

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 : Hosanna, Loud Hosanna – Arr. Victor Labenske

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: "All glory, laud and honour" #214

Please be seated

Prayer of confession

P: Heavenly Father, we confess that it is often easier for us to follow the crowd rather than follow Christ in his way of self-giving love. We allow strident voices in our times to drown out your still, small voice within us. We are swayed by public opinion rather than the enduring values of your kingdom. Forgive us, O God. Remind us, in the midst of our celebrity-obsessed culture, that there is only one constant we can rely on: your steadfast love revealed in Jesus Christ. Give us the courage to journey with Christ all the way to the cross, so that we may hear his words of healing and comfort: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." It is in Jesus' name we pray.

L: In his first letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul wrote: "This saying is sure and worthy of our full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost". To the penitent thief on the cross beside him, Jesus promised he would be with him in Paradise. It doesn't matter how big or how small our sins, God's forgiving love in Jesus Christ can cover them all. Friends, believe the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

L: May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Interlude: Hosanna (Praise is Rising) – Paul Baloche & Brenton Brown, Offered in praise by Youth Band

Responsive Reading: Psalm 118:1,2 19-29

L: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say,

P: "His steadfast love endures forever."

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

P: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

L: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

P: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

L: This is the LORD's doing;

P: it is marvelous in our eyes.

L: This is the day that the LORD has made;

P: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L: Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

P: O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

P: We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

L: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

P: you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn: "Hosanna" #216

Children's time

*Hymn: "Hosanna" #216

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture: Isaiah 50:4-9a p. 681
Philippians 2:5-11 p. 197
Luke 19:28-40 p. 82

L: The word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn: "Hosanna, loud hosanna" #218

Sermon: Palming off the palms

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Offering & Offertory - The love of God comes close – John Bell & Graham Maule, Offered in praise by GraceNotes

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:

Gracious God, when we look at what you have done for us in Jesus Christ, our offering seems so small. What difference can our little bit make in the grand scheme of your eternal purposes? Yet the story of Jesus tells us otherwise: five loaves and two fish can feed a multitude; a man condemned to death on a cross becomes Living Bread for a hungry world. So accept the gifts we offer you today, no matter how small they seem to us. Use them to ensure that Jesus' story continues to be told for generations to come. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: "Ride on, ride on in majesty" #217

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: All Glory, Laud and Honour – Melchior Teschner, Arr. Victor Labenske

TONIGHT! The Thursday Night Supper and Social Gala @ 5pm.



We are excited to announce that the women's ensemble has chosen a name... *GraceNotes!*

Please join us for these very meaningful services during Holy Week

Mundy Thursday: We will gather at 7:30pm for a very simple yet moving service. We will remember the time when Jesus gathered with His disciples for one last meal and the meaning that He gave to what they did. We will then gather physically around the table, as they did, and pass the bread around as we eat together and share as one community in Christ.

Good Friday: We will gather at 10:00am to remember Jesus' last hours, to rehearse His suffering and death, and plumb the depths of the love of God that He showed to us.

Holy Saturday: Please come at any time between 8am and 11pm to meditate, reflect, and pray in a quiet and affirming place. Materials and music will be in place to assist you in your meditations.



The sign up board for the **Holy Saturday Vigil** on April 20th, 8:00 am - 11pm, 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.

This January, the Gay Lea Foundation announced it had approved more than \$250,000 in grants at its first meeting of the 2019 fiscal year (October 1 – September 30), with funds being channeled to 15 registered Canadian charities working in Ontario, Alberta, Haiti, Malawi and Tanzania.

Gay Lea FOUNDATION Today, April 5th, the Foundation follows up on that announcement with news of five more Canadian charities set to receive grants in 2019, raising the total value of funds distributed by the Foundation since its creation in 2014 to more than \$957,000.

We are excited to say that the Gay Lea Foundation has awarded Hope Clothing a grant of \$2000.00 to help ensure that Hope Clothing continues to serve our community and that the needs of the clients and volunteers are met with dignity and compassion.

The Annual Athalie Read Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 4th from 8:00 am—noon, in the gym. Drop off of any treasures would be appreciated on Friday, **May 3rd from 2:00—7:00 pm.** Please no clothing or electronics.



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 65:17-25, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, John 20:1-18.

Sunday School News

~ 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.

Sustaining Elders

When we elect elders in our congregation, that is a lifetime appointment. You never cease to be an elder. The same is true for deacons as well. But we do not necessarily expect our elders or deacons to serve perpetually on the session or as a visiting deacon. People do step down for various reason or are rotated off of active service.

Sometimes we have had the habit of referring to those who are not presently serving in these ways as "inactive," but the session is recognizing that this is very unhelpful language. Elders and deacons, when they are ordained, commit themselves to sustaining and upholding the ministry of the church, whether they serve in particular ways or not. For this reason we will begin to refer to these people as sustaining elders and deacons.

This is not just a symbolic change though. Session is working on finding ways to draw upon the wisdom and experience of Sustaining elders and will be inviting them to participate in a discussion in the near future.

The following is an extract of the Declaration of Faith Concerning Church and Nation, a doctrinal statement of the Presbyterian Church in Canada:

7. The Church and State are intimately related, with manifold overlying concerns and common responsibility to their Lord. (Amos 7:10-15; Acts 22:22-29; Deuteronomy 8; Malachi 2:10-16; Jeremiah 1, esp. vss. 5, 9-10) Their true relationship derives from the subordination of each to Jesus Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20) Each is bound to aid the other according to its appointed power and functions, but neither is given any right thereby to attempt domination over the other. (Daniel 3:16-18; I Timothy 2:1-5) We reject any doctrine which misconceives the Church as the religious agent of the State. (Matthew 22:15-22; Luke 12:13-14) We reject any doctrine which misconceives the State as the political instrument of the Church. (John 18:28-37) We reject all doctrines which assume, whether on sectarian or on secular grounds that the Church's life should be or can be completely dissociated from the life of the Civil State. (Matthew 5:13-16, 17:24-27).



This Week at St. Andrew's

Monday	9:00 am	Early Years
Tuesday	12:00 pm	Hope Clothing
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Parenting Study
Wednesday	9:30 am	Early Years
Wednesday	9:30 am	Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 am	Hope Clothing
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Family Night
Thursday	11:00 am	Hope Clothing
Thursday	12:00 pm	Self-help Food Bank and Lunch
Thursday	5:15 pm	Youth Band
Thursday	7:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Friday	10:00 am	Good Friday Worship Service
Friday	8:00 pm	A-A, Al-Anon, Al-Ateen
Saturday	8am - 11pm	Holy Saturday Vigil
Sunday	10:00 am	Communion and Celebration of the Resurrection



There are lots of promotions this month!
Esso, Stokes, Conestoga Mall, Vaughn Mills.
This promotion runs until April 28th.



Other upcoming events - Stay tuned for more details!

May 25th - Boundaries Workshop
May 25th - Open Mic Night
June 2nd - Prayer in the Park
August 6th-9th - Summer Day Camp

Thank you to everyone who participated in today's service:

Music Director: Corey Cotter Linforth
Beadle: Donald Paddock
Worship Assistant:
Greeters: Elaine McLean and Joan Bentley
Ushers: Don Paddock and Trent English
Tech Team: Alex Goulet
Thank you to everyone who assisted with today's program:
Family Ministries & Sunday School Coordinator: Joni Smith
Holy Sherlocks (Gr 4-6): Lori Marsh
Divine Detectives (JK-Gr 3): Laurie Paddock and Olivia Cann
Little Explorers (up to JK): Christine Goulet and Laura Einwechter
Nursery Coordinator: Laura Einwechter

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday



St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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519-658-2652

Rev. Scott McAndless: smcandless@standrewshespeler.ca
Email: office@standrewshespeler.ca
Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca
Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca
Regular Office Hours:
Monday to Friday - 9:00 am - Noon
(Office will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday)



All children, friends, grandchildren, and neighbours are invited to join Joni Smith in the foyer at 9:45 am, just prior to the beginning of the service so that we can parade into the church together.