

St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church October 15th, 2023 20th Sunday after Pentecost

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 on Zoom or Facebook Live. The Zoom link will be posted on the website.

A Wedding Disaster of Biblical Proportions



Prelude: Andante by Mozart

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: We gather in God's holy presence, where God embraces us with grace.

P: Here God will transform us into disciples.

L: We glorify God, who yearns for justice for the last and the least.

P: Here God will write compassion on our hearts.

L: We give thanks to God for God's persistent love that seeks us out.

P: Here God will breathe the Word of Life into our lives, and so we will praise our God!

Hymn #624 Blest are they

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Refrain:

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the Kingdom of God!

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.

Blest are they, who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. *(Refrain)*

3. Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God!
(Refrain)

4. Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.

Blest are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs. *(Refrain)*

5. Blest are you who suffer hate all because of me.

Rejoice and be glad – yours is the kingdom – shine for all to see. *(Refrain)*

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Prayer of Approach

L: God of all time and space, You have called people to meet you over the centuries, in many different places, in many different ways. We praise you for welcoming us, receiving us as we are. You hear our prayers and claim us as your own. In this hour of worship, send your Spirit upon us to revive our faith and guide our footsteps in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Saviour. Amen.

Laying our Burdens Down

Responsive Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

L: Praise the LORD! O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

P: for his steadfast love endures forever.

L: Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD or declare all his praise?

P: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

L: Remember us, O LORD, when you show favour to your people;

P: help us when you deliver them,

L: that we may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,

P: that we may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,

that we may glory in your heritage.

L: Both we and our ancestors have sinned;

P: we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.

L: They made a calf at Horeb and worshiped a cast image.

P: They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass.

L: They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt, wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.

P: Therefore he said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them.

Video Reading: Exodus 32:1-14 Read by Allison

Matthew 22:1-14

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Hymn: #648 I’m gonna live so God can use me

1. I’m gonna live so (live so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! (anytime!)
I’m gonna live so (live so) God can use me anywhere, Lord, (my Lord) anytime! (anytime!)

2. I’m gonna work so...

3. I’m gonna pray so...

4. I’m gonna sing so...

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Life and Work of the Church

Celebration of our Generosity

Offertory: ~~“Bishopthorpe”~~ Tune by H. Willan

Sermon: A Wedding Disaster of Biblical Proportions

Prayers of the People

Hymn #635 Brother, sister, let me serve you

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I’ll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we’ve seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we’ve known together
of Christ’s love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

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Benediction

Choral Response

755 Go ye, go ye into the world

1. Go ye, go ye into the world, and make disciples of all
the nations.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you
there!

2. Go ye, go ye into the world, and take the gospel to all
the people.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you there!

3. Go ye, go ye into the world, and tell the story to all believers.

Go ye, go ye into the world, and I will be with you there!

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Postlude: Postlude - Grave by J.S. Bach

Other Lectionary Readings this Week:

Philippians 4:1-9

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Your Help is Needed!



On Tuesday, October 17th, 9:30—10:30 am we will be recording bible readings for Sunday mornings. If you can help out with this please speak with Joni. You will

have the choice of appearing on the videos or only recording the audio portion. Joni will look after making the video. Thank you!

Rev. Scott will have one more week of vacation this year. He will be away on October 21-27

You may contact Aubrey Botha (aubrey@cpcmail.ca home: 519-620-4415 office: 519-623-1080) or Rev. Dongwon Brian Jung (revbrianjung@gmail.com, (647) 891-8164 while he is away should an urgent pastoral need arise.

Rev. Darrell Clarke will be our guest preacher next week.

Since Joni needs to be flexible to deal with any issues and Al has taken some leave, this means the we cannot promise that the office will be open all days next week.

If you could volunteer to come in and greet any visitors and answer the phone between October 21-27, please speak to the minister.

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

Worship Assistant:	Sylvia Brooks
Organist:	Martin Bohl
Greeter:	Brenda Holm
Beadle:	Carol Johnston
Tech Team:	Laura Einwechter & Dylan Smith
Sunday School:	Dean Davidson

Our 'Lunch on Queen' team needs a break! This team will be taking a break in January, February and March. Lunch is served on the 2nd Thursday of the month. If you can help with one lunch that would be great! What is required? Lunch could be a pot of soup and a bun. Could you make a pot of soup, purchase some buns, come to cook, to serve or to clean up? Currently we have funds to purchase food supplies.

If you think this might appeal to you or if you'd like more information, please contact Karen Nixon (knixon4is@gmail.com).



Anniversary Sunday, October 29th

Session is planning a barbeque for lunch following worship. If you are able to bring a salad or other munchies to share that would be greatly appreciated!

How well do you know our beautiful church building?

During our Children's Time this week we will be having some fun with some church trivia!

Test your knowledge! Who knows there might even be some prizes!



Al Craig has been a wonderful addition to our church staff for more than 18 months. He has been an amazing greeter, administrator and ambassador for the church to the community whenever he has been in the office. Al has decided, for personal reasons, to resign from his position at the end of October. We thank him for his diligent and conscientious work and service to the church. Al may rejoin us in some volunteer work in the near future.

This Week at St. Andrew's Hespeler

Tuesday:	Hope Clothing	9:00—11:30 am
Thursday:	Hope Clothing	Noon—2:00 pm
Thursday:	St. Andrew's Pantry	Noon—2:00 pm

Water Leak from Bell Tower

We have to report a problem with rain water leaking from the roof area surrounding the base of the church steeple, an area referred to as a 'moat'. This roof area (consisting of approximately 100 square feet) was last replaced +/- forty years ago. It is imperative that we replace the moat roof as there will otherwise be significant damage to the inside wooden structure of the bell tower going forward.

Regrettably, as there is no inside access to the moat it is necessary to use a boom lift to complete the roof task. It has been strongly recommended (by structural engineer) that the moat roof be replaced this fall. Total cost is estimated by the engineer at +/- \$46,000.00 with five quotes to be obtained.

Session has approved moving forward as soon as possible (this fall) and have also approved requesting a loan from Presbytery for up to \$50,000.00. We are pleased to note Presbytery has approved our request with a loan over ten-year term at zero interest, being subject to approval motion by our congregation.

Accordingly, **you are asked to attend a meeting after church service today, Sunday, October 15th 2023.** If you require any further information or clarification, kindly contact our Chair of Finance Ray Godin, or our Convener of Operations Vern Platt.



News from the **New Hope Friends Group:**

New Hope Friends **Book Club**, daytime meeting, Sunday, October 22, at 11:30, bring a sandwich. We will discuss the book, "They Left us Everything." Night time meeting will be Thursday, October 26th at 6:30-8:00. Please advise Joanne Waugh that you are attending.

Bible Study, led by Rev. Scott, **Women in the Bible**, Wednesday mornings, 10:00 a.m., November 1st, 15th and 30th. Please advise Joanne Waugh that you are attending.

Fall garden cleanup and further planting will be Saturday, October 28th, at 9:00 . Everyone is invited to participate.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, October 15 (Student and Colleges Sunday) We give thanks to God for our three theological colleges—The Presbyterian College (Montreal, Quebec), Knox College (Toronto, Ontario) and St. Andrew's Hall/Vancouver School of Theology (British Columbia)—and we pray for the students as they prepare for ministry.

Monday, October 16 As we celebrate World Food Day, we are grateful for PWS&D programs that support sustainable agriculture and fill gaps in access to food.

Tuesday, October 17 (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty) Pray for PWS&D projects helping adults and youth build sustainable livelihoods so they can meet their needs and build bright futures.

Wednesday, October 18 We pray for the Rev. Dr. Carlos Ham, Rector of the Evangelical Seminary of Theology and a pastor of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba.

Thursday, October 19 We pray for ministers and professional church workers on medical leave, that they will know God's healing touch in body, mind and spirit.

Friday, October 20 We pray for stewardship and mission committees who work to inspire vision and enthusiasm.

Saturday, October 21 At this harvest time, we pray for all who lack food, that they be given a glimmer of hope and a source of food to sustain them in the days ahead.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Mission Moment: October 15

The hardening of the US sanctions and the global financial crisis are contributing to a shortage of food, fuel, clean water and medicine in Cuba. With partners' support, the Evangelical Seminary of Theology in Matanzas carries on, providing high quality, diversified theological education, and serving the community through diaconal projects. In 2022, the PCC helped improve the infrastructure for hybrid teaching and assisted with the renovation to the library and the Historical Archive. The Rev. Dr. Carlos Ham, Rector, shared at the 2023 General Assembly: "We appreciate the ways in which you accompany our work, not only providing much-needed financial support, but also through prayers."



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