

# St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church February 19th, 2023 Transfiguration Sunday

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church  
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Website: [www.standrewshespeler.ca](http://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.

## Why I'm Still Here



Prelude: St. James by H. Willan

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: The Lord rules over the earth in majesty and mystery.

**P: We praise God's awesome name!**

L: The Lord loves justice and calls us together in equity.

**P: We come to honour God's purposes with love and loyalty.**

L: The Christ of glory shines in this place.

**P: With the Spirit's power, we will lift our voices in prayer and praise!**

Prayer of Adoration

L: God of grace and wonder, you reveal your presence in so many different ways. Your glory glistens on snowy mountain tops and sparkling streams. Your mercy moves in classroom conversations and bedside prayers. Your word of comfort frees us from fear; Your voice can transform our doubts. We come before you in worship to dwell in your goodness and seek your truth, as we offer all praise and honour to you, with Christ and the Holy Spirit, One God, mighty and merciful, now and always. Amen.

Laying down Burdens

Hymn #298 Glory be to God the Father

1. Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son,  
glory be to God the Spirit, God almighty, Three-in-One!

Glory, glory, glory, glory, while eternal ages run.

2. Glory to the One who loved us, washed us from each sin and stain,  
glory to the One who bought us, raised us up to serve and reign.

Glory, glory, glory, glory, to the Lamb that once was slain.

3. "Glory, blessing sing, praise eternal!" angel choirs their hymns prolong,  
"Honour, riches, power, dominion!" echoes all creation's song

Glory, glory, glory, glory, praises to our God belong.

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Responsive Psalm 2

L: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

**P: "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast their cords from us."**

L: He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying,

**P: "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."**

L: I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me,

**P: "You are my son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

L: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers

of the earth.

**P: Serve the LORD with fear; with trembling**

L: humble yourselves before the LORD or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.

**P: Happy are all who take refuge in him.**

Video Reading: Matthew 17:1-9 Joni Smith

John 20:19-23

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Hymn #307 God of the sparrow

1. God of the sparrow God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

2. God of the earthquake God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast

How does the creature cry Woe

How does the creature cry Save

3. God of the rainbow God of the cross

God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace

How does the creature say Thanks

4. God of the hungry God of the sick

God of the prodigal

How does the creature say Care

How does the creature say Life

5. God of the neighbour God of the foe

God of the pruning hook

How does the creature say Love

How does the creature say Peace

6. God of the ages God near at hand

God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy

How do your children say Home

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Family Time

Life and work of the church

Offertory: Kyrie Eleison by John Bell J. Bennett

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: Why I'm Still Here

Hymn #471 We are one in the Spirit

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity will one day be restored  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our  
love,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in  
hand,  
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our  
land,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our  
love,  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love.

3. We will work with each other, we will work side by  
side,  
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's  
pride,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our  
love,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, who is God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our  
love,  
and they'll know we are Christians by our love.

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Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude Postlude by J. Kindermann Martin Bohl



### Other lectionary readings this week:

Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

2 Peter 1:16-21

<sup>16</sup> For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our

Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Bob Schauber on the recent death of his wife, Elsa. Please keep Bob in your prayers at this difficult time.

Congratulations and best wishes to Rev. Penny Garrison and Rev. John Zondag on their recent retirements. May God bless both, Penny & John, on their next journeys.

### Meditative Prayer Series

**The season of Lent begins 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 you can follow the instructions at a time convenient to you at any time during the week. Videos will average around 12 minutes
- 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 that fit best into your week!



On **Thursday, March 2**, a group of women will be meeting at the church. They will meet at **7 pm** in the Foyer to discuss the idea of forming a group for mutual support and growth. Everyone is welcome to come and participate in the discussion. If you have any questions or thoughts, feel free to contact **Sylvia Brooks: 519- 260- 0834**.

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

Greeter: Sylvia Brook  
Beadle: Joanne Waugh  
Organist: Martin Bohl  
Soloist: Jane Bennett  
Tech Team: Dylan Smith & Alexis Smith

**This Week at St. St. Andrew's**

Monday:	<b>Breakfast on Queen</b>	6:30 — 8:30 am
Tuesday:	<b>Hope Clothing</b>	9:00 — 11:30 am
Wednesday:	<b>Meditative Prayer</b>	9:00 am
Thursday:	<b>Hope Clothing</b>	Noon — 2:00 pm
Thursday:	<b>Food Bank</b>	Noon — 2:00 pm



**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.



**Join us on our Journey**

Next week will be the beginning of our Lenten Journey. During this time we will be "Telling our Stories." Please bring a picture or an object that celebrates an important time in your life with St. Andrew's Hespeler.

Photos can be emailed to Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca) if you would like a photocopy made. No written words will be needed next week, just pictures or objects. Our story will take a few weeks to unfold.

Already struggling to overcome political, economic and health crises, Syrians are now faced with the catastrophic effects of a magnitude 7.8 earthquake that struck southeast Türkiye\* and northern Syria on February 6. **The PCC prays for all those affected by the disaster.**



The PCC's partner, the [National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon \(NESSL\)](#), is responding to the disaster as best it can. NESSL General Secretary, the Rev. Joseph Kassab, said that there is an immediate and desperate need for emergency funds to cover the costs of blankets, mattresses, fuel for generators for heating, medical supplies, diapers and baby formula. In a message from a NESSL contact in Aleppo, the Rev. Ibrahim Nseir said that people had no warning and time to leave their homes. Many are in shock and don't know what to do, given the extent of the disaster and living through such a traumatic event.

For more information on the earthquake and updates from our partners working in Syria, see the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) website and view a video in which Safir Salim, a member of the MECC relief team in Aleppo, describes the first moments after the earthquake when they took refuge in the Salesian Church, hoping that it would provide shelter for them.

### 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



## Conversations that Matter

Next Sunday, February 26, Cathy Stewart will join 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.

Cathy has posted a video explaining what comes next that you might want to watch to prepare yourself. A link has been posted on the church web site under the “News” tab.

As a part of this exercise we will be sharing some lunch in the lower hall. **We would encourage everyone who is able to help provide this meal by bringing some simple finger foods to share.** We will provide sufficient space for people to spread out in the hall and feel safe eating.

### Daily Prayers

**Sunday, February 19 (Transfiguration Sunday)** God of Glory, whose son was wonderfully transfigured, give us the strength to hear and ponder the good news of his life, death and resurrection.

**Monday February 20 (World Day of Social Justice)** We give thanks for human rights defenders who work to protect the rights, safety and dignity of all people.

**Tuesday, February 21** We pray for the Knox College community during Winter Reading Week (February 20–24).

**Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday)** Loving God, you hate nothing you have made, and your grace knows no bounds. You created us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Create in us clean hearts and turn us around to follow you more nearly.

**Thursday, February 23 (Black History Month)** We pray for black Canadian women and youth organizations, and we give thanks for the many ways these organizations promote equality, human rights and inclusiveness.

**Friday, February 24** We pray for the people who gather and serve at the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry in Saskatchewan, and we give thanks for their ministry.

**Saturday, February 25** We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



**Prayer  
Partnership**

Engaging in God's Mission  
Through Word and Action

### Mission Moment – Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

Climate change, conflict and COVID-19 have combined to create a global food crisis where 50 million people in 45 countries suffer from acute hunger. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), with Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ACT Alliance, is responding in South Sudan, Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia—countries where hunger needs are worsening daily. This crisis has disproportionately adverse effects on women and girls, who make up 60% of those affected by food insecurity. Without proper nutrition, women can experience higher mortality rates for themselves and their children. With



**Presbyterian  
World Service  
& Development**

support from the church, PWS&D distributes food packages with essential nourishing items and provides families with cash assistance, helping ensure that families are fed.