

**Please take a few moments in silent meditation to prepare our minds and hearts to worship God. Please stand as you are able when the beadle enters with the Bible.**

Prelude - Lento – John Alcock

### WE APPROACH GOD

Call to Worship: See Lenten insert

Introit: Spirit of the living God verse 2 #400  
*Spirit of the living God, move among us all;  
Make us one in heart and mind; make us one in love;  
Humble, caring, selfless, sharing.  
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!*

Opening Prayer

\*Opening Hymn: "Come, let us sing" #706

Please be seated

Prayer of confession

L: Gracious God, through Christ's death on the cross, you forgive our sins and accept us into your family as beloved children. We confess that we don't always live as though we are included in the circle of your reconciling love.

**P: Sometimes we refuse your guidance and stubbornly choose to go our own way, convinced we know the path to true happiness. When we lose our way or do something we regret, we refuse to believe that you could forgive us. Instead, we condemn ourselves and live as outcasts to your love. At other times, we are so proud of the way we live that we condemn others as unworthy of your love and acceptance. We refuse to accept them as our brothers and sisters and cut ourselves off from them and from you.**

**Forgive us, great God of reconciling love, and grant that, in the midst of life's uncertainties, we may grow in the certainty of your constant love for us and for all people. Enable us to hear and accept your word of forgiving love and transforming grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

L: "Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose in power for us, Christ reigns with God for us, Christ prays for us". Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

L: May the peace of Christ be with you

**P: And also with you.**

### WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Interlude: University of Waterloo Gamelan Ensemble

Responsive Reading: Psalm 32:1-11

L: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**P: Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

L: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

**P: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

**P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

L: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

**P: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

L: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

**P: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

\*Hymn: "We come to ask your forgiveness" #201

Children's time

\*Hymn: "We come to ask your forgiveness" #201

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture: Joshua 5:9-12 p. 197  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21 p. 181  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 p. 78

L: The word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn: "Dear Father, Lord of humankind" #451

Sermon: While I kept silence...

Musical Reflection: University of Waterloo Gamelan Ensemble

### WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Offering & Offertory - The Old Rugged Cross Made the Difference – Gloria and William J. Gaither, Arr. Mary McDonald, Given in praise by Adult Choir, Soloist: Randy Vermass

Doxology: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of dedication:

**We place these gifts into your hands, O God. Infuse them with your transforming grace that they may become seeds springing forth with new life. Fill our hearts with new songs of praise so we can bear new hope for weary souls. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn: "Amazing grace" (vs 1, 3-5) #670

Sending

\*Benediction: verse 4 #836

*Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the spirit, hear the call,  
and find the life, the way, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

Postlude - University of Waterloo Gamelan Ensemble

Many, many **thanks** to the University of Waterloo Gamelan Ensemble for helping us worship in a new way with us today. We deeply appreciate that they have donated their time to the service today and will be helping our children learn and grow in "Explorations" today.

The sign up board for Holy Saturday, April 20th, 8:00 am—midnight, is now available at back of the sanctuary. Please sign up and help us "keep watch" throughout the day. Come for a short time, come for a long time.

### Sunday School News

~ Palm Sunday (April 14th) all children are encouraged to meet Joni in the foyer at 9:45 am so that we can all be part of the parade into church.  
~ On Easter Sunday there will be a scavenger hunt for all children. This will begin before church and continue on after worship. Packages will be available at the back of the church on Easter.  
~ **We need adults to help out with this, so please speak with Joni if you want to join the fun!**

The Holy Sherlocks Sunday School class will be holding their annual Bake Sale on Sunday, May 5th. Donations of baked goods will be appreciated. More information will follow.

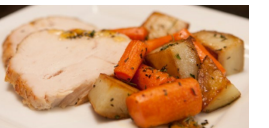
### Youth News (for anyone Grade 7 - high school):

~ meet in the (new) kitchen, **10:00 am, Sunday, April 7th** to get ready for our next event.  
~ meet at the church at **6:00 pm on Friday, April 12th**. Eat supper before you come. Wear good walking shoes and appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather.  
~ parents, waivers will be emailed to you this week. Please sign them and send them back asap.

Questions? Ask Joni, [jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca](mailto:jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca)

### Opportunities for You

The **Gala Dinner Event** supporting Thursday Night Supper and Social will be held April 14th here at St. Andrew's. Tickets are available in the hall following worship or in the church office during the week.



We are ordering **Easter flowers** again this year. Forms are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please return with payment to Joni or into the office by April 7th.

Thank you for your participation and support!

Our readings are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary a 3 year cycle of readings used by many Christian denominations. Next week's lectionary readings will be: Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126, Philippians 3:4b-14, John 12:1-8.

We have asked Alexis Smith (who is currently minoring in Indigenous Studies) to prepare us some information on Indigenous issues that relate to our church:

The Presbyterian Church was involved in running eleven residential schools from the mid-1880s until 1969 when all responsibility for residential schools went to the federal government. The Presbyterian Church was only responsible for two residential schools after 1925 when the United Church took over the other nine. The remaining schools under the Presbyterian Church's responsibility were Birtle School in Manitoba and Cecilia Jeffrey Residential School near Kenora, Ontario. In 1994, the Presbyterian Church of Canada released an official confession and apology for involvement in the residential school system. Though an official apology has been made there remains lots of work to be done toward reconciliation. (Information taken from the Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives).

**Deacons** please note our next meeting on **Monday, April 1st at 7:30 pm.** We will be welcoming our new deacons and brainstorming ways to move forward.

**Choir Position** – Music & Worship, with the approval of session and in coordination with the choir, are taking a look at the best place for the choir to be situated in the sanctuary. Over the next three weeks we will be trying out different spots. There is a form in the back to provide feedback. Please fill it out! We would like to hear from as many people as possible. An extensive look at the goals and issues is featured in our Lenten newsletter.

We are once again weaving **Milk Bag Mats.** And we need your help. We are collecting clean, dry, flat milk bags (the outer bag) for weaving. We are also in need of people to help with the prep work. It is very easy work and can even be done while you are watching TV! If you are interested and would like to help please speak with Joni Smith or Mary Vincent. Recently a group of us were able to weave 2 mats to be sent to third world countries.

**March 31: Serving. Leading. Connecting.**

Gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing* support the mission and ministry we do together in Canada and around the world. Together as a church we equip, support and encourage leaders—lay and clergy—to do effective ministry. We send mission staff, short-term volunteers and grants to accompany international and Canadian mission partners. We assist new church developments and support, encourage and enrich congregations as they renew and grow their ministries. Together we speak on issues of justice and support healing and reconciliation ministries between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. As we encourage and equip one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel.

*Presbyterians Sharing supports a wide range of ministry and mission.*



This Week at St. Andrew's		
Monday	9:00 am	Early Years
Monday	7:30 pm	Deacon's Meeting
Tuesday	12:00 pm	Hope Clothing
Wednesday	9:30 am	Hope Clothing
Wednesday	10:00 am	Bible Study
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Family Night
Thursday	11:00 am	Hope Clothing
Thursday	5:00 pm	Self-help Food Bank and Lunch
Thursday	5:15 pm	Youth Band
Thursday	7:00 pm	Adult Choir
Friday	9:00 am	Early Years
Friday	8:00 pm	A-A, Al-Anon, Al-Ateen



- April 14th - Thursday Night Supper and Social Gala Event
- May 4th - Athalie Read Group Garage Sale
- May 25th - Boundaries Workshop
- May 25th - Open Mic Night
- June 2nd - Prayer in the Park
- August 6th-9th - Summer Day Camp

**March specials** are Dollarama, Shell, and the Ultimate Dining Card. Dollarama cards will make a great Easter gift for children! Order date is **TODAY!**



**Thank you to everyone who participated in today's service:**  
 Music Director: Corey Cotter Linforth  
 Beadle: Vern Platt  
 Worship Assistant: Donald Paddock  
 Greeters: Bill & Joanne Pettit and The English Family  
 Ushers: Randy Vermaas and Margret Hunter  
 Tech Team: Rob Hodgson  
**Thank you to everyone who assisted with today's program:**  
 Family Ministries & Sunday School Coordinator: Joni Smith  
 Holy Sherlocks (Gr 4-6): Cynthia MacDonald  
 Divine Detectives (JK-Gr 3): Joni Smith and Olivia Cann  
 Little Explorers (up to JK): Mary Vincent and Sarah English  
 Nursery Coordinator: Laura Einwechter

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church**  
**March 31, 2019**  
**4th Sunday in Lent**



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 Website: [www.standrewshespeler.ca](http://www.standrewshespeler.ca)  
Regular Office Hours:  
 Monday to Friday - 9:00 am - Noon