

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

April 12, 2020

Easter Sunday!

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca

Order of Online Worship for April 12, 2020

We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am on Sunday, April 12. The link will be posted on the Website and FaceBook page. We will be celebrating Communion during this service. In order to participate, please prepare a small glass of whatever juice, wine or other liquid you feel is appropriate and a small piece of bread, cracker or biscuit for each participant.

Call to worship — See Lenten Liturgy below (Microphones on)

Prayers of confession

Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (Microphones on)

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: The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

P: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

L: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. 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.

Ongoing life of the church

Matthew 28:1-10 (see below)

Celebration of our Generosity

Celebration of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Friends, we have gathered together around our many tables, trusting that through the power of the Holy Spirit, God is building a great table, one that transcends the distance between us. When Jesus took the bread and broke it in the presence of those disciples he walked with on the Emmaus road, they recognized him. May we, those who gather around Christ's spiritual table, recognize him in this meal that unites us in Christ and with one another. May we find in this meal both compassion and

joy, strength and consolation, healing and wholeness, as we walk together in Easter light.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Microphones on)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God, we give you all our thanks and praise for you have done marvelous things. Our hearts rejoice and overflow on this Easter morning that death did not have the last word. But, our voices also tremble, and our eyes fill with tears as we look into the empty tomb and wonder what it all means. On this Easter morning that both celebrates the good news of your resurrection but also contains the sting that things are not yet as they are supposed to be, we worship you. Whether our voices can only whisper or shout out your praise, we join our voices together in praise and adoration:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We have gathered with one another around our various tables to remember the extent of your love for us. You spared nothing, gave up everything, and showed us the way to life everlasting. Through the giving of yourself on the cross, you reconciled us to yourself before we were even aware of the distance between us. In the breaking of the bread, you showed us who you are. And in the sharing of the cup, you invited us into communion with you. In the instituting of this meal, you invited us to share with you and with one another until the day when we can all do so face to face. Together, we share these mysteries that unite us:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Merciful God, send your Holy Spirit on all of us gathered to share this meal. May the broken loaf feed our spirits, and may these poured cups quench the thirst of our hearts. Transform the distance that separates us into a banquet table where we are all gathered to proclaim your coming kingdom. As it says in your Word: nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. May we be knit together into your body, a body which cannot be separated even if we are separated from one another physically for a time. May all glory, and honour, and power be yours. Amen.

Communion of the People

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction *Feel free to chat for a while.

Sermon: Rev. Scott will preach a live sermon over Zoom for those who wish to stay for it. The sermon will also have already been posted on YouTube for streaming whenever you like. The YouTube sermon may have better video and/or audio quality and will feature some graphic illustrations. It will otherwise be the same sermon.

Please Note: All church activities have been suspended until further notice. This includes choir, Bible Study, and all in-person meetings. The doors at the church will be locked to avoid foot-traffic. If you have any questions or need to come to the church for some reason, please contact us .

If you have any questions or concerns, or we can provide support to you in any way during this time, please feel free to contact us by calling the church (messages are being checked regularly) or email us at office@standrewshespeler.ca. We are still here and we care about you!

Looking for encouraging music during these uncertain times?

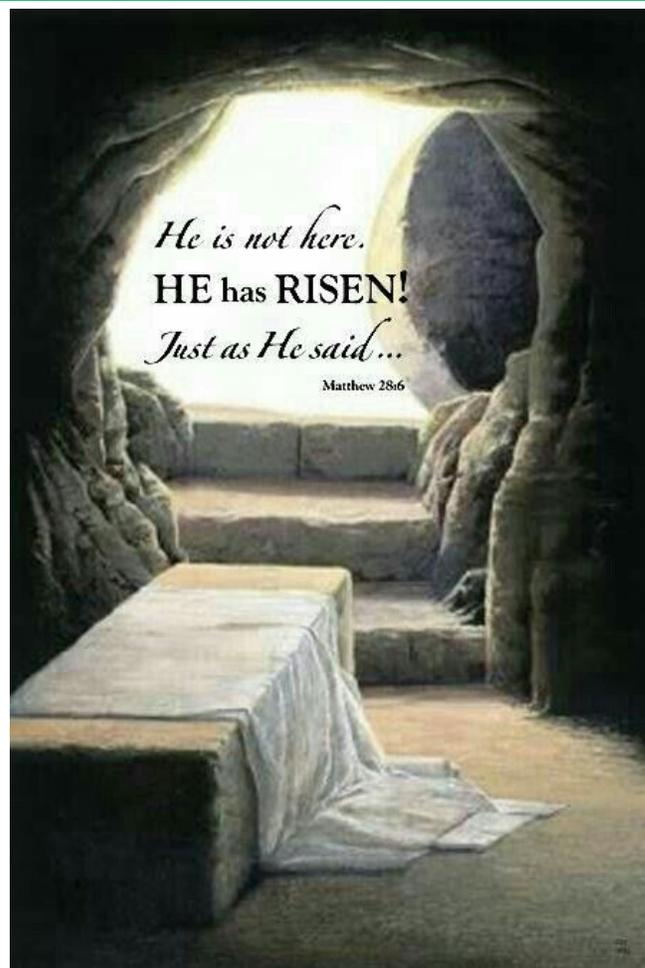


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhXpRgx5KoM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHxwMYrYHPM>



For Sunday School students (or anyone who would like to participate) check out the daily Facebook page or our webpage for the daily activity. This is either in place of our Easter Scavenger Hunt or in addition to it. For each daily activity completed (send Joni "proof") you will receive a virtual ticket and will be able to exchange them for an Easter treat when we are able to get back together again.

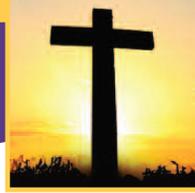


Did you know that you can donate to St. Andrew's Hespeler online? For several years, St. Andrew's Hespeler has partnered with CanadaHelps to facilitate the acceptance of online donations. CanadaHelps itself is a charity whose purpose is to inform, inspire and connect charities and donors with the causes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



Please visit our website www.standrewshespeler.ca for our daily devotion and daily updates.

Easter Sunday



Written by the Rev. Iona MacLean
(The Church of Saint David, Halifax)

One: God raised Jesus on the third day
Many: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

One: Let us take our tambourines and dance,
Many: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

One: With the risen one in our midst,
Many: the graveyard becomes a garden;
grief turns to gladness, tears to laughter.
There is a new creation!

One: With the risen one in our midst,
Many: life defeats death,
love overcomes hatred,
hope replaces fear.

One: This is the good news of the gospel!
Many: Christ is risen! We are risen! Alleluia!

Let us pray:
Creator God,
in raising Jesus from the dead,
you have made the world brand new.
We praise you with joy and thanksgiving!
May we live daily as Easter people
bringing life, love and hope to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

We will begin our online, live - interactive service on Sunday by reading this Lenten Liturgy together. Please plan to join in.

This week's Sermon:



Christ is Risen!

Every day that we respond to the poor, the hungry and the displaced, we discover God's resurrecting power. The poor are raised up, the vulnerable are cared for and the sick are healed.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life and rooted in the living hope of Jesus Christ, our church responds to the call to serve those in need with compassion, justice and love. Through PWS&D, we are working in some of the most vulnerable communities in our global village to restore human dignity, ease the pain of want and promote community cooperation that benefits all.

Thanks to your support and faith in action, we are creating positive change. In a world filled with need, we are responding with medical care, sanitation services and emergency relief.

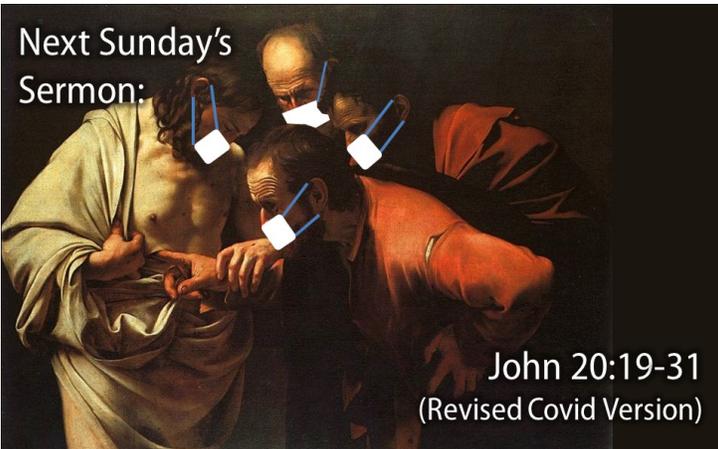
We are responding with educational opportunities, sustainable agriculture practices and skills training. Together, we are promoting human rights and supporting refugees.

Faithful to our calling, we respond together.

This Easter, please support PWS&D.



Next Sunday's Sermon:



John 20:19-31
(Revised Covid Version)



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

WeRespond.ca
50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1...
1-800-619-7301 • pwsd@presbyterian



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

The development and relief agency of
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
WeRespond.ca

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, April 12 (Easter) Christ has risen and gives us new life, making us new creations, and commissioned us to continue his ministry in the world. Pray that we love and serve our neighbours with the same love God shows us.

Monday, April 13 As we celebrate the resurrection, we pray that congregations across Canada experience the fullness of new life in Christ.

Tuesday, April 14 We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee, which meets this month.

Wednesday, April 15 We pray for international young people planning to attend Canada Youth. May they receive their visas and be encouraged in their preparations.

Thursday, April 16 We pray for members of the Women's Missionary Society Synodicals who will be meeting this spring for business, prayer, learning and fellowship. May God's presence be felt in their time together.

Friday, April 17 We give thanks for those who share their gifts as clerks of synods and presbyteries, and we remember them as they gather for the biennial Clerks Consultation.

Saturday, April 18 We pray for the Rev. Barbara Fotheringham, Clerk of the Presbytery of Quebec.

If you have any specific requests that we can pray about, please let us know by either calling the church or emailing the prayer team at prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca

April 12: God is at work

The Synod of Saskatchewan receives a yearly Regional Resourcing Grant to hire staff who support and grow the province's ministry and mission. Martha Fergusson, the Synod Youth Coordinator, coordinates Saskatchewan Presbyterian youth, participation in CY, and summer Vacation Bible School programs across the province. Most churches have more children during VBS than they would have on a single Sunday during the school year. Martha said, "God is at work each day. The children often want to stay another week, the singing is wonderful and churches feel supported. Hopefully we leave an imprint of the gospel and hospitality on all we teach."

Presbyterians Sharing supports regional mission and ministry.



Up from the Grave He Arose!

Low in the grave He lay,
Jesus, my Savior,
Waiting the coming day,
Jesus, my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a Victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose!
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

The Revised Common Lectionary Readings for this week:

Acts 10: 34 - 34: Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Psalm 118

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

14 The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

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

22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Colossians 3: 1-4: The New Life in Christ

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.



The SWEET Truth of Easter

These candies tell a story~
the best news you'll ever hear.
~It's about Jesus dying on the cross
so that we could be brought near.

So hold them and turn them and you will see...
the "M" become a "W" an "E" and then a "3"

The "E" stands for... Easter....
God's everlasting love and His eternal plan.

It reminds us of the cross
and the way God rescued sinful man

The "3" represent the 3 days Jesus spent in the grave....
By His death, His children He did save

The "M" reminds us of the mercy the Messiah showed
as He died in our place.
and the miracle of the resurrection
so we can see Him face to face.

The "W" reminds us... that He alone
is worthy of our worship and praise
and calls us to be His witnesses
around the world for all of our days.

by Bethany Tapp

<http://ministry-to-children.com/easter-poem/>

Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

**The Revised Common Lectionary Readings for next week:
Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31**

The Session of St. Andrew's Hespeler met virtually this week. They made a few decisions to help the congregation navigate these unprecedented times:

- The Church Administrator, Paula Rumbolt, and Volunteer Coordinator for Hope Clothing, Karen Kincaid, can do little of their usual duties. The decision was made regretfully to lay them off for a hopefully short period of time. We anticipate that they will be able to get support through the Federal Government CERB program.
- We will be having conversations with our other staff about how we can best assure that they have the financial support they need.
- The church will be applying for support through the federal government wage subsidy program for our staff who are retained.
- The session will continue to meet online and will next meet during the week of April 20.