

**St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
March 26, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sacrament of Baptism**

**St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
Cambridge, ON N3C 2A9
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Rev. Scott McAndless: smcandless@standrewshespeler.ca
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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, masking and social distancing are encouraged.

**The most
beautiful
baby in
the world!**



Prelude: Bread of Life by John Rasley Martin Bohl

Welcome

Call to Worship:

L: Friends, Brittany and Ian have some Good News for us.

People: What's the Good News?

Parents: We have a daughter!

L: Praise God! We have another life among us. Let all the people say Amen.

People: Amen!

L: What's her name?

Parents: She is called Rosalynn Shirley

L: Why do you bring her here?

Parents: That she may be blessed by God and included in God's community.

People: Do you know that she needs to go through the waters of baptism?

Parents: Yes we do. May we enter?

L: May they enter?

People: Yes! We rejoice with you in the gift of your child, Rosalynn, and we promise to provide you with a circle of belonging in which she will have a place. As friends, we will offer a home to worship God and

learn the Sacred Story.

Hymn #516 A little child the Saviour came

1. A little child the Saviour came,
the mighty God was still his name,
and angels worshipped as he lay
the helpless infant of a day.
2. Christ Jesus, as a child, did show
the way of life for all to know,
now Christ proclaims the message free,
"Let little children come to me."
3. We bring her, Lord, and, with the sign
of sprinkled water, name her thine
her soul with saving grace endow,
baptize her with thy Spirit now.
4. Oh give thine angels charge, good Lord
her safely in thy way to guard,
thy blessing on her life command,
and write her name upon thy hand.
5. O thou, who by an infant's tongue
dost hear thy perfect glory sung,
may she, with all the heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Words: Public domain

Affirmations:

L: Please join me as we welcome this new life among us.

People: Little child, welcome to this world, this amazing and scary world. Welcome to light and dark, hot and cold, good and evil. Welcome to love and hate, truth and lies, good times and bad. Welcome to the long human pilgrimage from birth to death. Anything can happen here; everything is possible. Some things must be chosen; others left behind. Welcome to the real world and this circle

of friends. Here we turn to God for help in making the choices that lead to life.

L: Rosalynn, for you Jesus Christ came into the world; for you he passed through the waters of baptism; for you he broke bread with sinners and outcasts; for you he endured the agony of the cross; for you he triumphed over death. You, little child, know nothing of this. How will you ever know? Who will ever tell you?

Parents: We will!

L: Rosalynn, this is too big a job for your parents alone. Who is going to help them?

People: We will!

Witnesses: And so will we!

L: Rosalynn, who will protect and nourish you until that day when you turn to God and say yes to God's life of compassion, justice and peace?

Parents: We will!

L: Who is going to help them?

People: We will!

Witnesses: And so will we!

Prayer of Approach

P: We praise and honour you today, O God, because you love and cherish all those who come to you. You particularly love children who may come with little understanding, but who have much to teach us about placing our trust in you. We thank you for sending this child among us today, and we look forward eagerly to hear what you might say to us through her.

As we pour out this water for her baptism, we pray that you would sanctify it but, more than that, that you would sanctify us with your Spirit so that we might honour you with all of our thoughts, our words and our deeds. Amen!

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Act of Baptism

Welcome:

L: Friends, this is Rosalynn, a daughter of God!

People: Welcome, Rosalynn!

The Light of Christ

Child of Blessing, child of Promise Sung by R. Godin

Responsive Psalm 130

L: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

P: Lord, hear my voice!

L: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

P: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

L: I wait for the LORD; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

P: My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

L: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

P: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Video Reading: John 11:1-16

Read by Joanne

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12, 23

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

²³ By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

Hymn: When Mothers of Salem

1. When mothers of Salem

Their children brought to Jesus,

The stern disciples drove them back

And bade them to depart;

But Jesus saw them ere they fled,

And sweetly smiled, and kindly said,

"Let the little children come unto Me."

2. When children don't fit in
We may not understand them.
It's hard to love them as they are.
We want them to conform!
But Jesus shows another way,
Just as they are, he'll always say,
"Let the little children come unto Me."

3. There's so many children
Whose lives are undervalued.
They live in poverty and woe,
Their needs left unfulfilled.
We pledge to listen to their needs
And with our Lord we intercede,
"Let the little children come unto Me."

Words: v 2,3 © W. S. McAndless

Family Time

Life and work of the church

Offertory: Jesus' Suffering, Pain and Death by G. Merkel

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: The Most Beautiful Baby in the World

Hymn #384 O Breath of life, come sweeping through us

1. O Breath of life, come sweeping through us;
revive your church with life and power.
O Breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,
and fit your church to meet this hour.
2. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore, for this we plead.
3. O Breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart:
come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.
4. O Tongues of fire, come rest upon us,
so we may speak your word aright;
kindle the flame of love among us;
equip your church to spread the light.

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Prayers of the People

Statement of Hope and Benediction

Postlude: Maestoso by Allen James Martin Bohl

Other lectionary readings this week:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me

down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Romans 8:6-11

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Thank you

Thank you for the prayer support, phone calls, cards and positive thoughts during Paul's illness and recovery. Your thoughts and

prayers were very much appreciated.

Paul & Betty Clarke

This Sunday we celebrate a very special event — the baptism of Rosalynn, daughter of Brittany and Ian.

Next Week's Sermon:



How to Make an Entrance

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

Greeters: Bill & Marg Hunter

Beadle: Sylvia Brooks

Organist: Martin Bohl

Guest Soloist: Ray Godin

Tech Team: Dylan Smith & Laura Einwechter

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. Please check out the individual workshop posters on the bulletin boards and on Facebook/Twitter and will soon be posted on our website. Each poster will tell you how to sign up or register for the different days/time and will include any costs. We will end the Spring Fling on **Saturday, May 6th with our Dream Auction!**

REGISTER NOW to avoid disappointment! Some workshops are filling up quickly.

- 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

Sat April 15



Northern Lights

Sat April 22



Summertime Blues

Sat April 29



Birch Grove

Spring Fling
Watercolour Workshops

at St Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church
73 Queen St East, Cambridge
9-11:30 am OR 1-3:30
Cost: \$35 (inc hst)

No Experience necessary!
No Drawing Skills Required!
All materials provided
Masks recommended

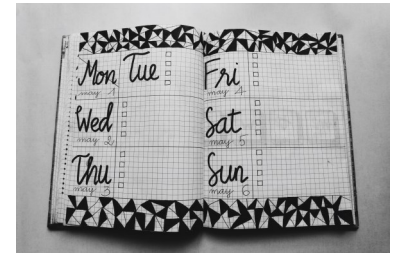
For more information and to register, visit
www.DebbieEllisWatercolours.ca



This Week at St. Andrew's

Tuesday:	Hope Clothing	9:00 — 11:30 am
Wednesday:	Meditative Prayer	9:00 am
Thursday:	Hope Clothing	Noon — 2:00 pm
Thursday:	New Hope Ladies group	7:00 pm (in the foyer)

(Everyone is welcome to come & join us)



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.



Would you like to help place spring flowers in the sanctuary for Easter? You can order flowers and they will be delivered to the church and placed in the church. On Easter Sunday morning, after worship, you would take your flowers home.

Flowers can be placed in memory or in honour of a loved one. Forms are available online and at the back of the sanctuary. Orders and payments need to be made **today**. If you have any questions, please speak with Joni.

Mark your Calendars

Please join us for a National Volunteer celebration on Sunday, April 23rd when we will celebrate our volunteers. St. Andrew's has been blessed with many wonderful volunteers, both from the congregation and from the community. We will celebrate with cake and coffee after worship. We will also have a special, 2nd offering in honour of our volunteers and the time and energy they give to the life of St. Andrew's!



Join us on our Journey

This week's challenge is about our dreams. "What if?" If you could picture St. Andrew's 10 years from now, fruitfully flourishing, what would St. Andrew's look like?

Dream Big! And be specific. Ask yourself "why?" (over & over) your hoped-for future would be good.

Try to think beyond "get or have more young families." If your answer is a hope for more families or youth, ask: why do we want more families and youth? What would happen if there were more families and youth? What would be need to do (and be) in order to welcome and engage families and youth in meaningful ways? Or how would we need to change in order to engage youth?

What other ideas do you have? Please write your ideas on the card provided or on the flip chart.



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

Daily Prayers

Sunday, March 26 (Fifth Sunday in Lent) We pray for marginalized people, and for the wisdom to learn and grow in God's love of all people, so that we may not exclude anyone from our circle of care.

Monday, March 27 We give thanks for Presbyterian World Service & Development projects that are helping farmers in Haiti combat the impacts of climate change and achieve better food security for their families.

Tuesday, March 28 We pray for Women's Missionary Society synodicals as they prepare for their annual meetings in April, and for WMS Presbyterians and groups as they continue to engage in mission.

Wednesday, March 29 We thank God for calling people to helping professions. May God guide and empower them as they prepare for this important work.

Thursday, March 30 We pray for the members and work of the Life and Mission Agency Committee.

Friday, March 31 On Transgender Day of Visibility, we pray for the safety, dignity and well-being of all transgender people.

Saturday, April 1 We pray for refugee children from Afghanistan.

Mission Moment – Sunday, March 26th

In Haiti, Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) is supporting farmers and their families. As a farmer, 62-year-old Emmanuel Joseph has experienced changes to his land for decades. When Emmanuel joined a farmer's collective supported by PWS&D in 2013, he began learning conservation agriculture practices like composting and crop rotation. Now, Emmanuel's garden produces more and better food year-round, and his wife is able to bring produce to the market to sell. Projects focusing on food security benefit farmers and their loved ones by providing education and resources to help achieve better food security and address the impacts of climate change—both now and in the future.



Our weekly Family Playlist is posted on our [website](#), Facebook and Twitter every Friday. This Playlist is developed for children and families, but anyone who would like to learn a little bit more is encouraged to check it out. You will find a short lesson on Sunday's focus bible reading, links to bible readings, videos and activities. Thank you to all of our readers.

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Presbyterian Church March 29, 2023

Out of the Depths

John 11:1-45

Prayer Book
Click here

Affirmations
Click here

Today's Bible Reading
Click here

Additional Bible Readings

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 139
Romans 8:6-11

When we are overwhelmed or in despair, we turn again to you, O God, for you feel our anguish and will lift us up. Breathe your spirit into us and give us new life so that we may walk in hope. Amen.

In John 11:3-45, what might seem to be a disjointed conversation between Jesus and the disciples contains complex layers of imagery and allusions to Jesus' coming anointing, death, and resurrection. The act of raising Lazarus happens right at the end of the narrative, followed by the observation that some people "believed in him."

Jewish understanding was that it took three days for a soul to leave the body completely; thus, Lazarus had been dead long enough to have nothing left other than a body decaying rapidly in the desert heat. This fact doesn't quite explain Jesus' delay. When Jesus does decide to return to Judea, the disciples are concerned for his safety, but the need to "work while it is still light" drives Jesus on. Thomas expresses loyalty and fear but also foreshadows Jesus' self-sacrifice.

Burial took place immediately after death in the hot climate of the Middle East, and ritual mourning followed. Family, especially the women, sat in the home and were visited by friends. However, when Jesus approaches, Martha detests custom and goes to meet him. Was she impatient for his arrival, or was she protecting Jesus from a potentially hostile gathering? Her statement, perhaps, reveals Martha's grief. She understands the Jewish teaching of resurrection at the last days but finds something hopeful in what Jesus says. She puts her faith entirely in him.

Mary's plea to Jesus is similar to Martha's, and the pathos of the situation disturbs Jesus greatly. Martha, Mary, and the assembled mourners all ask the same question - why didn't Jesus come and heal Lazarus? Jesus' prayer sums up the purpose of this final sign. God's glory will indeed be revealed, but at enormous pain and cost to both Jesus and his friends. Jesus then issues three commands.

Everyone has a task to do. Jesus calls Lazarus back to life, but it is the community that rolls away the stone and unbinds Lazarus from the trappings of death and releases him.

