

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
December 4th, 2022
Second Sunday in Advent**

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

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 9am-12pm

Order of Worship. We will meet in person at 10 am. You may also join us online. 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 so, if you are participating remotely, please prepare communion elements at home.



Prelude Sonata in F by D. Scarlatti

Welcome

Lighting of the Peace Candle The Cann Family
L: In this season of Advent, we celebrate God's peace.

P: Jesus Christ, born the Prince of Peace, calls our community to justice and leads us in the way of peace.

L: We call one another to honesty and humility and respond to each other with abundant grace and forgiveness.

P: Our community values relationships. We live in harmony with one another even when we disagree, and strive to glorify God in everything we do.

L: Our community longs for unity. We work together with other churches and organizations, and live out God's reconciling love for all the world to see.

P: Together, we are a sign of God's peace in the world.
(The candle is lit)

L: Let us pray:

P: God of all people and all nations, you break through the cynicism of our world and lead us like a gentle

shepherd. Open our eyes to see the signs of your coming kingdom and inspire us to participate in all you are doing in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sung Response:

The call to peace rings in our ears when all around is raging.

Within, without temptation shouts – our wrathful whims engaging.

Wait, wait, our Saviour's near: our weapons drop to the ground here.

Be joined in family, the holy fire of Advent.

Prayer of Confession

P: God of peace and promise, we confess that we have taken your commitment to us for granted. We assume what we do is acceptable to you, yet we judge others more harshly. We have been slow to welcome others, especially if their cultures or convictions differ from ours. You call us to repentance, but we resist seeing anything needing change in our hearts or our habits. Forgive our self-satisfied attitudes, and challenge us with your vision of a peaceable kingdom where all can be made new.

L: Receive the Good News in peace. With great mercy, God forgives what we have confessed and offers us new life in Christ. Receive the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

P: We will. Amen!

Song 1: Bist du bei mir by Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel
(previously attr. JS Bach)

Hymn #122 Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel (v.1,4,6,7)

1. Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
4. Oh come, thou Branch of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
6. Oh come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
7. Oh come, desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart, one mind;
Bid envy, strife and discord cease
And be thyself our source of peace.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Public domain

Responsive Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

L: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

P: May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.

L: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

L: May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

P: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

L: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound,

P: until the moon is no more.

L: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

P: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

Song 2: Deep River - African America spiritual, arr. Carol Tornquist

Video Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 Sharon Leamy

Hymn #133 Go, tell it on the mountain

Chorus: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks
by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Chorus*

2. The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo, above
the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth! *Chorus*

3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Chorus

Words: adaptation, copyright © John W Work, 1940

Family Time

Life and work of the church

Offertory: "Alleluya Sing to Jesus" by Henry Coleman
Martin Bohl

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: Building True Peace

Hymn #529 O Holy Father, God most dear

1. O Holy Father, God most dear,
behold us round thine altar here;
accept for sacrifice, we pray,
the common food we here display.
For bread set forth, for wine outpoured,
we bless thee, all-creating Lord.

2. O Christ, who at the supper board
took bread and wine and spoke the word,
and, in that solemn paschal meal,
gave flesh and blood our wound to heal,
for us redeemed, for life restored,
we bless thee, all-creating Word.

3. O Holy Spirit, be thou nigh
this bread and cup to sanctify
that, eating of the food unpriced,
we form one body, one in Christ.
Redeemed, restored in unity,
we bless thee, Holy Trinity

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Celebration of Communion

- Invitation
- Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
- Words of Institution
- Epiclesis
- Sharing in the bread and wine

Song 3: In The River - lyrics by Mona Moussa, music by Corey Linforth

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude: Just a Closer Walk with Thee - African American spiritual, arr. Erinn Jarell Schwarz

Other lectionary readings this week:

Romans 15:4-13

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,

and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,

the one who rises to rule the gentiles;

in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:1-12

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Next Week’s Sermon:

John’s Dashed
Hope,
Jesus’ Joy

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Hazel Bailey and her family on the death of Hazel’s husband, Aubrey Donald Bailey. Please keep this family in your prayers at this difficult time.



WWJD

In the next couple of weeks we will be celebrating our programs, volunteers and YOU! But today, we are going to focus on the “Why.” Why do we have our outreach programs? What’s the point? Two very special stories will be shared during the worship service. If you are unable to attend worship we encourage you to find the recording of our service on YouTube or Facebook afterwards and listen to these stories.

Thanks to Yake Engineering & Sound for repairing some of our equipment needed for livestreaming. Yake did this work as a courtesy to St. Andrew’s.

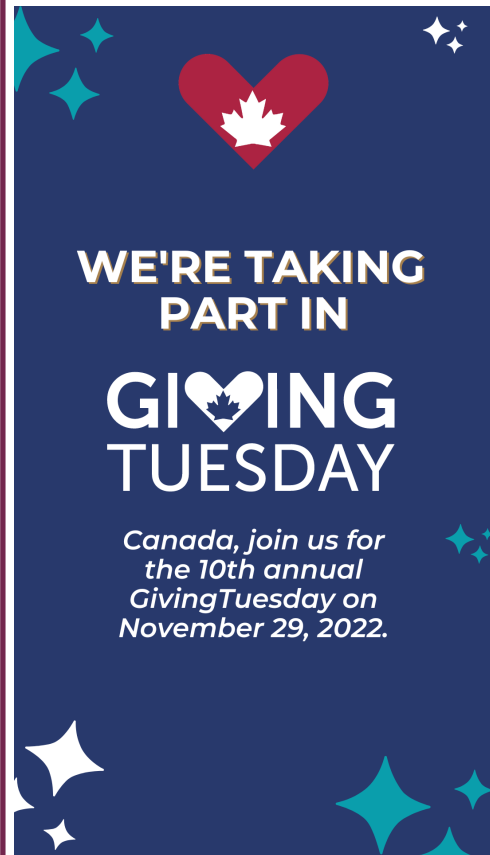
This week at St. Andrew’s:

Monday: **Breakfast on Queen,**
(6:30—8:30 am)

Tuesday: **Hope Clothing**
(9:00—11:30 am)

Thursday: **Hope Clothing and Food Bank,** noon—2:00 pm

Thursday: **Thursday Night Supper & Social,** 5:30—6:45 pm



We were invited, by the Cambridge Highlands Lions Club, to a special presentation on Monday evening. At this presentation several cheques were presented to many local charities and not for profits and we were honoured to be a part of this group. The Cambridge Highlands Lions Club presented us with a case of beautiful, brand new, children’s winter coats and a cheque for \$1000 for support of Hope Clothing and our meal programs. A HUGE shout out to the Cambridge Highlands Lions Club, your support means so much to these outreach programs.



We give thanks to those who were involved in worship this morning.

Greeter: Lynn Platt

Beadle: Joanne Waugh

Tech Team: Laura Einwechter & Dylan Smith

Cake & Refreshments: Jean Godin, Jean McMurtrie & Brenda Holm

Organist: Martin Bohl

Communion Servers: Jean Godin, Vern Platt

We are very pleased to welcome our very special musical guest this morning, Corey Linforth. Of course, Corey is not merely an extraordinary musician (a soprano of exceptional ability) to us. She is also a friend who served St. Andrew's Hespeler as an amazing Music Director for many years. She taught us so much and brought out many talents and abilities from our various choir and ensemble members. She brought us together in worship and in song and we are extraordinarily grateful. We are happy to watch as she takes on new projects and racks up new achievements. We eagerly watch to see where your career will take you next, Corey.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 4 (Second Sunday of Advent) Give us peace in our relationships, homes, churches, communities and in our souls, O God, as we prepare to welcome Christ among us again.

Monday, December 5 We pray for Omar Haramy, Director of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem, and Palestinian Christians as they work for justice and engage in peacebuilding.

Tuesday, December 6 Today marks 33 years since the École Polytechnique massacre in Montreal, Quebec. On this day in 1989, 14 women were killed and other women, as well as men, were wounded. We pray for healing and comfort for all who lost loved ones that day and for an end to the misogyny that leads to gender-based violence.

Wednesday, December 7 We pray for the development and implementation of stronger laws and policies that protect women and their rights.

Thursday, December 8 We pray for the people who gather and serve at Hummingbird Ministries in Vancouver, British Columbia, and we give thanks for their ministry.

Friday, December 9 We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee, which meets this month at the national office of the PCC.

Saturday, December 10 (Human Rights Day) We pray for individuals and organizations defending human rights in Canada and around the world. We pray for their safety and the safety of those they support and protect.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



**Prayer
Partnership**

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Moment – Sunday, December 4th

“Where is God in all of this oppression and injustice?” Upon hearing the anguished cries of Palestinian Christians, Palestinian clergy felt it was crucial to respond pastorally and remind them that God is the God of justice, the God who cares about the oppressed. These Christians need God's hope. In 1989, Palestinian Christian theologians developed a theology that could be shared with fellow Palestinian believers. This led to the establishment of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem, an ecumenical grassroots liberation theology movement. **Presbyterians Sharing supports Sabeel and Director, Omar Haramy, in standing with the oppressed, working for justice and engaging in peacebuilding.**





It's Advent and it's that time of year again!

This year we would like to invite you to help us fill up the space under our Christmas tree with personal hygiene items, toilet paper, kleenex and household cleaning products.

These items are very expensive and always appreciated by the people who access our programs. The items will be distributed, free of charge, in the new year.

Items such as soap, shampoo, deodorant (men & women), shaving supplies (for both men and women), laundry detergent and softener, lysol, etc. are all needed.

We need your help! On December 22nd, from noon—2:00 pm we will be having a mini Christmas day and we would like to be able to share some small packages of Christmas cookies. If you can bake, please consider helping us bring a little Christmas cheer to people who are struggling.

The Cambridge Food Bank will be available on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month beginning in December. We serve approximately 25 - 30 different families on each of these days. We are always looking for volunteers to help out. If you'd like to join this fun and supportive group please speak with Joni.

