

St. Andrew's Hespeler  
Presbyterian Church  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023  
Palm or Passion Sunday

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church  
73 Queen Street East,  
Cambridge, ON N3C 2A9  
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.

**Palm Sunday parade!** This year's parade will include everyone! For those able and willing Scott will provide instructions at the beginning of our worship service.



Prelude: Festival March by John Rasley      Martin Bohl

Welcome

Processional Hymn #218 Hosanna, loud hosanna

1. Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem  
rang.

To Jesus, who had held them close folded to his breast,  
the children sang their praises, the simplest and the  
best.

2. From Olivet they followed amid the shouting crowd,  
the victor palm branch waving and chanting clear and  
loud;

Messiah, God's anointed, rode there in humble state,  
"Hosanna in the highest!" rang out their praises great.

3. "Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.  
Oh may we ever praise him with heart and life and  
voice,

and in God's joyful presence eternally rejoice!

Words: this version, © The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1996

Call to Worship

L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the  
cornerstone.

**P: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the  
Lord.**

L: Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to the  
point of death – even death on a cross.

**P: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the  
Lord.**

L: Therefore God has exalted him and given him the  
name above every name.

**P: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in  
the name of the Lord.**

L: Let us worship God in the name of Jesus Christ, our  
Servant Lord.

Prayer of Approach

L: God of majesty and mercy, we worship today, as  
the cross looms larger on the horizon. We praise  
you for Jesus, the Ruler who came in humility to  
free us from captivity. He came in mercy to free us  
from the sins we recognize in ourselves, and the  
sins we easily overlook. He came to show us the full  
extent of your mercy, love and justice. So we praise  
you for your kindness and the strength you show to  
lift our burdens and shoulder them for us in Christ  
Jesus. We come in humility, knowing you have given  
us your all, and we can never offer enough for such  
overwhelming love. Receive our worship in Christ's  
name and for his sake. Amen.

Laying Down Burdens

Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

L: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast  
love endures forever! Let Israel say,

**P: "His steadfast love endures forever."**

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

**P: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

L: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**P: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

L: This is the LORD's doing;

**P: it is marvelous in our eyes.**

L: This is the day that the LORD has made;

**P: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

**P: O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!**

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

**P: We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

**The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.**

L: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

**P: you are my God; I will extol you. O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Video Reading: Matthew 21:1-11 Sylvia Brooks

Hymn #216 Hosanna

1. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Lord, we lift up your name

with hearts full of praise;

Be exalted, O Lord my God!

Hosanna in the highest!

2. Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings!

Lord, we lift up your name

with hearts full of praise;

Be exalted, O Lord my God!

Glory to the King of kings!

Words: Carl Tuttle Words copyright © Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, 1985

Family Time

Life and work of the church

Offertory: *On Eagle's Wings*

Celebration of our Generosity

Sermon: How to Make an Entrance

Hymn #217 Ride on, ride on in majesty

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty;

Hark, all the tribes Hosanna cry.  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strewed.

2. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

3. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
the angel hosts beyond the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
The last and fiercest strife is nigh.  
Thy Father on the sapphire throne  
Expects thee, loved, anointed Son.

5. Ride on, ride on in majesty;  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain;  
then take, O God, thy power and reign.

Words public Domain

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude: March by G. F. Handel

Martin Bohl



**Other lectionary readings this week:**

Isaiah 50:4-9

<sup>4</sup> The Lord GOD has given me  
a trained tongue,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens,  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who struck me  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name  
that is above every other name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

A very special thank you to those who have so beautifully decorated our church building and sanctuary for Easter!

### Do you like to sing?

On Easter Sunday some of our choir members and others who enjoy singing will be sitting in the choir loft and will be helping to lead the singing of our hymns. If you would like to join this group on Easter Sunday, please speak with Joni.



We are excited to say that our Easter Worship Celebration will be extra special this year! Grace

Notes will be singing a special piece, the choir will be leading us in singing the hymns, there will be a full Sunday School for our younger children. We will also enjoy a time of

fellowship after worship with coffee/tea and a fun scavenger hunt for everyone to participate in. Psst: there might be chocolate involved!



### Holy Week Services

This week there will be two special services for Holy Week. These will be contemplative services that will help us focus our hearts on the meaning of the death of Jesus and his last gathering with friends:

**Maundy Thursday (April 6) at 7:30 pm** we will gather for a simple communion service

**Good Friday (April 7) at 10 am** we will gather in solemn remembrance of the suffering and death of Jesus.

### St. Andrew's Annual Dream Auction, Saturday, May 6th

Desserts and Viewing will begin at 7:00 pm, with the live auction beginning at 7:30 pm. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the sanctuary so that you can indicate any items that you wish to contribute to the auction. There will also be a small online component for those who cannot attend in person. Donations are now being accepted, please forward to Joni.



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

Greeter : Allison Cann

Beadle: Allison Cann

Organist: Martin Bohl Soloist: Jane Bennett

Tech Team: Dylan Smith & Laura Einwechter



On Sunday, April 16th we will welcome Rev. Cathy Stewart back to St. Andrew's. There will be a time of conversation again following worship, in the hall. We would like to serve lunch, so if you are able please bring a finger food to share with others (no peanuts, peanut products or shellfish, please).



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! Time is running out to register. Some classes are already sold out.**

**Wanted: St. Andrew's Helpers**

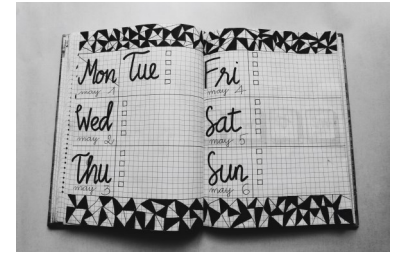
On the first Thursday of the month (9:30 - 10:30 am). Helpers would help tidy up areas in the church that are sometimes neglected. Areas such as the foyer and library, clean and polish the railings inside the church, evict dust bunnies, dust surfaces in the sanctuary, keep our bulletin boards current 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.



### This Week at St. Andrew's

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>Maundy Thursday Service</b>	7:30 PM (in the sanctuary)
Friday:	<b>Good Friday Service</b>	10:00 am

(Everyone is welcome to come & join us)



### 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, second offering in honour of our volunteers and the time and energy they give to the life of St. Andrew's!



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?

**Join us on our Journey**

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

### 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.

Please make sure to pick up the guide to our prayers this week this morning.

- 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!



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

## Daily Prayers

**Sunday, April 2 (Palm/Passion Sunday)** We pray for pastors and church workers of the Reformed Church in Transcarpathia, Ukraine, serving refugees and internally displaced people affected by war.

**Monday, April 3** Today, as the Moderator-Elect of the 2023 General Assembly is determined, we give thanks and pray for the Committee to Advise with the Moderator.

**Tuesday, April 4** We give thanks for the leadership of the current Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) Faris.

**Wednesday, April 5** We pray for survivors of conversion therapy who are struggling to overcome shame and trauma. Loving God, surround them with your comfort and grace, and access to supports for healing.

**Thursday, April 6 (Maundy Thursday)** Give us, O God, a renewed and growing awareness, in the church and in our lives, of Christ's commandment to love as he loved and to serve as he served.

**Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)** Merciful God, we pray for all those who have suffered violence, and for reconciliation wherever there is division and conflict.

**Saturday, April 8 (Holy Saturday)** On this day, Jesus lies in the grave. We pray for trust in the resurrection and in God's power to stir new life among and within us.

## Mission Moment – Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, pastors and church workers of the Reformed Church in Transcarpathia, Western Ukraine, have been serving tirelessly, providing spiritual support to those who remained and warmly welcoming refugees and internally displaced people from Eastern and Central Ukraine. Recognizing the dedication and work of these faithful servants, the Reformed Church in Hungary established a solidarity fund and invited partner churches to join in providing encouragement and financial support. The PCC, through Presbyterians Sharing, along with the First Hungarian Presbyterian Church in East Toronto, Ontario, responded by contributing to the fund, which aims to support 100 pastors and church staff in Transcarpathia with a monthly financial supplement of \$360 CAD.



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.

In Honour of the 150th Anniversary of the PC in Canada April 2, 2022

## Among Palms and Betrayals

Matthew 21:1-11

<b>Palm Crosses</b>	Matthew's gospel demonstrates how Jesus' life fulfills the Hebrew scriptures. In Matthew 21, we have echoes of Isaiah 61 and Zechariah 9:9.
<b>From Palms to Passion</b>	Matthew 21:11 starts in the relative quiet of a hillside and ends in the middle of the city of Jerusalem, with shouting and a noise of palms and pilgrims. The ending is full of anticipation, drama, and covenant. The disciples and the crowd lay down their cloaks for Jesus in a powerful gesture of adoration and self-offering. That afternoon, when the disciples fall asleep when Jesus asks them to keep watch and pray (26:38). When soldiers arrest Jesus, they take him into the night (26:55). These disciples are not at the cross, as the women disciples keep vigil.
<b>Today's Bible Reading</b>	In Matthew 26:14-27:46, the disciples cloak themselves in self-protection and denial. The addition of Jesus' stress from the crowd's hysteria. That same hysteria will prompt them to shout "Crucify!" Some have judged Matthew and the other gospel writers to be anti-Semitic because of the language they use in the Passion narratives. In Matthew's account, the problem is not the religious beliefs of the leaders involved – the problem is leaders driven by fear and rush to judgment. The disciples are because of the choices made by certain leaders like Peter, who chooses to "go along to get along." Matthew's Jewish readers would have recognized a powerful symbolism in Peter's seemingly simple act of washing his hands. According to Deuteronomy 21:1-9, this could have been a sign of declaring Jesus' innocence, but Peter – through his cowardice – reduces it to a cleansing exercise.
<b>Additional Bible Readings</b>	When death comes, Earth reflects the significance of what happened: the temple's entire right is torn, Earth shakes, and rocks split. The foundations have been fractured. Earth tremors. It is an event of global significance. It would appear the forces of destruction have had the last say.
<b>Isaiah 20:4-9a</b>	The question of Jesus' identity reverberates through Matthew's account. "But if you are the Messiah," the women raise several signs for Jesus in these chapters, including "Son of Man," "Son of David," and even "King." What does it mean for us now to use these titles to claim our faith in the one who saves?
<b>Psalm 119:16</b>	
<b>Philippians 2:5-11</b>	
<b>O God, in our times of loneliness, doubt, and turmoil, may we be reminded to extend ourselves to your suffering love. Grant us discernment about when to protect ourselves and when to make ourselves vulnerable. Empower us as communities of faith to witness in word and deed to your steadfast, never-failing, liberating, and transforming love.</b>	