

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
March 13th 2022
2nd Sunday in Lent**

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—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship for March 13. 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 required. The session requests that people who attend in person be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 if they are eligible and it is medically possible.

Lenten Candle Liturgy

Prayer (After the candle is extinguished)

P: Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, may we be open to your presence. Give us the strength to make the changes that are needed in our lives and the courage to take on the work of transforming the world. Amen.

Call to Worship

L: The Lord is our light and our salvation:

P: Of whom shall we be afraid?

L: The Lord is the stronghold of our life:

P: We will wait for the Lord in faithfulness.

L: Let us seek the Lord's face in this time of worship:

P: We will honour God's presence in our prayers and our praises!

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading: when things around us feel chaotic, you are peace. When so much we hear is not reliable, your word is truth. When we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety, your presence is freedom. When we feel bereft and helpless, your love gives us hope. God, you are the source of all that matters. We bring you our prayers and our praise this day, for you reveal yourself to us in the goodness of creation, in the love and mercy of Christ, your beloved, and through the energy and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We worship you, O God, ever Three and ever One, world without end. Amen.

P: God of compassion, We are creatures who seek our own comfort. We confess that we prefer our own plans to your purposes. We shrink from costly discipleship and put our own interests first. Forgive our fleeting commitment and the times we have indulged our own complaints. Have mercy on us.

Inspire us with the energy to do your will and serve our neighbours in the example of Christ, your Son and our Lord.

L: Friends in Christ, while it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another.

P: We will! Thanks be to God!

Hymn #15 The Lord's my light

1. The Lord's my light and saving health;
who shall make me dismayed?

God is the stronghold of my life:
who shall make me afraid?

2. Though wars arise and armies camp
against me, I'll not fear;

I will stand firm and confident:
I know that God is near.

3. One thing I asked of God the Lord,
and will seek to obtain, -
that all days of my life I may
within God's house remain,

4. that I the beauty of the Lord
may worship and admire,
that I in God's most holy place
may reverently enquire.

5. In evil, troubled days, my God
will hide and shelter me,
and raise me high upon a rock
above my enemy.

6. Now I will offer sacrifice
for all God's saving grace,
with melody unto the Lord
and joyful shouts of praise!

Psalm 27

L: The LORD is my light and my salvation;

P: whom shall I fear?

L: The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

P: of whom shall I be afraid?

L: When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my
adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

**P: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall
not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be
confident.**

L: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**P: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his
temple.**

L: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will
set me high on a rock.

**P: Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all
around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with
shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to
the LORD.**

L: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and
answer me!

**P: 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your
face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.**

L: Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have
been my help.

**P: Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my
salvation! If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.**

L: Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level
path because of my enemies.

**P: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for
false witnesses have risen against me, and they are
breathing out violence.**

L: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the
land of the living.

**P: Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take
courage; wait for the LORD!**

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Read by Scott McAndless

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to
Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your
shield; your reward shall be very great.' ² But Abram said,
'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue

childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of
Damascus?' ³ And Abram said, 'You have given me no
offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my
heir.' ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man
shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue
shall be your heir.' ⁵ He brought him outside and said,
'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able
to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your
descendants be.' ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and
the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you
from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to
possess.' ⁸ But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know
that I shall possess it?' ⁹ He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer
three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram
three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' ¹⁰ He
brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each
half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in
two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the
carcasses, Abram drove them away.

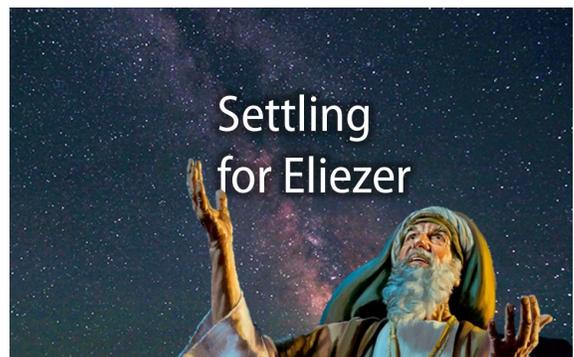
¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon
Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended
upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a
smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between
these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant
with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land,
from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river
Euphrates.'

Offertory: Grazioso by G. P. Telemann

Martin Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity



Sermon: "Settling for Eliezer"

Hymn #331 The God of Abraham praise

1. The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned
above,

ancient of everlasting days, and God of love.

Almighty, great I Am! By earth and heaven confessed,
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

2. The God of Abraham praise, at whose supreme command
from earth I rise and seek the joys at God's right hand.
I all on earth forsake, its wisdom, fame and power,
the Lord my only portion make, my shield and tower.

6. The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high;
"Hail, Father, Son and Holy Ghost" they ever cry.
Hail Abraham's God, and mine! I join the heavenly lays;
all might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

Other Lectionary Readings:

Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables

him to make all things subject to himself. ¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Luke 13:31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' ³² He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

We need some help! Our youth are planning to meet this Wednesday, March 16th, from 11:00 am—1:00 pm. We are going to start off helping Hope Clothing switch over to spring & summer, then we are going to have a pizza lunch together. We would like to have someone pick up our pizza and bring it to the church for us. If you could help by doing this, please speak with Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca). Thank you for your help!

This Lenten activity for next week, March 20th:

Each family will be encouraged to bake bread together, recipes will be posted online and included in the Family Faith @ Home packages. To remind us of The Good of God, we will also paint symbols on stones to resemble a loaf of bread. Painting rock kits will also be included in the Family Faith @ Home packages. People will have a choice of putting them in their own gardens or in the stones (looking out the window of room 206) at church.

All members of St. Andrew's are encouraged to join with the families in these activities.

Mission Moment – Sunday, March 13

In Afghanistan, Fatima had always dreamed of attending school. However, most schools were far from her home and, as a girl, it was unsafe for her to travel to them. At the age of 10, Fatima's dreams finally came true. She learned about a school near her village and persuaded her father to enroll her.

"After completing my studies, I will become a teacher and become a role model for other girls and women in our village," Fatima shared.

Though the current political situation in Afghanistan has left many children uncertain about their futures, Fatima prays that she will be

able to continue her education beyond primary school. This education project is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development.



News for Families:

- porch drop offs will continue to be made through out Lent and Easter.
- Congratulations to the Marsh family. They remain our Jeopardy champions. Another games night will happen soon. Keep checking your bulletins and emails for dates and time. Everyone is welcome to join us - you don't have to be a trivia expert - this is just for fun.
- our Faith @ Home online room is posted on our website, Facebook and Twitter every Saturday morning. These posts are new each week. Check out some of the bible stories, readings and activities as you have time throughout the week.



Let us Join in Prayer

Sunday, March 13 (Second Sunday in Lent) Loving God, nurture our faith so that we may love you and trust you more fully.

Monday, March 14 We give thanks for programs the church supports through Presbyterian World Service & Development that empower girls to rise above disadvantage and discrimination to pursue their goals.

Tuesday, March 15 We pray for those in the Order of Diaconal Ministries who are called to serve the church in the areas of Christian education, pastoral care and social ministries.

Wednesday, March 16 We pray for professors and students at the Vancouver School of Theology in British Columbia.

Thursday, March 17 We pray for those who receive and count our offering. May they feel God's blessing as they do these important tasks for God.

Friday, March 18 We give thanks for the support the church provides through Presbyterian World Service & Development to facilitate access to clean water and sanitation training sessions that help communities stay healthy and prevent the spread of disease.

Saturday, March 19 We pray for church planting initiatives in the church.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

This week's needs for Food Bank
(on Thursdays):

Milk & eggs! Thank you for helping to provide nutritious food for people in our community.

A reminder from Hope Clothing.

As of Tuesday we will no longer be able to accept winter clothing, outerwear or boots. We will be switching over to spring/summer wear this week and will have a limited supply of winter clothing. Specific needs for Hope Clothing this week will be: men's size 4X clothing, tooth paste and shampoo. Thank you for your continued support.

Congratulations to the girls of the Glimmer Athletic Rhythmic Gymnastics group. They have just returned from a Grand Prix competition in Estonia where they finished twelfth in the world! They have been training in our gymnasium for several years.