

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

June 6th, 2021

2nd Sunday after Pentecost General Assembly Sunday

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm



Order of Online Worship for June 6. We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. This will be a communion service so please prepare bread and wine (or substitutes) for each person who will participate. The sanctuary is presently closed for in-person worship.

Call to worship

L: We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole hearts.

P: We give thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness.

L: O God, we call on you, for you will increase our strength of soul.

P: Though we walk in the midst of troubling times, you will stretch out your hand to us.

L: So we gather to worship God, trusting in God's goodness and guidance.

P: We come to offer our prayers and praise, seeking God's renewing love day by day.

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God of creation and compassion, we praise you for your attention to each and every blessed creature, marvelling at the detail and the grandeur you call into being. You tend the fragile beauty and balance in the world, receiving praise from the depths of the sea to the tops of the mountains. You have seen your church grow from tiny beginnings to a worldwide community of those who follow Jesus, full of diversity in voice and vocation. Receive our praise as we witness your patience and perseverance with all you have made. Open our eyes to the purposes you have for us, for our congregation, and for our denomination. Awaken us with the insight of

your Spirit and reveal to us how best to serve you in the world you love. For we offer ourselves to you in the name of Christ, our Lord.

P: God of purpose and possibility, you give us work to do and the skills we need to accomplish your calling. Yet we prefer to follow our own ways. We resist your wisdom and fail to consider the suggestions of others. We think we know better. Forgive our stubborn nature and our unwillingness to reconsider our own views. By the power of your Holy Spirit and the grace of Christ our Lord, give us a teachable spirit to learn new ways to serve you and live as good neighbours in church and community.

L: The prophet Micah reminds us that God requires three things of us: to do justice, to love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. To all who turn away from self-interest and seek reconciliation with God and neighbour in kindness and humility, God offers forgiveness and peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you!

Responsive Psalm 130

L: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

P: Lord, hear my voice!

L: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

P: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

L: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

P: my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

L: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

P: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

Genesis 3:8-15

⁸They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, 'Where are you?' ¹⁰He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' ¹¹He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' ¹²The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

'Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;

upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.'

Offertory: "Lord's Prayer"

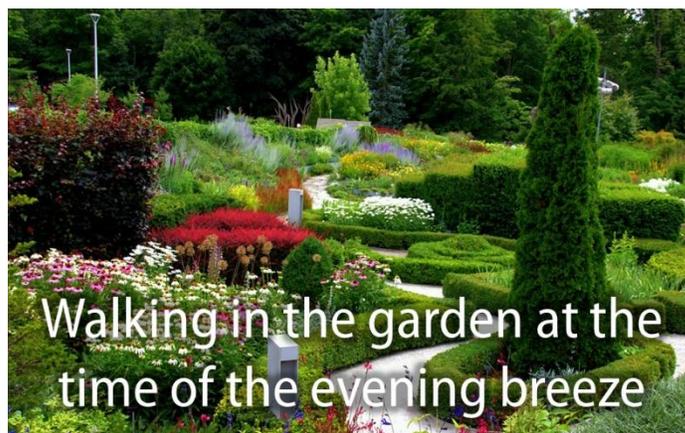
C. Griffith

Celebration of our Generosity

Celebration of Communion

- Invitation
- Presentation of the element
- Great thanksgiving
- Words of institution
- Epiclesis
- Sharing the bread and wine

Message: "Walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze"



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

Check out our stories, read-alouds, Bible readings, and activities for our children, online. They are posted each Saturday morning on our website and on the church Facebook page.



India is currently in the midst of a dramatic surge in COVID-19 cases, threatening its healthcare system and leaving already vulnerable families in crisis.

For more than a week, over 300,000 cases have been diagnosed daily. So far over 220,000 people have died in India and the crisis is only worsening.

Immediate needs are access to health care, medical supplies, and medicines, particularly oxygen. There is an urgent need to educate people on risk prevention and address vaccine hesitancy. Vaccine supply is insufficient and inaccessible to many, leaving herd immunity out of reach.

Donations can be made on the PWS&D website or through church giving (mark your envelope accordingly).

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 May/June edition of Today
- The June/July 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.



**You are God's Masterpiece,
Ephesians 2:10**

Other Lectionary Readings

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

¹³ But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—‘I believed, and so I spoke’—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴ because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵ Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸ because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

¹ For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Mark 3:20-35

²⁰ and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, ‘He has gone out of his

mind.’ ²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.’ ²³ And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸ ‘Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin’ — ³⁰ for they had said, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’

³¹ Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ ³³ And he replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ ³⁴ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.’

We’ve Got Some News

The Session of St. Andrew’s Hespeler met this week (by Zoom) and would like to report that we have been working on a number of matters. Therefore, there will be a newsletter coming out very soon. Please watch your email and the webpage. Here are some things that we will be reporting on:

- Some grants we have received from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington that are allowing us to take measures to adapt to Covid-19 and post-Covid realities, improve our signage and engagement with the community, and relaunch our ministries.
- Some new initiatives that are being taken by our CE Committee to support our families.
- Thoughts about the future of worship services.

Mission Moment - June 6, 2021 (General Assembly Sunday)

Rockland Community Church

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, Rockland Community Church in Ontario—established initially with a focus on youth ministry—is transforming through family-style worship and mission that truly brings out the gifts of people of all ages. As their name suggests, “community” is at the heart of this Christian family of faith where everyone belongs. The congregation celebrates the contributions made by each member, and everyone is committed to sharing their gifts with others, whether it’s by inviting a neighbour to a home group gathering or weekly coffee house, or by organizing a Living Nativity for the wider community during Advent. Presbyterians Sharing welcomes people into the family of God.



Prayer Partnership

Sunday, June 6 (General Assembly Sunday)

We pray for the Moderator, commissioners and young adult and student representatives who gather online this week to discern the continuing ministry Christ does through the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Monday, June 7 We pray that all those participating in the General Assembly feel a strong sense of God’s presence, and that the Holy Spirit blesses the Assembly with the gifts of wisdom and love in their discernment.

Tuesday, June 8 We give thanks for the members of committees of the General Assembly, and for their involvement in the ministry and mission of the church.

Wednesday, June 9 We pray that the commissioners of the General Assembly and its Moderator are blessed with the gifts of faith, justice, hope and love of God in their discernment.

Thursday, June 10 We give thanks for the volunteers and staff who assisted with the online General Assembly, and for their commitment to support all commissioners and participants.

Friday, June 11 We give thanks for the faithfulness of congregations as they participate in the mission of the church with prayers and financial gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.

Saturday, June 12 We pray for congregations in rural locations that will welcome summer ministry students. May this summer be a time of blessing, growth and learning for the ministries and the students.