

**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: He Shall Feed His Flock by GF Mandel - Arr. Carol Tornquist

### WE APPROACH GOD

Lighting of the Candle of Hope (see insert) Lit by Kamryn Rattansingh, Isabella and Olivia Cann

Introit: "People in darkness" vs. 3 #124

*People in trouble would like to be free.  
Come, come, come Jesus Christ.  
People with arguments want to agree.  
Come, Lord Jesus Christ.  
These days of adventure when all people wait  
are days for the advent of peace.*

\*Prayer of approach

\*Opening Hymn: "On Jordan's bank" #126

Please be seated

Prayer of Confession:

L: Heavenly Father, You judge with righteousness, you are equitable and gracious, you are forgiving and kind. Hear us now as we confess to you our sins.

**P: God of new beginnings, of grace and of forgiveness, we confess that we sin against you and one another by what we say and do, and by what we neglect and what preoccupies us. Too often we follow old paths and habits and we fail to live as those who receive new life. We do not make full use of the gifts of your Spirit, and we waste our talents and opportunities. Help us to live in the newness of life that we have been given, renew us and make straight our paths and create in us clean hearts. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who was and who is and who is to come. Amen.**

L: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life is gone; the new life has come. Know that you are forgiven and forgive one another and be at peace.

**P: We will!**

L: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**P: And also with you.**

### WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Responsive Reading: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

L: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

**P: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

L: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

L: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**P: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

L: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound,

**P: until the moon is no more.**

L: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**P: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.**

\*Hymn: "Prepare the way, O Zion" v. 1-2 #129

*Children's time*

\*Hymn: "Prepare the way, O Zion" v. 3 #129

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture: Isaiah 11: 1-10 p. 640  
Romans 15: 4-13 p. 163  
Matthew 3: 1-12 p. 2

L: The word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\*Hymn: "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming" #151

Sermon: I suppose you're wondering why you're here today

Musical Reflection: Oh come, oh come Emmanuel. Given in praise by Randy Vermaas and David Krueger

### WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People and Lord's prayer

Offering & Offertory: Waiting for a King by Joseph M. Martin. Given in praise by the Adult Choir.

Doxology #145 v.3

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.

Prayer of dedication:

**God of great wonders, we join with you in the joy of this season of giving, You gave us a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. You give us life and breath, you fill the world with beauty, our hands with bounty, and our hearts with the desire to give. Accept these gifts, and ourselves in service always, in every season. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn: "Go, tell it on the mountain" #133

\*Sending and Choral Response #137 v. 4

*Hope of the world, Mary's child,  
you're coming soon to reign;  
King of the earth, Mary's child,  
Walk in our streets again.*

Postlude: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing. Arr. Marianne Kim

#### This week in Sunday School

Divine Detectives: Mary & Joseph Show the Way  
Holy Sherlocks: Choose a Better Way, Isaiah 11:1-10

The 2020 envelopes are available. Please pick yours up at the back table.



Please joins us next **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** for a special musical service. The Cambridge Kiwanis Boy's Choir, a full quartet of professional ringers (choral singers), djembe (drum) player Gerima Harvey, and pianist Erika Reiman will be joining us to celebrate the birth of Christ with Christmas music from around the world.



**FundScrip and Christmas!** The order is going in **TODAY!!** Some of the promotions are: Ultimate Dining Card 7% (along with many other restaurants), Stokes 8%, Winners/Marshalls/HomeSense 8%, Esso and Shell 3%, Sally Beauty 12%, and Rona 4%. Order TODAY!

Rob Hodgson has served on the session for the past 10 years. During that time, he has served as Clerk of Session and on various committees as a member or convenor. We are very appreciative. At this time, Rob has asked for a leave of absence from session for personal reasons. He will continue to be an active sustaining elder in the congregation during this time of leave. The session would like to thank Rob at this time for his faithful service. As he sustains the congregation, let us sustain him in our prayers.

At the session meeting this week, the session considered the 2019 Annual Meeting. We had previously set the meeting (as indicated in the newsletter) to take place on February 23, 2020 with the financial meeting held on the previous Wednesday evening.

In view of the unexpected illness of Ray Godin, our treasurer, and because we did not want Ray to feel any pressure to get all of the accounts in order too quickly, the session agreed to postpone the Annual meeting until March 29, 2020 with the financial meeting on March 25.

Please keep in mind that a congregational workshop will be held on congregational health and vitality on Sunday, January 19, 2020. Our worship leader will be the Rev. John-Peter Smit. Details are in the Advent Newsletter, *Andrew's Voice*.



Please check out the Children's Library on the 2nd floor. You will find many Advent & Christmas books and DVD's. This library is self-serve, so please fill out the card and leave it in the basket. Enjoy the book or DVD and return it when you are finished. Thanks go to Catherine Taylor for tidying up the library and getting it ready for this Advent season.

#### Special Dates for Sunday School Children:

**Sunday, December 22:** Family Advent Service, with a potluck lunch, fun activities and a special visitor

**Sunday, December 29:** "It's Almost New Year's Eve" party; show up in your pj's! Come for breakfast and some fun activities during church time.



Our **Angel Tree** is now at the back of the sanctuary! On the angels you will find gift suggestions for the children who come to Thursday Night Supper & Social. Please think about adding an item to your shopping list. Unwrapped gifts need to be back to the church by December 15th. There is a \$30 limit on the gifts.

Our *GivingTuesday* campaign will continue throughout the month. Did you know that our Outreach Programs (Hope Clothing, Thursday Night Supper & Social, Food Bank Lunches) now serve between 30 - 40 dinners, 70—80 lunches, each time. And Hope Clothing now serves between 30—70 people per week? We provide a safe environment for many people who struggle with many issues. They need and appreciate our help and friendship.

To continue our *GivingTuesday* celebration please find the “rolling board” at the back of the sanctuary and participate in that poster. We are asking that people sign the poster and describe why St. Andrew’s is important to them or how they are a part of our church & community.

Each week, until December 22 we will highlight something, someone or a group, so please watch your bulletins.

For our lunch following the service on **December 22**, if you are able to bring finger food (no peanuts) to share with everyone that would be helpful!

**December 8: Human Rights Day (Dec. 10)**

For Ahmad and Sarah and their daughters Reem and Rana, each day brought distress, thinking about what the future might hold. Their home in Al Raqqa, Syria had been bombed, and acts of brutal violence were taking place in their own neighbourhood. The family escaped to Kfarbo and forged a home in a cramped, unfurnished apartment. Navigating the streets of a brand-new city, in a country broken by over eight years of civil conflict, Ahmad and Sarah prayed each day for peace and relief from hunger. Their prayers were answered when the family received their first food and hygiene basket through a PWS&D-supported project with Canadian Foodgrains Bank partners. “It came at the right moment,” says Ahmad.

*PWS&D responds to those living in danger or exile.*



Our readings are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary a 3 year cycle of readings used by many Christian denominations. The readings for next week are: Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:46b-55, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11.

Did you know that you can donate to St. Andrew’s Hespeler online? For several years, St. Andrew’s Hespeler has partnered with CanadaHelps to facilitate the acceptance of online donations. CanadaHelps itself is a charity whose purpose is to inform, inspire and connect charities and donors with the causes they care about. The online link to donate via St.

Andrew’s internet homepage is not only another means by which to donate regularly to St. Andrew’s but it is also a great way to make memorial and honour gifts and the link to our website is easy to share using social media or e-mail. Scan this QR code to take you directly to our giving page!



**This Week at St. Andrew’s**

Tuesday	12:00 pm	Hope Clothing
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Women’s Bible Study
Wednesday	9:30 am	Hope Clothing
Wednesday	7:00 pm	A-A Meditation Group
Thursday	9:00 am	Early On
Thursday	11:00 am	Hope Clothing
Thursday	5:00 pm	Self-help Food Bank and Lunch
Thursday	6:30 pm	Christmas Choir Rehearsal
Friday	8:00 pm	A-A, Al-Anon, Al-Ateen



**Candy Cane**

*Author Unknown*

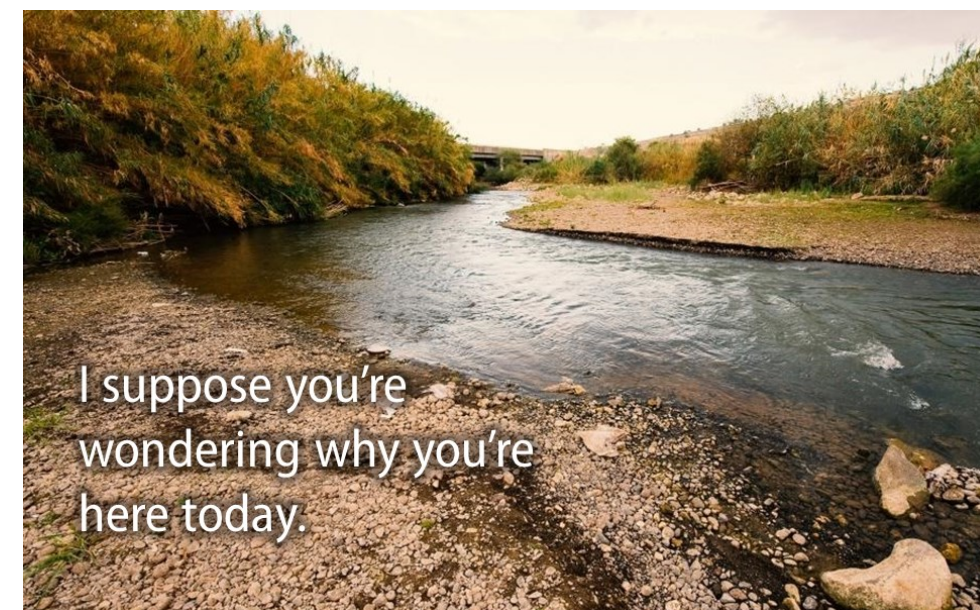
Look at a candy cane, what do you see?  
 Stripes that are red like the blood shed for me!  
 White for my Savior, Who’s sinless and pure!  
 “J” is for Jesus, My Lord that’s for sure!  
 Turn it around and a staff you will see,  
 Jesus, my Shepherd, is coming for me!



**Thank you to all who participated in today’s service:**

Music Director: Corey Cotter Linforth  
 Beadle: Donald Paddock  
 Worship Assistant: Joanne Waugh  
 Greeters: Joan Bentley and Isobel Buchanan  
 Ushers: Margret Hunter  
 Tech Team: Rob Hodgson  
 Family Ministries & Sunday School Coordinator: Joni Smith  
 Little Explorers (up to JK): Christine Goulet  
 Divine Detectives: Laurie Paddock and Adria Marsh  
 The Holy Sherlocks (grades 4 to 6): Lori Marsh  
 Nursery/Preschool Coordinator: Laura Einwechter

**St. Andrew’s Hespeler Presbyterian Church  
 December 8th, 2019  
 2nd Sunday of Advent**



I suppose you’re wondering why you’re here today.

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