

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

September 04, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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 Sept.04, 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

Call to Worship

L: Joy comes to those who follow the ways of the Lord.

P: **We will follow the Lord with joyful hearts!**

L: Those who follow the Lord are like trees planted by the river, bearing fruit each season.

P: **May our lives be fruitful and blessed by God!**

L: Worship the Lord who leads us to joy and abundance.

P: **Let us worship God now and for all our days.**

Opening Prayers:

L: God of all creation, you have opened the world around us and filled it with creatures of your love and purpose. Each one declares your praise – the mountain states your majesty; the ripened field, your generosity. Birds flying aloft sing of your freedom; the tiny ant works with your persistence. And what do we declare about you in our lives? We pray that our work will honour your justice and mercy; may our relationships speak of your love and compassion. So may we praise you, O God, not just in this hour of worship, but in all our waking and our working. Challenge us today to live out the praise we offer you through the grace of Jesus Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Through the grace of Jesus Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

P: **God of justice and mercy, we offer you our love and loyalty in worship yet we admit we do not live out that love and loyalty. We don't always act on our good intentions, we fail to keep our promises, we hurt each other, and then refuse to seek or offer forgiveness. People must look at us and wonder if this is what means to follow Jesus.**

Hymn #634 Will you come and follow me

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show,
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Words: copyright © WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland), 1987

Responsive Reading: Psalm 139: 1-18

L: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**P: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

L: You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**P: Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.**

L: You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**P: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

L: Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

**P: If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

L: If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

**P: even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

L: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"

**P: even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

L: For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**P: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully
made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very
well.**

L: My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

**P: Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**

L: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

**P: I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you**

Life and Work of the Church

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1: 1-14

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus:2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Invitation to the Offering

Instrumental: Martin Bohl

Prayer for Offering

Sermon

Hymn #570 I have decided to follow Jesus

1. I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus,
no turning back, no turning back.
2. The world behind me, the cross before me;
the world behind me, the cross before me;
the world behind me, the cross before me,
no turning back, no turning back.
3. Though none go with me, I still will follow;
though none go with me, I still will follow;
though none go with me, I still will follow,
no turning back, no turning back.
4. Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
Will you decide now to follow Jesus?
No turning back, no turning back.

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude: Martin Bohl

Daily Prayers

Sunday, September 4 We give thanks for programs the church supports through Presbyterian World Service & Development that empower girls to rise above disadvantage and pursue their goals.

Monday, September 5 (Labour Day) We give thanks to God for tasks completed with pride, for work to do, and for the strength and ability to do it; and we pray for those who do not have enough work and for those who have too much.

Tuesday, September 6 We pray for the Rev. Victor Kim as he commences his ministry as Principal Clerk of the General Assembly.

Wednesday, September 7 We pray for the members and work of the Committee on History.

Thursday, September 8 (World Literacy Day) We pray for Presbyterian World Service & Development partners in Afghanistan, Guatemala and Malawi as they teach children and youth to read and write.

Friday, September 9 We pray for the Protestant Theological Seminary in Matanzas, equipping pastors and being a prophetic voice in Cuban society for over 76 years.

Saturday, September 10 We pray that new students at our theological colleges, particularly international students, find strength and friendship in this community of learning.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



**Prayer
Partnership**
Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Mission Moment – Sunday, Sept.4th

Vanea is 15 years old and lives in Malawi with her parents and four siblings. When Vanea finished primary school, she wrote an entrance exam for secondary school and was selected to attend the Neno Girls School, supported by the PCC through Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D). Sadly, Vanea's parents couldn't afford the school fees and she was forced to withdraw. PWS&D recognizes the importance of education for young girls to achieve their dreams and gain self-confidence. PWS&D provides scholarships for orphans and vulnerable girls in Malawi to attend the Neno Girls School, who otherwise could not afford to due to financial constraints. Vanea was one of the students selected for this scholarship and is now completing her high school education

