

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church

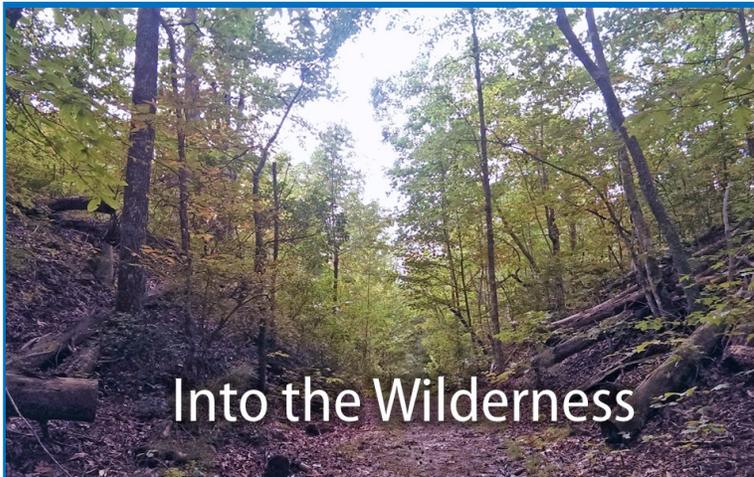
February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
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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. 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, masking and social distancing are encouraged.



Into the Wilderness

Prelude: "Wo Soll Ich Fliehen Hin" by M. Fischer

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: O God, you are a hiding place for us;

P: you preserve us from trouble.

L: Let the faithful offer prayer and praise to God,

P: for in times of distress, God is with us.

L: The Lord will teach us the way we should go;

P: God's steadfast love always surrounds us.

L: So let us be glad in the Lord and rejoice in worship!

P: We will sing for joy with psalms of praise.

Prayer of Approach

L: God, our Creator and Companion, your love is as fresh as the new day, rising like the sun to guide us. In Jesus Christ, you walk with us to challenge and encourage us, revealing our weakness yet offering us hope. We praise you for such gifts! In this time of worship, open us to the new possibilities you create for the world you love. With the power of the Holy Spirit, energize us to embrace the future, trusting in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Laying down Burdens

Hymn #654 O God of Bethel, by whose hand

1. O God of Bethel, by whose hand
thy people still are fed,
who through this weary pilgrimage
hast all thy servants led:

2. our vows, our prayers, we now present
before thy gracious throne;
as thou hast been our faithful God,
so always be our own.

3. Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.

4. Oh spread thy covering wings around,
till all our wanderings cease,
and at our God's own loved abode
our souls arrive in peace.

5. Such blessings from thy gracious hand
our humble prayers implore,
and thou shalt be our chosen God
and portion evermore.

Words: Public domain

Responsive Psalm 32

L: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

P: Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

L: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

P: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

P: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

L: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

P: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

L: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

P: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Video Reading: Matthew 4:1-11 Read by Alexis

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 5:1-3

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Hymn #399 Spirit, Spirit of gentleness

*Refrain: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

1. You moved on the waters; you called to the deep; then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep, and over the aeons you called to each thing: wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

Refrain

2. You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,

and you goaded your people with a law and a land, and when they were blinded with their idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

3. You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill; then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still, and down in the city you called once again, when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain

4. You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes; from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes; with bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

Words: copyright © James K Manley

Family Time

Life and work of the church

Offertory: Breathe on Me

J. Bennett

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: Into the Wilderness

Hymn #754 From the slave pens of the Delta

1. "From the slave pens of the Delta, from the ghettos on the Nile, let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile":

so God spoke from out of Sinai; so God spoke and it was done, and the people crossed the waters toward the rising of the sun.

2. "From the aging shrines and structures, from the cloister and the aisle, let my people seek their freedom in the wilderness awhile":

so the Son of God has spoken, and the stormclouds are unfurled, for his people must be scattered to be servants in the world.

3. When we murmur on the mountains for the old Egyptian plains, when we miss our ancient bondage and the hope, the promise wanes, then the rock shall yield its water, and the manna fall by night,

and with visions of the future shall we march toward the light.

4. In the maelstrom of the nations, in the journeying into space, in the clash of generations, in the hungering for grace, in our agony and glory, we are called to newer ways by the Lord of our tomorrows and the God of earth's todays.

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Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude: Postlude by G.Merkel

Other lectionary readings this week:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

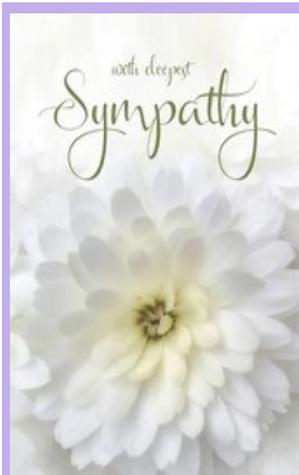
¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Romans 5:12-19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Jack & Ellen Smith and the Tremain sisters on the death of their brother-in-law, James Jamieson McNeill, of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Kitchener. Jim was Clerk of Session and a member of the choir for many years.

Join us on our Journey

Join us on our Lenten Journey. During this time we will be "Telling our Stories." Next week be prepared to write out a story, to go with your photo or object (or a completely new story) that was included this

week. This story needs to be an important story for you that connects you to St. Andrew's. Our story will take a few weeks to unfold.

Meditative Prayer Series

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Throughout Lent we will be introducing a practice of **Meditative Prayer**. You are encouraged to participate and you can do so in various ways.

- Every Wednesday and Sunday morning at 7 am, a new **Lectio Divina Prayer** will be posted on the Youtube channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/@standrewshespeler73>). Subscribe to this channel and follow the instructions at a time convenient to you at any time during the week. Videos will be about 10 minutes long.
- Every Wednesday morning, you can join us **in the sanctuary at 9 am** to do the Lectio Divina of the day together in person.
- Every Monday morning at 7 am, a **meditative prayer** will be posted on the same Youtube channel. You can do this approximately five minute Meditative prayer exercise at a time that works for you during the week. Do not worry if you are unfamiliar with these practices. We will teach you and walk you through them in a simple to follow way. Meditative practices are learned through repetition, so please be patient with yourself as you learn. Do as many or as few of the prayer practices as fit into your week!

We are grateful to those who were involved in worship this morning:

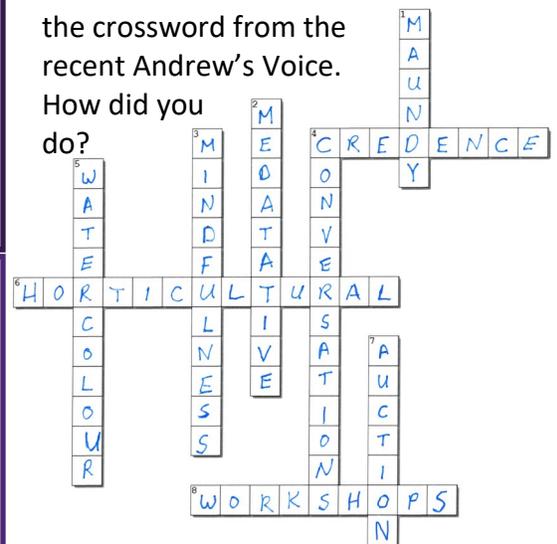
Greeter: Margret Hunter
 Beadle: Bill Hunter
 Organist: Martin Bohl
 Soloist: Jane Bennett
 Tech Team: Dylan Smith & Laura Einwechter

This Week at St. St. Andrew's

Monday:	Breakfast on Queen	Cancelled
Tuesday:	Hope Clothing	9:00 — 11:30 am
Wednesday:	Meditative Prayer	9:00 am
Thursday:	Helping Hands Thursday	9:30—10:30 am
Thursday:	Hope Clothing	Noon — 2:00 pm

Here are the answers to the crossword from the recent Andrew's Voice.

How did you do?



The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, March 5, 2023** after worship. The Annual Report is now ready. Please pick one up today. We can also email you a copy on your request.

There will also be a meeting to go over the **budget and financial information** in detail on **Wednesday, March 1** at 7 pm. All are welcome to that as well.



St. Andrew's Annual Dream Auction

Saturday, May 6, 2023, in person! with a small portion online.

Do you have a talent or gift that you would like to share? Please prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this exciting event. Do you have items to donate, a service/time to donate. All donations are much appreciated. Please contact **Donald Paddock** or **Joni Smith** if you have items to donate or would like more information.



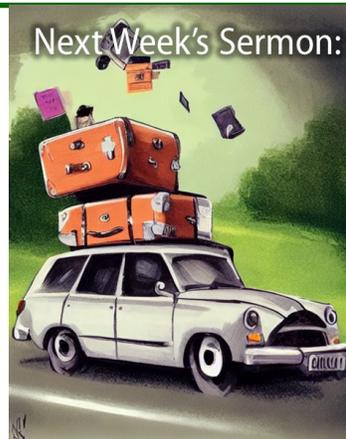
Conversations that Matter

Today Rev. Cathy Stewart joins us again. Following worship, she will lead help us to kick off the next stage in our journey together as she leads us through an exercise called **“Conversations That Matter.”** This promises to be a very meaningful exercise and we would encourage everyone to participate.

This exercise will take place following worship. As a part of this we will be sharing some lunch in the lower hall. **Thank you to everyone who brought something to share.** Feel free to spread out while we eat.

Everyone is encouraged to share in this event and lunch. (Don't worry if you didn't bring anything!)

Cathy has posted a video explaining what comes next. If you haven't seen this yet, a link has been posted on the church web site under the “News” tab.



So
Abram
Went

World Day of Prayer 2023

Please join us for World Day of Prayer on **March 3, 2023 at 1:30 pm** at St. Luke's United Church. This year the worship service will be a video, produced by WICC, “Taiwan: I Have Heard About Your Faith.” Everyone is welcome to join the event brought to you by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

Pssst! ... Mark your calendars for a **Spring Fling at St. Andrew's**. Beginning on April 15 and moving into May we will have many opportunities to get together and be creative! We will have several different workshops for adults and children; Debbie Ellis Watercolors, Crafty Creatures, Hespeler Horticultural Society, My Sister's Ideas (sign making) and more. And we will end the Spring Fling on **Saturday, May 6th with our Dream Auction!**

Here's a sneak peak at the workshops that might be offered:

- Watercolour painting workshops: multiple dates and times *Book now to avoid disappointment.*
- Bath Bomb making workshop for families (children participants in one room and parents' social adjacent room)
- Sign painting/making workshop
- Bee garden talk with a hands on component
- A teacup floral arrangement
- Mediation and mindfulness



Wanted: St. Andrew's Helpers



On the first Thursday of the month (9:30 - 10:30 am). Helpers would help tidy up areas in the church that are sometimes neglected. Areas such as the foyer and library, clean and polish the railings inside the church, evict dust bunnies, dust surfaces in the sanctuary, keep our bulletin boards current and tidy, etc. Please let Joni know if you are able to help with any of these light duties. A pot of tea or coffee can always be put on to enjoy while working. Thank you for prayerfully considering this way to help. Many hands make light work.

Daily Prayers

Sunday, February 26 (First Sunday in Lent) We pray that we may know the Spirit's blessing blowing in us and through us, so that we may live out what is required of us: to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Monday, February 27 We give thanks and pray for the Newcomers Mission in Peterborough, Ontario, providing newly arrived immigrants and refugees with support, care and a sense of belonging in Canada.

Tuesday, February 28 We pray for the people who gather and serve at Place of Hope Indigenous Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and we give thanks for their ministry.

Wednesday, March 1 We pray for the members and work of the International Affairs Committee.

Thursday, March 2 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Quebec.

Friday, March 3 (World Day of Prayer) On this day, we pray as Jesus prayed "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). We pray for our siblings in Christ throughout the world, and that we may all be one in proclaiming the good news in word and deed in this weary world.

Saturday, March 4 We pray for God's guidance for students studying at the PCC's theological colleges—The Presbyterian College (Montreal, Quebec), Knox College (Toronto, Ontario) and St. Andrew's Hall/Vancouver School of Theology (British Columbia).

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Sunday, February 26 – Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, the Newcomers Mission has faithfully been providing assistance and spiritual care to newly arrived immigrants and refugees in Peterborough, Ontario, and the surrounding area since 2016. In recent months, the Newcomers Mission has expanded to offer a Ukrainian gathering program that has reached over 40 Ukrainians who fled to Canada because of the war in their

country. It provides a place of belonging and care for people living through very difficult and vulnerable situations. Many have turned to this ministry for friendly conversation over a warm meal, assistance accessing services, as well as spiritual support and prayer. Through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, the church is helping to "welcome the strangers."

