

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

September 6, 2020

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
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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

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Online Worship for September 6, 2020

We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be sent out by email and posted (with a password) on the website. In addition, those who wish to may come and join us in the sanctuary. If you are coming, please let us know. You will be screened and registered when you arrive and you must wear a mask. This will be a communion service. Please prepare some bread and some wine or juice for each participant. If you come to the sanctuary, please bring these with you.

Call to worship (Microphones on)

L: Sing to the Lord a new song.

P: We will worship God, our Maker!

L: Let your praise rise to God with song and dance,

P: For God is gracious and loving!

L: Let us bring God glory and honour,

P: For God deserves our praise.

Prayers of approach and confession

L: Holy One, God of grace and glory, your creative power is beyond imagining. Your love is wider than the whole universe; Your mercy, greater than the heights of heaven; your wisdom, deeper than the sea. Maker of all things, you became one of us in Jesus Christ, and through your Spirit you are present with us in every place and every time. We worship you, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one God, now and always, Amen.

In confidence and honesty, let us confess our sins to God and to one another:

P: Although Christ is among us as our peace, we confess we are a people divided, within ourselves and against each other. We cling to the values and habits of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue harm creation and the lives of others. The fears and jealousies we harbour set neighbour against neighbour, and nation against nation. The freedom and abundance we enjoy belong mostly to a few, when they are God's gift to all.

Have mercy upon us, O God. Heal us, forgive us, and set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Responsive Psalm 149 (Microphones on)

L: Praise the LORD!

P: Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

L: Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

P: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

L: Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

P: Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,

L: to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

P: to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron, to execute on them the judgment decreed.

L: This is glory for all his faithful ones.

P: Praise the LORD!

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14 (see below)

Celebration of our Generosity

Celebration of Communion

The Gathering

L: As we gather here today in the sight of God to join in Holy Communion, we are separated by social distance of two meters and much more. The God of all creation is not beholden to the bounds of time or place. God transcends our physical distances and parts the veil between us, so that we may be together in mystical space. Through God and the mystery of Holy Communion, we become one creation, one body, one church.

Setting Apart the Elements

L: Together, we share a table of enormous width along a horizontal plane, as it gently contours along our heavenly body. The table is laid bare, earnestly seeking the providence of God. At the wedding feast, Jesus proclaimed "My time has not yet come." Yet persuaded by his beloved mother Mary, he turned water into wine. I ask you now to collect what elements you may to serve as your bread and fruit of the vine, knowing that provident grace will justify your choices in the sight of God.

Virtual Sharing of the Elements

L: The table is set. Let us proceed.

Thanksgiving

L: God is with you.

P: And with you also.

L: It is good to be joyful as we give thanks to you, Holy God.

P: You created us in your image and gave us life with your breath.

L: Your love does not falter, even as we neglect that love.

P: You liberated us from our bondage, and continue to ease our burden.

L: With joy, and with all of Creation, we proclaim:

**P: Holy, Holy, Holy God of Power and Grace Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

L: You are Holy God, and blessed is your child Jesus. Your Spirit descended upon him so that he could proclaim good news to the poor, heal the sick, feed the hungry, cavort with sinners and liberate the captive. His life gave birth to the church through a new covenant one born out the Holy Spirit whose power dwells within us today. In remembering the mighty acts of Jesus, we offer ourselves as a living witness proclaiming the mystery of faith:

P: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

L: Pour out your Spirit on all those gathered together in holy space, and on the gift of these elements so that we may join together in true communion with one another. Amen.

Sharing the elements:

L: This bread is made from many grains from many fields, yet was formed into a single loaf. Because there is one God we, though many, and in many places, are one body. Join us as we partake in the body of Christ, in remembrance of him... The body of Christ given for you

L: This fruit of the vine is made by many hands, from many places, yet pours freely. Join us as we share in this blessing of the cup of the new covenant... The cup of blessing poured out for you and for all

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Sermon: Rev. Scott McAndless will preach a live sermon over Zoom. The sermon title is,



Benediction

Future Services

We seem to be living in a time when all of the plans we make are subject to change, but here are our plans for worship over the next little while.

*We are excited that Rev. Scott will be back with us today! **Welcome Back!** The service today will be led from the sanctuary. It is communion service (everyone will need to supply their own bread and wine in a form that works for them) and we expect that most will participate online (though we will again welcome people in the sanctuary).

*The session will discuss the next steps. We are not yet in a position to announce when a launch of full in-person worship will begin. Please continue to pray for wisdom and discernment moving forward. Thank you for worshipping with us!

Next Week's Sermon:



All the Chariots of Egypt

Mission Moment – Sunday, September 6 - World Literacy Day

In Afghanistan, cultural norms dictate that men often play a more central role in public life, while women and girls have more significant roles in the home. Because of this, many girls do not have equal access to education. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), with the support of local partners, has been working to provide girls with access to high quality education. Through summer camps, girls are informed about human rights, gender, sex, and leadership and democracy. Sadaf and Nargi participated in this summer camp, where they were inspired and excited about the great things they could achieve in the future. For the two girls, access to fair and equal education is vital for their goals and dreams; it is also essential to allow their communities to flourish.

PWS&D supports equal education.



Prayer Partnership

Monday, September 7 We pray for members of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee as they meet this month to further our relationships with others.

Tuesday, September 8 (World Literacy Day)

We give thanks for a Presbyterian World Service & Development program that is ensuring girls in Afghanistan have access to quality education.

Wednesday, September 9 We pray for all of the students attending our theological colleges who are beginning or resuming their studies in September. May they be enriched and challenged through their studies.

Thursday, September 10 We pray for an end to forced child labour and that the efforts of those who promote Fair Trade products across many industries can be supported and strengthened.

Friday, September 11 We pray for the Rev. Fr. Martin Kalimbe, Executive Director of Theological Education by Extension in Malawi (TEEM), as he provides leadership.

Saturday, September 12 We pray for the network of coaches serving in congregational renewal and church planting support programs.

Announcements

Hope Clothing is **unable** to take donations of clothing at this time. We are putting together a plan to re-open, hopefully in the fall. There are many considerations to make to ensure that we keep all of our staff, volunteers and clients safe. Thank you for your patience.



A big THANK YOU to everyone who brought in school supplies. We were able to help out the families who reached out to us for assistance. Please keep all of our teachers, students and their families in your prayers for a safe re-opening of school.

Please note:

- We will no longer be collecting batteries. Please do not drop any batteries off at church. There is a risk of them starting a fire that we don't want to take. Thank you for your support of this project for the past couple of years.
- The Christian Education Committee has decided NOT, at this time, to collect pop cans. The safety of our volunteers remains our priority. They cannot be stored at the church until we can cash them in because the ants and bees like them too much! We will let you know when we start collecting again. This has been a great way to raise funds for the Sunday School children's mission projects. Thank you, to everyone, who has collected pop cans for us, we appreciate your help.

Dates & events to keep in mind:

- **Potato Harvest Sunday: September 27th**; watch your bulletin and emails for details of how we are actually going to do this! There is a plan! We will have fun with this and we will stay distanced and safe.
- **Anniversary "Dream Auction" will be held in October** (date to be announced). This year the Dream Auction will only be by "silent" auction and will be held virtually. Donations of prizes would be gratefully accepted.

- The Christian Education Committee's **Annual Handcrafters' Market will be held VIRTUALLY on November 21st, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**. Stay tuned for details. If you are a crafter and are interested in participating please ask Joni for an application form.

CELEBRATING 30+ YEARS TOGETHER AT KNOX WATERLOO!

Ashfield Retirement Celebration
Sunday, September 27, 10:00 – 11:55 am

You're invited to the special Sunday worship service and following celebration of the retirement of Rev. Brooke Ashfield & Rev. Linda Ashfield, after 30+ years of leadership at Knox Waterloo, and more than 40 years with The Presbyterian Church in Canada.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Join the live-streamed celebrations*

10:00 – 11:00 am

Special Sunday worship service

11:00 – 11:55 am

Retirement celebration event with special guests, music & fun

* *If you wish to attend in person, please submit your request via Knox's seat reservation system at KnoxWaterloo.ca. Limited seating is available.*

Expressions of congratulations and gratitude can be shared via the church office at 50 Erb Street W. or by contacting knox@knoxwaterloo.ca or (519) 886-4150.



Knox Waterloo Presbyterian Church, 50 Erb Street West, Waterloo, ON N2L 1T1
 (519) 886-4150, knox@knoxwaterloo.ca, KnoxWaterloo.ca

Exodus 12:1-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you,

whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”