

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

April 11th, 2021

2nd Sunday of Easter

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
Cambridge, ON N3C 2A9
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 April 11. We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. The sanctuary is presently closed for in-person worship.

Call to worship

L: We gather with joy, for Easter continues.

P: Locked doors have been opened and fear has turned to peace.

L: We celebrate the presence of the Risen Christ among us.

P: Doubts have been erased and uncertainty has turned to faith.

L: Let us rejoice and be glad!

P: Let us offer our prayers and our praise with humble, hopeful hearts.

Prayers of approach and confession

L: God of new life, we come to you, rejoicing in the mystery of the Risen Christ, present among us always, even when we least expect him. We marvel at your constant love, your victory over evil and death, and your resurrecting hope which embraces us in every circumstance. Trusting in these gifts, we seek to live as Easter people in every place and time. Strengthen us with the gift of your Holy Spirit in this time of worship, and bless us with your peace through Christ, our Risen Lord.

L: Yet even as we delight in Easter's promise, let us confess the ways we fail to live it out:

P: Merciful God, we confess there are times when our trust in you weakens, and we become anxious about many things. We talk about love, but we are gripped by fear of

those who differ from us. We cling to our personal agendas and forget you call us to live as a community of believers. Forgive us for seeking our own interests before the needs of others. Open our eyes to the many signs of your love for us. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, rekindle our passion for you, so we can work together to witness to your love. Amen.

L: Hear the words of the risen Christ: Peace be with you. Receive the peace and forgiveness of Christ, and rejoice in his gift of new life this day and every day.

P: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm 133

L: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

P: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

L: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

P: For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life for evermore.

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

Acts 1:15-20

¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶ “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷ for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ This became known to all the residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ “For it is written in the book of Psalms,

‘Let his homestead become desolate,
and let there be no one to live in it’;
and ‘Let another take his position of
overseer.’

Acts 4:32-35

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³ With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵ They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶ There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means “son of

encouragement”). ³⁷ He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles’ feet.

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: “Judas bought a field, Joseph sold one.”



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Joan Bentley on the death of her son-in-law, Rev. T. James McVeigh. Please keep Joan & her daughter, Mitch McVeigh and family in your prayers at this difficult time.





Our Sunday School classes remain online. There is now 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!



Attention Youth! We will meet, on Zoom, Tuesday from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. Remember to email Joni the information needed to play Jeopardy! See you Tuesday!
(the link will be emailed on Monday.)



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

1 John 1:1-2:2

¹ We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³ we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷ but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house

where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' ²⁸ Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' ²⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Mission Moment - April 11, 2021

Annakala Finds Answers at Shining Hospital

In Nepal, Annakala Nepali was living in significant discomfort. Severe problems with her fingers, along with loss of sensation in her legs and tingling in her body were followed by vision problems. In Annakala's community, many people prefer traditional healers to address their medical problems—Annakala decided to do the same. However, she still suffered after the visit. Her daughter-in-law, on seeing her in pain and suspecting that it might be due to leprosy, encouraged Annakala to visit the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Shining Hospital. Once she was admitted to the hospital, she was officially diagnosed with leprosy and started treatment, which has improved her symptoms and pain. Annakala is very grateful for the Shining Hospital's care, love and support.



Prayer Partnership

Sunday, April 11 We pray for all those who are suffering from illness or long-term health conditions. May Christ's healing be received and experienced.

Monday, April 12 We pray for those in the Order of Diaconal Ministries who serve the church in areas of Christian education, pastoral care and social ministry.

Tuesday, April 13 We pray for our Muslim neighbours as they fast and pray during the month of Ramadan.

Wednesday, April 14 We pray for the ministry of congregations and missions receiving grants this spring, that their programs and initiatives will share the love of Christ in their communities.

Thursday, April 15 We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee as they meet this month and consider applications from ministers seeking to enrich their ministry with further study.

Friday, April 16 We pray for the ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Central Alberta.

Saturday, April 17 We pray for farmers in Guatemala receiving support from Presbyterian World Service & Development to improve their harvests by protecting their soil and water resources.