

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

January 17, 2021

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

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 January 17

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 on the website. The sanctuary is closed for in-person worship until January 26, 2021.

Call to worship

L: Before we were born, God knew us.

P: God knit us together in the womb.

L: God searches out our paths, and tracks us along our way.

P: So we praise God, because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

L: There is nowhere we can go where God is not with us.

P: How wonderful are all God's works! Let us worship God together.

Prayers of approach and confession

L: God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading, You are stillness when we are frantic; You are truth when we are confused and perplexed. You give us freedom when we are paralyzed by fear; You send us light when we stumble in the darkness. You are love when we feel lonely and empty. For all that you are, all that you have been, and all that you will be for us, we praise you, Creator, Christ, Spirit. We turn to you in worship, to listen for your voice and seek your way for us.

L: Desiring to be transformed people, we bring to you our prayers of confession:

P: Merciful God, you call us to fullness of life but we have settled for much less. We have wandered from your ways and wasted your

gifts. We ignore the pain of others, and turn our faces from injustice. At times we have hidden from the truth, especially when it calls us to do what we are afraid to do. We have given up in despair when problems around us seem overwhelming. Forgive us our small faith. Give us courage to listen and respond when you call.

L: Believe the good news! In Christ, God has offered us forgiveness for all our sins and shortcomings. Trust that this forgiveness is for you, and know that God's steadfast love and grace endure forever.

P: Amen!

Responsive Reading Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

L: O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

P: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

L: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

P: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

L: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

P: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of

the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

L: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

P: I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

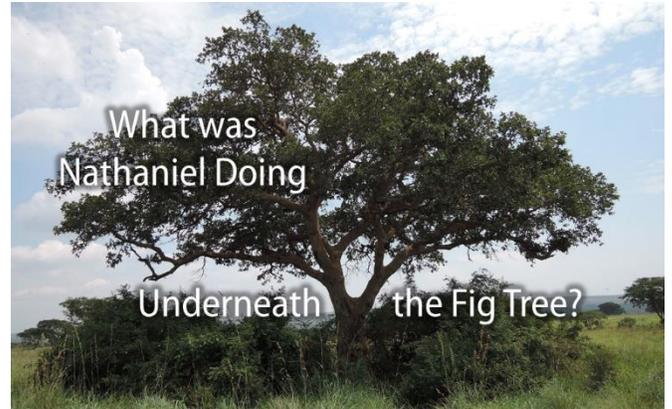
Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: John 1:43-51 (see below)

Celebration of our Generosity

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

There are some goodies in the mailbox at the church (the one marked “bulletins”) that is free for anyone to pick up.

You will find:

- The new Jan/Feb edition of Today is now here!
- The Dec-January edition of Our Daily Bread
- The winter issue of Presbyterian Connection!
- Printed copies of this bulletin each week.
- Printed copies of Scott’s most recent sermon each week.

2021 Offering Envelopes are available. Please arrange to get yours.

Sunday School News!

Our weekly recordings will be posted every Sunday. Please check the website, Facebook & Twitter to find the weekly lesson, read-aloud or video for each group.

HELP! Do you have any quart sized sealer jars that I could have? If you do please let me know. Once the stay-at-home directive is lifted we can arrange for a pick up or drop off. I need them for the beginning of Lent (the First Sunday in Lent is February 21, 2021). Thank you! ~Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca)

Watch your bulletins, the website or social media for updates on an upcoming, fun event that we can all safely participate in. There will even be prizes! More details will be coming soon.

We are in the process of planning for Lent and Easter and we all know that is going to be different again this year. Plans will involve staying connected in different ways; a zoom dinner and conversation, interactive participation in worship (look for information on Lenten packages or suggestions coming soon)

Don’t forget that we are still able to order gift cards from Fundscrip. This is a really easy way to support St. Andrew’s. For information please contact Laura @ fundscrip@standrewshespeler.ca.

We will be participating in another online book study for Lent. We have not yet decided on which book to study. More information will be coming next week. If you have any interest in joining us, please speak with Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca).

Hope Clothing is open to clients, via direct message to Joni. If you know of anyone who needs help please let Joni know with a list of needed items. Karen Kincaid has graciously agreed to come in to the church, gather the items up and package them. We will then arrange for contactless pickup.

The Cambridge Self Help Food Bank is very grateful to St. Andrew's for the care and compassion that we have extended to the people in our community. Because the Food Bank is in a grey zone, they are unable to use any volunteers or come inside the church. But they are bringing their van to St. Andrew's and distributing emergency food hampers every Thursday from noon – 2:00 pm. If you know anyone who needs help with food security, please direct them to St. Andrew's at food bank times or encourage them to call the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank, main location.

Because of the new Stay-At-Home protocols, Paula will be in the office on Monday mornings only. She will work from home on the other days. If you need to reach her, please send an email, or call the church and leave a message, and she will get back to you.

The ANNUAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, March 21st. Please mark your calendars! You can begin submitting your reports to Paula at office@standrewshespeler.ca at any time.



Mission Moment – January 17, 2020

Paving the Way for a Brighter Future

Anxious and unsure about his future, Abdul was 14 years old when he joined the electronics and computer program offered by the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service (JCC) in Lebanon. Now 19 years old and equipped with a diploma and five years of experience, he has a good job and an income to support his family. JCC's vocational training programs teach marketable skills and offer hope for many young Palestinian refugees who are out of school and living without a dream or ambition. Through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, the PCC has been supporting this lifegiving program since 2018. Sylvia Haddad, JCC Director, shared that "equipping youth, and especially refugees who have nothing, with a skill or vocation is very important. The challenge is great, but we cannot give up and are grateful for your support."



Prayer Partnership

Sunday, January 17 We give thanks for the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service in Lebanon, and pray that they receive the resources and support needed to provide life changing vocational training to youth and refugees.

Monday, January 18 We pray that God give those gathering in ecumenical services during the World Week of Prayer for Christian Unity a strong sense of God's presence and the unity of Christ.

Tuesday, January 19 We pray for the congregation and community of Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church in Mistawasis Nehiyawak First Nation, Sask.

Wednesday, January 20 We pray for the Rev. James Douglas who serves as the convener of the Ministry Committee for the Presbytery of Seaway-Glengarry in Ont.

Thursday, January 21 We pray for all camp leaders and boards as they plan for 2021.

Friday, January 22 We pray that people struggling with their experience of the church will be opened to God's love and grace so that any pain the church has caused will be healed.

Saturday, January 23 We pray for Cariboo Presbyterian Church in Nazko, B.C., and their new leader, the Rev. Mark Carter. May their outreach ministries flourish as they connect with new families.

Today's Lectionary Readings

1 Samuel 3:1-20

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' ¹¹ Then the LORD said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹² On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴ Therefore I

swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

¹⁵ Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' ¹⁷ Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.' ¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.'

¹⁹ As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹² 'All things are lawful for me', but not all things are beneficial. 'All things are lawful for me', but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³ 'Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food', and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, 'The two shall be one flesh.' ¹⁷ But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸ Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against

the body itself. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

John 1:43-51

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹ And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'