

**St. Andrew's Hespeler  
Presbyterian Church  
July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church  
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Website: [www.standrewshespeler.ca](http://www.standrewshespeler.ca)

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm



**Order of Online Worship for July 18.** 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: In moments of anxiety, God leads us to still waters.

**P: O God, we come to you.**

L: In moments of confusion, God leads us in right paths.

**P: O God, we come to hear your voice.**

L: In moments of loneliness, God is with us.

**P: O God, we come into your presence, seeking your love.**

L: In all our moments, God is with us.

**P: So we come to praise the One who restores our lives.**

**Prayer of Approach and Confession**

L: God our Maker, in summer we easily marvel at the world you have made, the colours of sunrise and sunset filling the horizon, the intricate beauty of flower gardens and natural parks, the quiet dignity of a river in its course, and the steadfast presence of a rock face carved over time. You show us how each small piece of your creation depends in many ways on all the others. Summer growth depends on spring rains; health for each creature depends on the wise balance you have set between each species; the quality of life on the respect we show one another. Wise and patient God, we marvel at the world you love. Our worship joins the songs of all creation to bring you praise, honouring you and the relationships

you have set between us all, through Christ, firstborn of all creation.

**P: God our Maker, as we marvel at your creation, we confess we often take it for granted. We don't know what to make of reports about the damage human life causes. We prefer to live as if our lifestyles make no impact on the earth. We confess we don't really want to change. Yet we wonder if the way we live is pleasing to you. For all the ways we put your creation at risk and harm the earth, we ask for your forgiveness. Teach us how to live in this marvellous world with love and respect for you and for your whole creation. Amen.**

L: Colossians proclaims that in Christ, the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. God has made peace with us through the Cross of Jesus Christ. So in Christ, all things hold together. Accept the peace of Christ and make peace with one another in his name.

**P: We will, as God makes us able.**

**Responsive Psalm 89:20-37**

L: I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;

**P: my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.**

L: The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.

**P: I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him. My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his horn shall be exalted.**

L: I will set his hand on the sea and his right hand on the rivers. He shall cry to me,

**P: “You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!”**

L: I will make him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

**P: For-ever I will keep my steadfast love for him, and my covenant with him will stand firm. I will establish his line for ever, and his throne as long as the heavens endure.**

L: If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my ordinances, if they violate my statutes and do not keep my commandments, then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with scourges;

**P: but I will not remove from him my steadfast love, or be false to my faithfulness. I will not violate my covenant, or alter the word that went forth from my lips. Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David. His line shall continue for ever, and his throne endure before me like the sun. It shall be established for ever like the moon, an enduring witness in the skies.’**

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

2 Samuel 7:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup> the king said to the prophet Nathan, ‘See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.’ <sup>3</sup> Nathan said to the king, ‘Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.’

<sup>4</sup> But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup> Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup> I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a

tabernacle. <sup>7</sup> Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ <sup>8</sup> Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup> and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup> And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup> from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>12</sup> When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup> He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. <sup>14</sup> I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings.

Ephesians 2:11-22

<sup>11</sup> So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall,

that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup> He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Offertory: Morning has Broken Bill Hunter

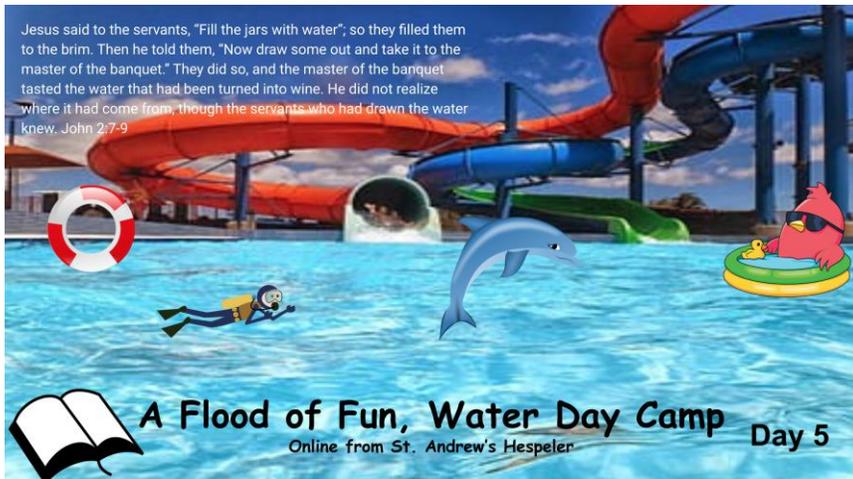
Celebration of our Generosity

Message: "I Will Make you a House"



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction



A "Flood of Fun" Water Day Camp (online) will begin to be posted tomorrow morning. There are 5 different days to this camp. Each day is self-led and includes: a bible reading, videos to watch for the bible story (a short one for young children and a little longer video for older children), a water craft and a water activity. These Google Classrooms will remain posted to the website ([www.standrewshespeler.ca](http://www.standrewshespeler.ca)) for the month. In August there will be a new camp.

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 Summer 2021 Newsletter
- The July/August edition of Today
- The June/July edition of Our Daily Bread
- The **new summer** edition of Presbyterian Connection
- Printed copies of this bulletin each week.
- Printed copies of Scott’s most recent sermon each week.



### Other Lectionary Readings

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a

shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

## Summer Services

Throughout the pandemic, the session of St Andrew's Hespeler has sought to do our very best to follow public health guidelines from the region and the province. We have also sought to be very cautious and careful when it comes to protecting the people of our congregation. The province is presently allowing worship services to take place in person with physical distancing.

Nevertheless, we have not wanted to rush into welcoming people into the sanctuary, especially as case numbers remain stubbornly high in the Waterloo region. Last summer, we did experiment with having some people present in the sanctuary as we zoomed live with the rest of the congregation on. We are now in a technological position to be able to do that much better, but we do need to get some volunteers in place in order to make that work. So, if you are interested in coming or making it possible for some people to come in July, please contact us at the church and we will see what we can do.

Rev. Scott will take some vacation time for the last four weeks of August. We've been very fortunate to find two great preachers for those Sundays: recent seminary grad, Paula Rumbolt, and Clerk of Session, Steve Marsh. Given the complexities of putting together hybrid services during those weeks, we do anticipate that these services will be online only.

Joni Smith will once again be off in July as she has an 11-month position with the church.

## **PWS&D News - Empowering Young Women in Bihar, India**

The night her husband came home intoxicated and began both arguing with her and physically abusing their one-month-old son, Murat knew she needed to get help. Fearing for their safety, she approached a local group for assistance: a task force that had been established through a PWS&D-supported project in Bihar, India.



With the help of the local task force group, Murat and her baby were able to get to safety.

The task force works to empower community members, help peacefully address family or village conflicts, and advocate for government services that often don't reach India's most vulnerable and remote villages.

Murat was appreciative of the task force's quick actions. They intervened right away by contacting local police officers who arrested her husband, and brought Murat and her baby to safety.

Since that night, Murat has attended training sessions through the project where she has learned how to handle potential crises and stand up for her rights. While there is still healing that needs to take place, Murat and her son have been welcomed and supported by her family after their difficult ordeal.

To read more of the story, go to <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/news/>



## Mission Moment - July 18, 2021

### Camping from Home

For many children, Camp Douglas in British Columbia is their safe space away from home. These young campers have little to no connection with a congregation or other Christian community outside of camp. They come each summer with a hunger for God and a desire to reunite with the loving Christian community they experienced in past summers. Last year, Camp Douglas staff adapted the camp's programming using an online platform that enabled their important ministry to continue throughout the summer. Staff ran weekly Bible studies and campfires, as well as other traditional camp activities that could be done at home. Camp Douglas was able to provide this wonderful experience in part through regional resourcing grants, supported by Presbyterians Sharing.

## Prayer Partnership

**Sunday, July 18** We pray that young people will find rewarding opportunities to learn and grow this summer.

**Monday, July 19** We pray for the ministry, staff and campers at Camp Christopher in Saskatchewan, and ask for God's blessing on their "Camp-in-a-Box" initiative, so that they may reach their goal of providing 400 children with games, crafts and activities.

**Tuesday, July 20** We pray for new graduates of Zomba Theological College in Malawi as they begin their journey in congregational ministry, equipped with books from the PCC's New Ministers' Library Fund.

**Wednesday, July 21** We give thanks for the work of the Rainbow Communion Listening Committee and for those who shared their stories. We pray that the wisdom shared in their report will guide the church to better love and support our LGBTQI+ siblings.

**Thursday, July 22** We pray for the Presbytery of Pictou's Ministry and Pastoral Oversight Committee. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence to strengthen, focus and lead their discernment.

**Friday, July 23** We give thanks and pray for deployed military chaplains who bring life, hope and joy to those who are far from home.

**Saturday, July 24** O God, you make us for work and rest. We pray for physical, mental, and spiritual restoration so that we may shed our weariness and enjoy peace and fellowship this summer.