

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
March 20th 2022
3rd Sunday in Lent**

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

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship for March 20. 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 and Prayer

P: Draw us together in your love, O God. May our restless hearts not resist you, but continue to search until they find their rest in you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Call to Worship

L: Seek the Lord while God may be found. Call upon God who is near.

P: We will return to the Lord our God.

L: God's thoughts are not our thoughts. God's ways are not our ways.

P: We come, seeking new paths to follow.

L: As the heavens are higher than the earth so are God's ways higher than ours.

P: We come as pilgrims on the journey, praising God along the way. Let us worship God with thankful hearts!

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: God, our Creator and Sustainer, in you we live and move and have our being. In your depths we find meaning; in your heights we find light and joy. You are the source of peace and hope for all who turn to you. You alone have been our help and our guide; you give us strength and courage when we face challenges. In you we find rest and welcome along the way. We praise you, O God, for your steadfast love. Draw near to us once more in this time of worship. Reveal your purposes for us and prepare us for the days ahead so that our lives may witness to your mercy and grace as we follow Jesus.

P: God of grace and mercy, We confess that our thoughts are so often not your thoughts; our ways are rarely your ways. Our tempers are short and we fail to act with kindness. Our confidence is weak and

we treat others without respect. Our faith falters and we lose track of you. Forgive the many ways we fail you, and inspire us to follow you more faithfully.

L: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. By Christ's mercy, we can make a fresh start following him.

P: Thanks be to God!

Hymn #190 You thirsty ones

1. You thirsty ones! Come to the spring!

Have you no money? Come,
buy wine and milk! Come, buy and eat,
without a price or sum.

2. Why do you work and earn and spend
on that which is not bread?

Oh listen now and come to me;
eat what is good instead.

3. This food delights and satisfies,
the food your God can give;
incline your ear and come to me;
oh hear that you may live.

4. Return while God may still be found
and call while God will hear;
now let the wicked quit their ways,
while yet the Lord is near.

5. My word like heaven's snow descends;
it falls like heaven's rain;
It waters all the thirsty earth
and shall not go in vain.

Psalm 63:1-8

L: O God, you are my God, I seek you,

P: my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

L: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

P: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

L: So I will bless you as long as I live;

P: I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

L: My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,

P: and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

L: My soul clings to you;

P: your right hand upholds me.

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture:

Isaiah 55:1-9

Read by Joni Smith

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Offertory: Lamb of God by J. Pachelbel

Martin Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: "Crazy Scott's Discount Emporium"



Hymn #366 Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts

1. Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts,
thou fount, thou light for all to see:
from the best bliss that earth imparts
we turn unfilled again to thee.

2. Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;
thou savest those that on thee call;
to those who seek thee thou art good;
to those who find thee, all in all.

3. We taste thee, O thou living bread,
and long to feast upon thee still;
we drink of thee, the fountainhead,
and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

4. For thee our restless spirits yearn
where'er our changeful lot is cast,
glad when thy gracious smile we see,
blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

5. O Jesus, always with us stay;
make all our moments calm and bright;
chase the dark night of sin away;
shed o'er the world thy holy light.

Prayers of the people (using chat to share requests)

Benediction

Other Lectionary Readings:

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 13:1-9

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?' ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

⁶ Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" ⁸ He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Wendy Seunath and her family following the passing of Wendy's mother, Cynthia Lutchman, earlier this week. A memorial service for Cynthia is being planned for this coming Saturday at St. Andrew's Hespeler at 11 am. Please watch for details.

This week's Lenten Activity: Forgiveness

Each child will be given clay. They will create a clay sculpture that has two pieces. When both pieces are fitted together they will become a whole. Families will be encouraged to give the sculptures names (of something or an attitude that needs to be changed to - back to week #1), to suggest it represents reconciliation. Materials will be included in the Family Faith @ Home packages.

Others in the congregation will be encouraged to draw and colour their sculptures and follow the same naming ideas. Patterns will be available at church and posted online.

Mission Moment – Sunday, March 20

Through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, The Presbyterian Church in Canada is able to support many important outreach ministries associated with Cyclical PCC, a church planting support initiative. One such ministry is Cornerstone Ministries. Cornerstone Ministries provides Christian hope and healing through innovative and supportive practices to struggling single moms and families in the Dunnville area of Ontario. Since moving most of their ministry work online, many

more people have been positively impacted by Cornerstone. Through outreach, counselling and practical support, over 200 local families have come to know the God who loves them, helping them to blossom in faith, courage and wholeness.



News for Families:

- Faith @ Home packages will be delivered weekly during Lent and Easter. Please check your porches, usually Monday mornings.
- Don't forget to check out our Faith @ Home online room. It is posted on our website, Facebook page and twitter each Saturday morning. You are free to check in whenever you have time throughout the week. There are Bible readings, stories to listen to and activities to find, all new each week.



Let us Join in Prayer

Sunday, March 20 (Third Sunday in Lent) God of Life, help us to hear your Word to us in the scriptures so that we may become instruments of your saving love in the world.

Monday, March 21 (International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination) God of Truth, we pray that your Spirit guides us to work in faithful solidarity to eliminate race-based violence and prejudice so that all people may flourish.

Tuesday, March 22 (World Water Day) We give thanks for the sacred gift of water. Let us work to ensure that all people have access to safe water in Canada and abroad.

Wednesday, March 23 We pray for the members and work of the Life and Mission Agency Committee.

Thursday, March 24 We pray for the Caribbean and North America Council for Mission (CANACOM) and for Jennifer Martin and Leslene Laing as they support the 14 member churches.

Friday, March 25 We pray for the people who gather and serve at the Anamiewiggumig Fellowship Centre in Kenora, Ontario, and we give thanks for their mission and ministry.

Saturday, March 26 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Newfoundland.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Thank you, to our youth, who came out on Wednesday to help Hope Clothing switch from winter to spring/summer and to clean up and organize a storage area. You are all extremely efficient! We also enjoyed a pizza lunch together.



Food Bank needs this week: milk, cheese, vegetables such as carrots or onions.

Hope Clothing needs this week: we are switching over to warm weather clothing, so anything for spring and summer would be helpful.