sealed with wind and flame
All those who bear God's name.

More named than fathomed Mystery,
Triune and unbegun,
Reveal through us your boundless life,
To heal and bless, tame hate and strife,
And help your will be done
To make all people one.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 10:24-42 read
by Rob Siddall
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

REFLECTION ON THE SEVEN GRANDFATHER
TEACHINGS

HYMN: **VU402** *We Are One*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AN INDIGENOUS LORD'S PRAYER
**Great Spirit, our Creator, who is in all places,
Sacred is your name.
May your wisdom guide us,
Your will be done in our lives,
as it is throughout Creation.
Provide for us today the nourishment we need,
And forgive our us our wrongs,
as we forgive those who have wronged us.
Lead us on the path of understanding and
respect,**

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

**And protect us from ignorance and harm.
For you are the source of all power, beauty,
and love,
From generation to generation,
forever and always.
Amen.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY: *Interlude in G major* -
David L. McIntyre

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: *Toccata on Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow* - Michael Burkhardt

Announcements

From June 26th to July 30th, Rev. Karen Lumley
is on holiday. If you are in need of pastoral care,
please contact Rev. Tricia Gerhard by phone or text
at 431-294-3149, call Westworth at the church office
204-489-6974; or email at Westworth [minis-
ter@westworth.ca](mailto:minister@westworth.ca)

From Thursday, June 18th until the end of July,
the office will be closed. Charlotte will still monitor
her email periodically.

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, Melwin
Agravante and our scripture reader, Rob
Siddall. Thank you to our guest organist,
Linda Fearn.

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|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 |

Coming Up...

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Rental—Erica Schultz (sanctuary) @ 2pm

MONDAY, JUNE 22

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Rental—Highland Hoppers (auditorium) @ 5pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Rental—Graeme Leaver (sanctuary) @ 3pm

MONDAY, JUNE 29

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

MONDAY, JULY 6

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

MONDAY, JULY 13

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

MONDAY, JULY 20

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

FRIDAY, JULY 24

RHS Daycare Yoga (lounge) @ 9am

MONDAY, JULY 27

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 10

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 31

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Celebration Sunday

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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

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.

STEAM BOILER REPLACEMENT

Thank you so much to those who have responded so generously to the Boiler Replacement Financial Campaign.

For others, please consider how you can help to fund this urgent project. No contribution is too small; every dollar helps. Remember, our goal is to raise \$75,000 in donations from our congregation. Contributions can be made by cheque or e-transfer (contact Bill Craddock, our Church treasurer, for details). As well, pledges through PAR, spread over one year, would gratefully be accepted.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Council meeting (board room) @ 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Handbell choir practice (lounge) @ 6pm

