

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
October 31st, 2021
Reformation Sunday**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
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Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Online Worship for October 31. We will meet online and in person at 10 am. The link will be posted on the website. If you wish to attend in person, screening, masking, and social distancing are still required. The session also requests people who attend in person be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 if they are eligible and it is medically possible.

Call to worship

L: Bless the Lord at all times;

P: God's praise will always be on our lips.

L: Make great the name of God;

P: We will lift up God's holy name together.

L: For the Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

P: We will love the Lord with heart, mind, strength and soul, and praise God now and always.

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God of goodness and purpose, in you we live and move and have our being. You are the Fountain of Life, and you refresh us. You are the Light of the world, and you show us the way. You are the Spirit of life, and you move in us each new day. So, we join our voices with the angels and archangels, with the saints and disciples of every time and place, to worship you as Creator, Healer, and Source of our hope and our joy. Praise be to you, God most holy, ever Three and ever One, world without end. Amen.

P: God of goodness and mercy, we confess that we have been indifferent to your will, staying silent when we should have spoken up for justice. We have heard your call to put our faith into action, but fear holds us back. There is work to be done in Jesus' name, but we often seek an easier way. Forgive us, O

God, and give us courage and commitment to serve as your saints in this time and this place, whatever the challenges may be.

L: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Know that you are forgiven by God's great mercy, and have the grace to forgive each other, just as you have been forgiven.

P: Amen!

315 A mighty fortress is our God

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a refuge never failing,
our helper sure amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe
yet seeks to work us woe
with craft and power great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth has not an equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not a Saviour on our side,
the One of God's own choosing.
Who is this Saviour, who?
Christ Jesus, living, true.
Lord Sabbaoth by name,
from age to age the same,

already wins the battle.

3. And though this world, with evil filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
the truth to triumph through us:
the powers of death and hell
our God will surely quell; their
rage we can endure,
for look! Their doom is sure:
one little word will fell them.

4. That Word above all earthly powers—
no thanks to them!—abiding,
ensures that all God's gifts are ours,
through Christ in us residing,
whose summons rings
above all goods, all earthly love.
Earth's powers waste away;
God's word endures always,
whose reign will last forever.

Responsive Psalm 119:1-8

L: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who
walk in the law of the LORD.

**P: Happy are those who keep his decrees, who
seek him with their whole heart, who also do
no wrong, but walk in his ways.**

L: You have commanded your precepts to be
kept diligently.

**P: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping
your statutes! Then I shall not be put to
shame, having my eyes fixed on all your
commandments.**

L: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I
learn your righteous ordinances.

**P: I will observe your statutes; do not utterly
forsake me.**

Ongoing life of the church

Scripture: (other lectionary readings below)

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

¹ Now this is the commandment—the
statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your
God charged me to teach you to observe in the
land that you are about to cross into and
occupy, ² so that you and your children and your
children's children may fear the LORD your God

all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees
and his commandments that I am commanding
you, so that your days may be long. ³ Hear
therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently,
so that it may go well with you, and so that you
may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk
and honey, as the LORD, the God of your
ancestors, has promised you.

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God,
the LORD alone. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your
God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your might. ⁶ Keep these words that
I am commanding you today in your
heart. ⁷ Recite them to your children and talk
about them when you are at home and when
you are away, when you lie down and when you
rise. ⁸ Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them
as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹ and write
them on the doorposts of your house and on
your gates.

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Mark 12:28-34

Read by Dean Davidson

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard
them disputing with one another, and seeing
that he answered them well, he asked him,
'Which commandment is the first of all?' ²⁹ Jesus
answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord
our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the
Lord your God with all your heart, and with all
your soul, and with all your mind, and with all
your strength." ³¹ The second is this, "You shall
love your neighbour as yourself." There is no
other commandment greater than
these.' ³² Then the scribe said to him, 'You are
right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is
one, and besides him there is no other"; ³³ and
"to love him with all the heart, and with all the
understanding, and with all the strength", and
"to love one's neighbour as oneself",—this is
much more important than all whole burnt-
offerings and sacrifices.' ³⁴ When Jesus saw that
he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not
far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one
dared to ask him any question.

Offertory: "Brothers/Sisters, We Have Met to
Worship", arranged by Harold DeCou
Martin Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity

Message: "How the Scribe Ended the Fighting"



Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

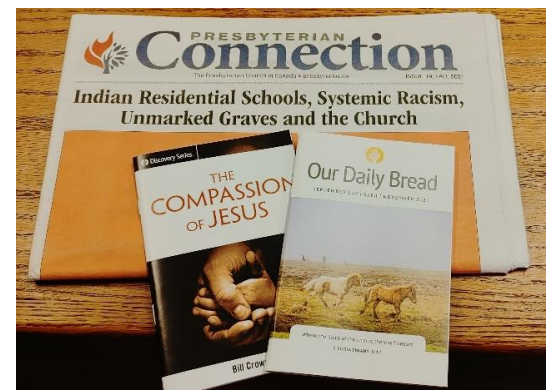
Benediction

Pastoral Care

There is some **good news** about pastoral care. The Cambridge Hospital is now allowing clergy visits for patients! Unfortunately, there is not yet a way for visiting clergy to look up on the list to see who might be in the hospital so, if you would like to request a hospital visit for a loved one, please do call the church to let us know that they are in the hospital.

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 November /December edition of Today
- * The September/October/November edition of Our Daily Bread
- * The fall edition of Presbyterian Connection
- * Printed copies of this bulletin each week.
- * Printed copies of Scott's most recent sermon each week.



Did you find out who our guest reader is for this week's lessons? Hint: look in the pews! Our Google Classroom is posted on the website: www.standrewshespeler.ca

The minister will be away for just a few days this week for some continuing education time. He'll be gone from this afternoon until Wednesday afternoon. If any urgent pastoral matters arise during that time, Rev. Bill Bynum of Knox Preston is available. Church Phone: 519-653-6691, personal phone: 519-616-9252.

Faith @ Home boxes will be delivered to our families soon! An email will go out before they are delivered so you know to expect them. This is a new program for our children and families.



Next Week's Sermon:

Elijah's Tips for Dealing with Scarcity



Other Lectionary Readings

Hebrews 9:11-14

¹¹ But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹² he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies

those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

Mission Moment – October 31, 2021

Relief Through Food Assistance

Mohammad and his family had to leave their home behind when COVID-19 made finding work difficult in their community in Afghanistan. Unfortunately, Mohammad and his father were seriously injured by a bomb blast on the journey. Mohammad's right knee now causes him a lot of pain. Mohammad still worked hard to provide for his family through the harsh winter, but it was far from enough. Things improved when the family was selected to take part in a food assistance project. Five monthly cash distributions were made to 1,100 vulnerable households—allowing families to purchase much-needed food and essential items. "This assistance has brought relief in my life," said Mohammad. This project is implemented by Community World Service Asia, a partner of Presbyterian World Service & Development.



Sunday, October 31 (Reformation Sunday)

Strengthen our hearts, O God; make them eager to serve you and your purposes. Trouble us with the smallness of our vision and waken us to the greatness of your glory and the breadth of your grace.

Monday, November 1 (All Saints Day) We thank God for knitting us into one common fellowship; for the people who have gone ahead of us in the faith and who loved us, formed our faith and served God with joy and grace.

Tuesday, November 2 We remember in prayer the Rev. Dr. Daniel D. Scott, Moderator of the 2021 General Assembly, as he connects with people and ministries of the church.

Wednesday, November 3 We pray for those who are mentors to candidates preparing to serve ministries within The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Thursday, November 4 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Quebec.

Friday, November 5 We thank God for protecting and encouraging the staff and volunteers at Edmonton Urban Native Ministries in Alberta and pray that all those involved in this beautiful ministry stay safe and healthy in the love of Christ who never fails us.

Saturday, November 6 We pray for the Women's Missionary Society Council Executive as they discuss plans for 2022.