

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
May 15th, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

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

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship for May 15, 2022. 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 encouraged.

Welcome and introduction

Call to worship:

L: Praise the Lord!

P: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

L: Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all creatures high and low!

P: Rulers of the earth and all peoples, praise God's holy name!

L: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

P: With voices united, let us praise the Lord!

Prayer of Approach and Confession

L: Holy God, the first and the last, beginning and end of all things, you are worthy of praise from all your creation. Sun, moon, and stars praise you. Earth, sea, and sky praise you. Every living thing praises you in its own way. And so we praise you in our human diversity, joining our varied voices with all your creatures in heaven and on earth. You fill our lives with the wonder of your love in Christ Jesus. Your Spirit moves throughout the world to reveal your purposes for every living thing. Receive our prayers and praise this day, for you are the Source of our life and our hope, Holy God, ever Three and Ever One.

P: Loving God, Jesus commanded us to love one another so the world would know we follow him. Yet we confess we do not always love one another, not the way Jesus loves us. The world has seen our squabbling, our history of hypocrisy, and our lack of compassion for those who don't measure up. Loving God, forgive us. Lord Jesus, continue to love us. Holy Spirit, fill us with love, so that the world will witness your love in our words and actions. Amen.

L: Jesus taught us that no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. Christ has laid

down his life for us and invites us to love one another as he has loved us.

P: Let us rejoice in his forgiving love and share it with each other day by day!

Responsive Psalm 148

L: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

P: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

L: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

P: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

L: Praise the LORD from the earth,

P: you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

P: Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

L: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!

P: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

L: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him.

P: Praise the LORD!

Life and Work of the Church

Hymn #730 O for a world

1. O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

2. O for a world where goods are shared
And misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared,
Equality achieved.

3. We welcome one world family
And struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity
And gives our vision voice.

4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong,
the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,
who perishes will rise.

5. O for a world preparing for
God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more,
and all but love will cease.

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Scripture reading

Acts 11:1-18

Read by Alexis Smith

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ⁸ But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷ **If then God gave**

them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Children's Message: Boundary Breaking

Hymn #373 Jesus loves me, this I know

1. Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so,
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

3. Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

Refrain

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Offertory: Marche Religieuse by W.A. Mozart M. Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity

Message: The Scandal of God's Grace

Hymn #680 Christ, of all my hopes the ground

1. Christ, of all my hopes the ground,
Christ, the spring of all my joy,
still in thee may I be found,
still for thee my powers employ

2. Let thy love my heart inflame,
keep thy fear before my sight,
be thy praise my highest aim,
be thy smile my chief delight

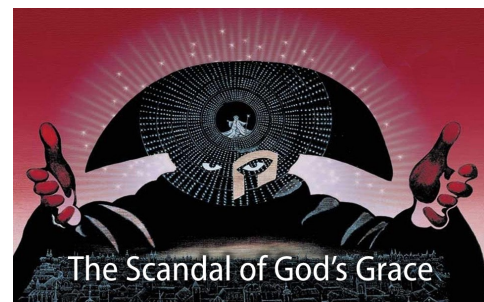
3. Fountain of o'erflowing grace,
freely from thy fullness give,
as I run this earthly race,
may I prove it Christ to live

4. Thus, O God, an entrance give
to thy city, drawing nigh,
having known it Christ to live,
let me know it gain to die.

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Prayers of the People

Benediction



Rev. Scott will be away for a week of Continuing Education starting tomorrow, May 16. Rev. Bill Bynum is available should any urgent pastoral care is needed (519-616-9252)

We are pleased to welcome Paula Rumbolt as guest preacher next Sunday.

Current Needs:

For Food Bank: milk, eggs, cheese.

For Hope Clothing: gently used towels and sheets.



Your help is needed! On Wednesday, May 18, 9:30 – 10:30 am we will be putting all of the bibles, hymn books, etc. back in the pews. If you are able to help out that would be great! Many hands make light work.

Welcome to St. Andrew's Family & Children's Ministries Google Classroom. By clicking on different items you will find bible readings & stories, music, activities and prayers.



News for Families

Every week there is a new online Faith @ Home room. In this room you can find bible readings, bible stories, prayers, activities and more! You can visit the room anytime during the week as your time allows.

Children and families are encouraged to worship with us now. Our worship services are family friendly, with Children's Message and activities. If you have any questions please ask Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca).

Opportunities to Serve

As we get back to "normal" there are many ways that we can serve and participate in the life of St. Andrew's. Please prayerfully consider getting involved. Here is a list (but opportunities are not limited to this list!) of some areas we need help:

- ◇ Serving at Food Bank on Thursdays. Food bank runs from noon—2:00 pm, but we start setting up about 10:30 am
- ◇ Helping with a somewhat modified Thursday Night Supper & Social in the fall
- ◇ Helping to weed the flower beds in the summer
- ◇ Helping out with our booth at the Hespeler Music Festival on July 9th, various times throughout the day
- ◇ Helping out with our booth at the Hespeler Village Market on a Friday evening (date to be determined)
- ◇ Recording scripture readings, to be used for Faith @ Home and in our worship services
- ◇ Greeters
- ◇ Beadles (bringing the Word of God into the sanctuary and going out into the world with it; essentially bringing the bible into church and walking it back out at the end of worship)
- ◇ Soundboard techs and Zoom hosts (training provided)

Please speak with Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca) if any of these opportunities call to you! Thank you.

Other Lectionary Readings:

Revelation 21:1-6

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶ Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Many thanks to Karen N, Brenda & Jocelyn for cleaning our kitchens. **The Health Inspector said they are the cleanest community kitchens they've seen in quite a while.** Thank you ladies! Thanks Glen too for taking care of the floors!

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Mission Moment – Sunday, May 15

In Malawi, unreliable rainfall patterns are a significant issue affecting farmers. As a result of climate change, these unpredictable rains greatly impact food security and limit what farmers can and cannot plant. To assist farmers in Malawi's Karonga District, workshops that teach conservation agriculture techniques are held. Farmers learn how to use mulch and make compost to nourish

the soil and grow better crops. Farmers also learn other essential techniques, including weed and pest management, to address the ongoing challenges of climate change. **Since implementing a conservation agriculture approach, many farmers have significantly increased their crop yields.** This agricultural project is supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development, in partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



Let us Join in Prayer

Sunday, May 15 We give thanks for Presbyterian World Service & Development partners who teach farmers in Malawi about conservation agriculture, helping them to protect and revitalize life-giving soil and cultivate plentiful harvests.

Monday, May 16 We pray for those who have suffered racial discrimination within the church. May we, as a church, take action to repent of the harm that has been caused by acts of discrimination.

Tuesday, May 17 (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia) We pray for an end to all forms of hatred and discrimination that target LGBTQI2+ people. As a church, we have been part of this harm, and we repent.

Wednesday, May 18 We pray for new graduates of our theological colleges who are patiently listening to God and seeking a call to congregational ministry.

Thursday, May 19 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Halifax and Lunenburg in Nova Scotia.

Friday, May 20 We give thanks for the mission and ministry of Place of Hope Indigenous Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and for the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Margaret Mullin.

Saturday, May 21 We pray for those planning the 2022 General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, which will meet online beginning June 5.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action