

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
September 11, 2022
14th Sunday after Pentecost**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
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519-658-2652**

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Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca

Website: www.standrewshespeler.ca

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship. 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. This will be a communion service. If you are joining us remotely, please prepare bread and wine (or substitutes) so that you may participate with us.

Welcome

Responsive Call to Worship

L: O God, you have searched us and known us.

P: You know when we sit down and when we rise up.

L: You discern our thoughts from far away.

P: Before a word is on our tongues, Lord, you know it completely.

L: Such knowledge is too wonderful for us, and so we humble ourselves in worship.

P: In this hour, search us and know our hearts, O God, and lead us in the way everlasting.

Opening Prayers:

L: Storytelling God, we gather in your presence this day, called by the stories of your people over the centuries. You are the source of wisdom we seek, Your mercy eases the troubles that stir our hearts. And we come to praise you, for your stories have the power to challenge us and change us. Draw near to us as we draw near to you this day. Tell us the stories that will change our lives, through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

P: We gather in Jesus' name to hear the stories he told, to gain wisdom and to know your Spirit's guidance. Yet we confess that pride prevents us from hearing the good news and that we resist the power of your Word to change us. Forgive what we have been, help us amend who we are and set us free to be who you have called us to be.

L: St Paul asked, "Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us". Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's most generous grace.

P: Thanks be to God!

Hymn #290 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unchanging and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither, and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: oh help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Words: Public Domain

Psalm 104:14-23

Family Song: Jesus Loves the Little Children

1. Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Stranger, friend, and neighbour too,
He loves them as he loves you.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.
2. Jesus accepts the little children,
Welcomes them just as they are.
Stranger, friend, and neighbour too,
He loves them no matter who.
Jesus accepts all the children of the world.

3. Jesus values little children.

They are precious in his sight.
Stranger, friend, and neighbour too,
We can value them all too.

Jesus values little children of the world.

*Words: v. 1 Matt Neufeld 2,3 S McAndless
Based on a song by Clare H. Woolston
Public Domain*

Children's Time

Life and work of the church

Scripture: Exodus 32:7-14

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Offertory: "Prelude on an Old Irish Tune" C.V. Stanford
Martin Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity



Sermon: A God who Repents?

Hymn #738 God the omnipotent

1. God the omnipotent sovereign, ordaining
great winds your clarions and lightnings your sword,
show forth your mercy: alone you are reigning.
Give to us peace. in our time, O Lord.
2. God the all-merciful, earth has forsaken
meekness and mercy and slighted your word;
bid not your wrath in its terrors awaken.
Give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
3. God the all-righteous, we have defied you;
yet to eternity firm stands your word;
falsehood and wrong shall not stand long beside you.
Give to us peace in our time, O Lord.
4. God the all-wise, by the fire of your chastening
earth shall to freedom and truth be restored.
Through the thick darkness your Kingdom is
hastening.
You will give peace in your time, O Lord.
5. So shall your children, with thankful devotion,
praise God who saved them from peril and sword,
singing in chorus, from ocean to ocean,
peace to the nations and praise to the Lord.

Words: Public domain

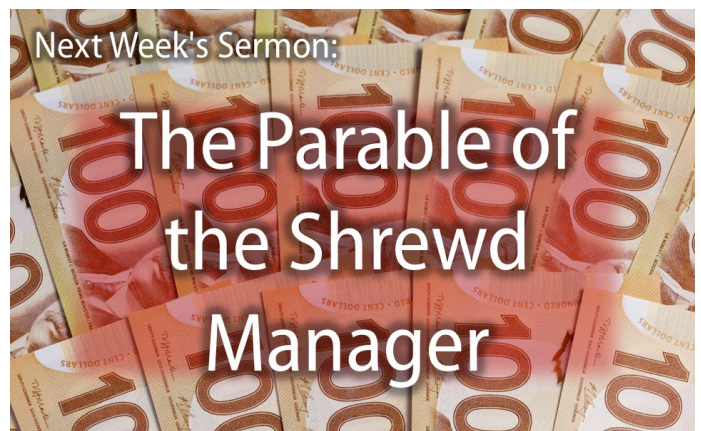
Celebration of Communion

- Invitation
- Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
- Act of Remembrance
- Epiclesis
- Sharing the Bread and Wine

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude: "Postlude by F. Lubrich" Martin Bohl



Introducing our new Family Playlist! Each week a new playlist will be posted online for families to access throughout the week. Included on the playlist are links to bible readings, music, activities and more. Everyone is welcome to check this out at any time during the week. It will be posted every Saturday morning at 8:00 am.

Families are encouraged to attend church with their children, as your comfort level with COVID permits. At this time we have moved to an intergenerational style worship service. Each worship service will include a time for the children and activity packages for the children to work with during worship. These packages are created to help our children connect with our worship service. Movers, wigglers and gigglers are all welcome. The sound of children in the sanctuary is a blessing that we all enjoy.

Plans are being made for opportunities for our youth to meet. Once everyone gets back in the routine of school, families please watch your emails for more information. If you have questions please speak with Joni, jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca.

Daily Prayers

Sunday, September 11 We pray for the Rev. Michael Veenema and the REACH ministry in Nova Scotia.

Monday, September 12 We give thanks and pray for teachers and all those who support education in schools.

Tuesday, September 13 We pray for the members and work of the Committee on Church Doctrine.

Wednesday, September 14 We pray for clergy who are beginning their service in active ministry in their first pastoral charges, as well as for clergy who are entering retirement.

Thursday, September 15 We pray for the members and work of the National Indigenous Ministry Council.

Friday, September 16 We pray for LGBTQI2+ refugees seeking sanctuary. We pray for their safety and give thanks for their sponsors.

Saturday, September 17 We pray for members of the Atlantic Mission Society as they meet online for their Annual Meeting today.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



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

Mission Moment – Sunday, September 11

Inspired by the early apostles, the Rev. Mike Veenema launched REACH, a ministry that takes place in the streets, screens, homes and public institutions of Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. REACH focuses on gathering people to worship and become disciples of Jesus Christ. Central to this ministry is Mike's willingness to go out and draw people together in worship where they are. As the Rev. Mike himself described, "Whether they are in custody, in long-term care, struggling on the streets, or in their homes, I go to where they are." Mike receives coaching and training support through Cyclical PCC, a church-planting initiative that is supported by gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.



Other lectionary readings this week:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes

were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Faith @ Home boxes are being prepared. They will include something new for families this year! If you still have your Faith @ Home box at home, please make arrangements with Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca) to have it returned. Thank you!

Ellis Chapel is closing its 2022 summer season with an afternoon of toe-tapping music on **Sunday October 2 at 2 pm**. A Canadian bluegrass band, **Rescue Junction**, is presenting a concert of gospel, traditional and contemporary bluegrass music. Admission is by donation and includes refreshments following the concert. The chapel is located at 6705 Ellis Road, Puslinch Township. **Hope to see you there!**



Special thanks to Brenda and Karen N. for making the church look so nice for the fall this week!