

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

March 28th, 2021

Palm Sunday

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca
Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca
Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Online Worship for March 28

We'll meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. **Please bring your homemade palms and/or crown!** The link will be posted on the website. The sanctuary is presently closed for in-person worship.

Call to worship

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L: Jesus is coming.

P: Hosanna!

L: He comes to us riding on a donkey.

P: Hosanna!

L: Open wide the gates!

P: Hosanna!

L: Let us welcome him with branches and songs of praise.

P: Jesus is coming. Hosanna to the King of kings!

Prayers of approach and confession

L: God of all people and all places, God of all situations and all times, you are the light of the minds that know you, and the strength of those who serve you in times of challenge and times of joy. We come to worship you this day, setting aside our work and responsibilities, our relaxation and pastimes, to listen for your voice and reflect on the wisdom and courage we witness in Jesus. As tension mounts for him and for us, we turn to you for hope and healing, for courage and compassion, in the name of Christ, our Lord.

L: Hear us now as we speak to you the truth about our lives:

P: God of compassion, we confess that we prefer darkness to your light, and our ways

to yours. We do what is easy rather than what is right. We have been dishonest with ourselves and each other. Forgive our fleeting enthusiasms and shallow commitments. As we witness again the story of Jesus confronting his enemies, strengthen our desire to follow him and serve you with courage like his. Amen.

L: St. John records Jesus' words: I do not call you servants any longer, but I have called you friends. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. Dear friends, Christ has laid down his life for us and invites us to love one another as he has loved us. Rejoice in his redeeming love and share it with each other day by day.

P: We will! Thanks be to God.

Hymn #218 Hosanna, loud hosanna (Alexis Smith)

Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

L: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever! Let Israel say,
P: 'His steadfast love endures for ever.'

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 marvellous 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.

L: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

P: for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

John 12:12-16

¹²The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!

¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

¹⁵ 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!'

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Solo: Gavotte en Rondeau by Bach (Zoé McAndless)

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: "Cast them down!"



Spiritual Exercise: Casting down our palms and crowns

Hymn #216 Hosanna (Zoé McAndless)

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

Next Week's Sermon:



They said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



Holy Week

We will be holding our traditional Holy Week Services this coming week, though they will be online only. Links will be published in the usual ways.

Maundy Thursday Service will be held on Thursday evening (April 1) at 7:30. This will be a communion service and ask you to prepare communion elements in order to participate.

On **Good Friday** (April 2) we will meet at 10 am to solemnly remember the death of our Lord.

Easter Sunday will be at 10 am. We will be celebrating communion and the resurrection of Jesus. There will be special musical guests.



My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Supports me in the 'whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

CNOB Synodical Annual Meeting

Our New Normal Listening for God's "New Normal"



THE REV. DR. PATRICIA
DUTCHER-WALLS

Professor of Hebrew Bible
Vancouver School of Theology

ISAIAH 43:14-21

We are anticipating a 'new normal.' We might soon be free from masks and social distancing, but what are we going to be free for? How might a word from the prophet Isaiah help us figure out how our new normal can be informed by God's new normal? And how might that reflect what God does for and among God's people for the good of the world God loves?

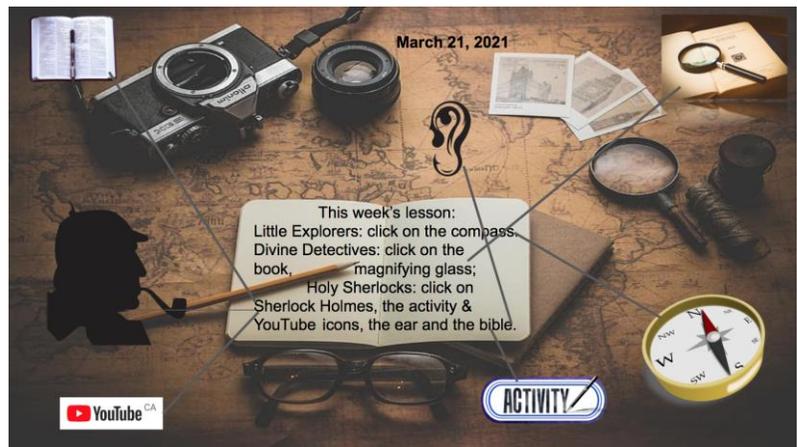
**SATURDAY
APRIL 17**

ON ZOOM

SPEAKER AT 1 PM ET
BUSINESS MEETING TO FOLLOW

Please email Katherine Allen by April 10 to register
kathanne5219@gmail.com

Our Sunday School classes remain online. This week will look quite different. There will now be one interactive slide that will include all three groups. This slide will now be posted on Saturday mornings, on our website. If anyone is curious about what Sunday School might look like, please check it out!



Our Lenten Garden Interactive Series for Holy Week will be split into two sections. The first section will be posted on Saturday for Palm Sunday – Wednesday. The second section will be posted Wednesday evening for Maundy Thursday – Easter Sunday. The series is for everyone to participate in and enjoy.

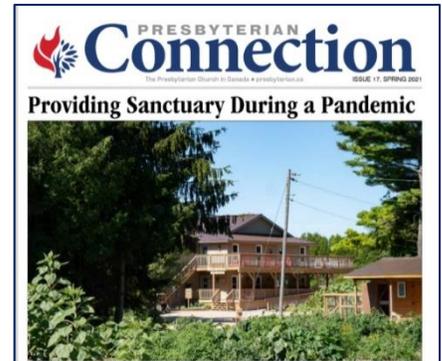
This was the last week of special Lenten deliveries to our children. Although next Sunday, Easter does not have a “Spiritual Exercise Object” connected with it we couldn’t just end today. Next week Sunday is Easter and we will be celebrating The Sacrament of Holy Communion together. With all previous communion services, we’ve brought out our own elements to worship and this time we will as well. **BUT, here’s a challenge!** For your “bread” element, please make this extra special. There will be something special delivered to our children on **Saturday** morning so that they can join us in the special communion, if they choose. Please bring your special element to worship to “share” with everyone. **For children, please feel free to pop onto Zoom at the beginning of worship to share your creations with us.** Also, if you are able to take a photo of your creation and send it to me (Joni jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca) that would be awesome!



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 March/April edition of Today
- The March/April/May edition of Our Daily Bread
- The spring edition 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.



Other Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out
the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to
shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ
Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of
death—
even death on a cross.
⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the
earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Mission Moment – March 28, 2021

Providing Clean Water and Sanitation

Today, there are 4.2 billion people in the world who do not have access to sanitation services and 2.2 billion people who do not have safe, clean water to drink.

Consequently, many people are at risk for waterborne diseases, such as cholera and diarrhea. The COVID-19 pandemic has made us even more aware of the importance of clean water, as handwashing is a crucial way to help curb the spread of disease.

Presbyterian World Service & Development works with local partners to bring clean water and sanitation services to vulnerable communities. Clean water allows people to harvest crops, care for their families, expand their livelihoods and lead healthy, productive lives.



Prayer Partnership

Sunday, March 28 (Palm/Passion Sunday)

When we turn off our lights during Earth Hour, we are reminded of the need to use the Earth's resources responsibly. We pray that we will carry this reminder throughout the year.

Monday, March 29 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Kootenay in B.C.

Tuesday, March 30 We pray for retired ministers and professional church workers, and for those preparing for retirement.

Wednesday, March 31 (Transgender Day of Visibility) We pray for the safety, dignity and well-being of all transgender people.

Thursday, April 1 (Maundy Thursday) We give thanks for the leadership of the Rev. Amanda Currie while she served as Moderator and for the support of the Committee to Advise with the Moderator during her term and today as they count the ballots for the Moderator-Elect for the upcoming General Assembly.

Friday, April 2 (Good Friday) Let us pray for the church, and that God will keep it faithful in worship, humble in service, gracious in spirit, grounded in truth and persistent in proclaiming the good news of the gospel.

Saturday, April 3 (Holy Saturday) We pray for a spirit of encouragement for congregations as they seek ways to work with local churches and interfaith organizations.