

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
July 25th, 2021
9th Sunday after Pentecost**

**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 July 25. We will meet online for as long as people want to stay on at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. Services are primarily focused on the online presence for the moment, but people may also attend in the sanctuary if they wish, with masking and social distancing still required.

Call to worship

L: Great is the Lord who is worthy of praise.

P: No one can ever measure the greatness of our God.

L: Let us worship God who is faithful in all things.

P: We will sing of God's power and speak of God's loving kindness.

L: O God, we proclaim you our ruler in all things,

P: and we will praise your holy name forever and ever.

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: Gracious and generous God, we gather each week in wonder, marvelling at your mysterious presence in the awesome beauty of the world, and in surprising encounters in our lives. We gather with grateful hearts, amazed by the abundance in your creation, abundance we can share at our tables and in our communities, abundance in food, in friendship and in faithfulness. We gather with hopeful hearts, seeking another taste of your love for us, hoping that others will share in the wonders of that love. Your love for us all is mysterious and miraculous, O God, with the power to transform times that overwhelm us and lives that hunger for hope. We gather, trusting that you will move once again in our worship, and open before us the new possibilities you create for all your people in

Christ, the Bread of Life, bread for our journeys.

P: Gracious and Generous God, we gather each week to be fed by your love, trusting that you embrace each of our lives. We confess we are not nearly so generous with our love. We hold back what we have, fearful we lack enough for our own purposes and desires. We take advantage of opportunities for ourselves, and forget to see if someone else is in need. Forgive us, O God, when our fear makes us stingy with your gift of abundant love.

L: The Letter to the Ephesians declares that Christ dwells in our hearts through faith, for we are being rooted and grounded in his love. The forgiveness he offers is a gift of this love that is wider and deeper than we can ever imagine. Receive God's forgiveness with faithful hearts, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

P: We will, as God makes us able.

Responsive Psalm 14

L: Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'

P: They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is no one who does good.

L: The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

P: They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no, not one.

L: Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon the LORD?

P: There they shall be in great terror, for God is with the company of the righteous. You would confound the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge.

L: O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

P: When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

2 Samuel 11:1-15

¹ In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

² It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. ³ David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, 'This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite.' ⁴ So David sent messengers to fetch her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵ The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, 'I am pregnant.'

⁶ So David sent word to Joab, 'Send me Uriah the Hittite.' And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷ When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. ⁸ Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house, and wash your feet.' Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. ⁹ But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the

servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰ When they told David, 'Uriah did not go down to his house', David said to Uriah, 'You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?' ¹¹ Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing.' ¹² Then David said to Uriah, 'Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, ¹³ David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵ In the letter he wrote, 'Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die.'

Offertory: "I Believe"

C. Griffith

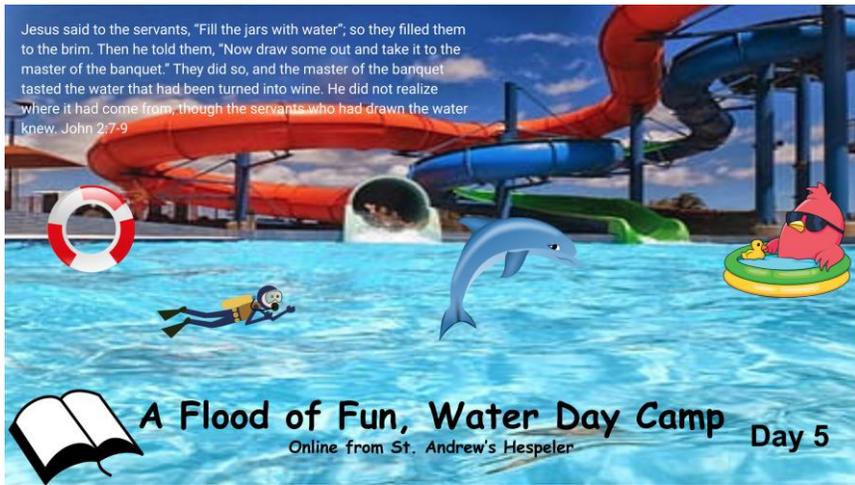
Celebration of our Generosity

Message: "David's Walk on the Roof"



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) for the month. In August there will be a new camp.



Summer Services

Throughout the summer, we will maintain our primary focus on online services. Thanks to changes in government restrictions, we can allow people back into the sanctuary for worship so you may come, if you choose, and be in the sanctuary while the online service is being broadcast. Social distancing and masks are still required, of course.

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.

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

Communion

Next Sunday, August 1, will be a celebration of communion. Please remember to prepare communion elements (Bread and wine in some form) for next Sunday. If you chose to come into the sanctuary, you will also need to bring you communion elements there.

Please Note: Paula is on holidays this week so the church will not be open on Monday morning.

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

Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

John 6:1-21

¹ After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³ Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴ Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵ When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?’ ⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷ Philip answered him, ‘Six months’ wages would not buy enough

bread for each of them to get a little.’ ⁸ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹ ‘There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?’ ¹⁰ Jesus said, ‘Make the people sit down.’ Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹² When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, ‘Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.’ ¹³ So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, ‘This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.’

¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰ But he said to them, ‘It is I; do not be afraid.’ ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

Mission Moment - July 25, 2021

Food Assistance Provides Comfort During Difficult Times

In Afghanistan, Razia and her four children lost their home when they could no longer afford to pay rent. Abandoned by her husband and left with few prospects to earn an income due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Razia and her children sought refuge in a spare room at the local mosque. Razia's son did small jobs to earn money, but it wasn't enough to sustain the family. Fortunately, the family was selected to be recipients of a food assistance project run by Community World Service Asia, a partner of Presbyterian World Service & Development. Monthly cash transfers were provided to 1,100 vulnerable families, including many who had returned to Afghanistan from Iran. "We were blessed as the cash helped us to purchase essential groceries. I have also bought warm clothing for my children so the winters will be warm and comfortable," Razia said.

Prayer Partnership

Sunday, July 25 We pray for people in Afghanistan whose livelihoods have been disrupted by COVID-19 and give thanks for the food assistance they've received through Presbyterian World Service & Development partners during these difficult times.

Monday, July 26 We give thanks for God's faithfulness and rejoice with the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria as it celebrates its 175th anniversary.

Tuesday, July 27 We pray that our African church sisters will be able to come together for the triennial Tumekutana conference for African women in Cameroon in 2022.

Wednesday, July 28 We pray for congregations as they discern who to call into positions of leadership.

Thursday, July 29 We pray for churches in the neighbourhoods where we live, and for growing relationships between denominations and church communities.

Friday, July 30 (World Day Against Trafficking in Persons) We pray for all victims and survivors of human trafficking, and we give thanks for those who work diligently to end all forms of human trafficking.

Saturday, July 31 We pray for the people, ministries, and mission of the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca.