

### Some important upcoming events

- Apr 26: Mission Awareness Sunday
- May 24: Pentecost Party
- Nov 7: Annual Dream Auction

### 2026 Hespeler Reunion

We have been busy exploring and planning ways that St. Andrew's might participate in this summer's Great Hespeler Reunion. The Reunion will take place July 10 -12.

We have been invited to participate in a few ways, but before we are able to commit we need to have a couple of small teams ready and willing to take on a couple of tasks & projects!



#### How can you help?

- We have been invited to participate in the parade, Saturday, July 11, starting at 10:00 am. We will need a small team to:
  - coordinate, create and decorate a float (think trailer, pulled by a pick up truck)
  - a driver, with a truck, would be awesome, too!
  - dismantle the float at the end of the parade
- We may need 2 or 3 people to give guests tours of our beautiful sanctuary (talking points will be provided if you are not a historian!). Time/day to be confirmed.

**Please talk with Joni if you have questions or would like to join one of the above teams.**

We are also happy to be a workshop venue on Saturday, July 11 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. The workshops that will be offered are:

- candle making workshop that will be personalized especially for this Hespeler event from Strawberries & Sunshine
- a Hespeler sign making kit/craft time with instructors

*Registration details for workshops will be available at a later date.*

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

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Organist:             | Martin Bohl                                 |
| Worship Assistant:    | Joanne Waugh                                |
| Greeter:              | Ellen Smith                                 |
| Beadle:               | Patrice Wappler                             |
| Sunday School leader: | Donald Paddock                              |
| Tech Team:            | Jacob Marsh, Dylan Smith & Laura Einwechter |

There will be a **Women in the Bible** Study this Wednesday. Because the minister has a chapel service at St. Lukes' in the morning, the study will start at 12 noon this week only.

The study is for everyone. (it is about women, not for women!)

Please join us in the Foyer and bring your lunch if you wish.

We will be looking at the Biblical character of Herodias, her daughter Salome and Herodias' strange and disturbing marriage to Herod Antipas.



### Mission Moment: April 19

In 2022, the Rev. Konnie Vissers launched Rooted: Centre for Theology and Eco Justice, creating four urban children's gardens in Guelph and Hamilton through local congregations. By 2023, summer camp and Sunday School programs integrated eco-theology and gardening, reaching over 90 campers. Last summer, a children's garden at Kortright Presbyterian Church hosted workshops and a five-week class on sustainable gardening, food justice, and creation care. With support from Presbyterians

Sharing, upcoming plans include a greenhouse garden and a fruit tree guild. By combining faith, practical skills, and positive coping strategies, this unique mission teaches children to connect with



# St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church April 19, 2026 Third Sunday of Easter



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

Prelude: Garden Reverie by Lani Smith

Welcome

Call to worship

L: We have come from many places, following different roads.

**P: We come hungry for greater understanding.**

L: We have come to hear the wisdom of Scripture.

**P: We come seeking companions in the faith.**

L: We have come to discover the One revealed in the breaking of the bread.

**P: We come to grow as disciples of Christ.**

L: Come, let us worship God, made known in Christ Jesus.

Hymn #263 They set out on their homeward road (tune of #325)

1. They set out on their homeward road, the two disciples lost and sad, re-living still the episode when all was lost and life made bad: an ugly cross had been the end of Christ, the perfect man and friend.

2. A stranger joined them as they walked that he their company might share;  
he listened to them as they talked of broken hope and great despair, and then the stranger made reply that Christ the Lord was bound to die.

3. He spoke of Moses and his days, of Egypt and the promised land, recalled the prophets and their ways, God's leading with a loving hand. At journey's end, to food and rest, they made him feel a welcome guest.

4. Invited in and honoured most to take his place at table's head, the stranger-guest became the host by saying grace and taking bread. Then suddenly they knew that Christ had made their common meal a feast.

5. O Jesus, come again, we pray, and share with us the things we do. Be our companion on our way; let Easter in our homes come true, and let our life and work proclaim the power of your living name.

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#### Opening Prayer

L: Loving God, you are the light of the hearts that love you the life of the souls that serve you the inspiration of those who seek you: you are infinite, eternal and unchanging, filled with love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. To turn from you is to fall and to turn towards you is to rise up: Your works everywhere praise you and your glory and truth are revealed in Jesus Christ, and so we praise you as Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

#### Laying Down Our Burdens

Responsive Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

L: I love the LORD because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

**P: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

L: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**P: Then I called on the name of the LORD, "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"**

L: What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

**P: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD; I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.**

L: Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

**P: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35, Read by Joanne Waugh

Hymn #641 One more step along the world I go

1. One more step along the world I go.

One more step along the world I go.

From the old things to the new keep me traveling along with you.

*Refrain: And it's from the old I travel to the new  
Keep me traveling along with you.*

2. Round the corners of the world I turn.

More and more about the world I learn.

All the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me. *Refrain*

3. As I travel through the bad and good  
keep me traveling the way I should.

Where I see no way to go, you'll be telling me the way, I know. *Refrain*

4. Give me courage when the world is rough.

Keep me loving though the world is tough.

Leap and sing in all I do. Keep me traveling along with you. *Refrain*

5. You are older than the world can be.

You are younger than the life in me.

Ever old and ever new, keep me traveling along with you. *Refrain*

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#### Family Time

Life and Work of the Church

Celebration of our Generosity

Offertory: Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast by Rolf Unkel

Sermon: Absent Thomas

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

(... forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...)

Hymn #262 Come to us, beloved Stranger

1. Come to us, beloved Stranger, as you came that Easter day.

Walk with us to our Emmaus, for we need you still today.

Come to us when we are broken, when our dearest hopes are lost, speak to us the prophets' message you fulfilled upon the cross.

2. Stay with us and give us blessing, that our hopes again may rise

Offer us your broken body; open our unseeing eyes.

Come to us, God's love embodied; touch our hearts with burning flame.

Risen Christ, once dead, now living, come to us through joy, through pain.

3. We would never fail to see you as you walk with us each day.

As a friend and not a stranger you would join us on our way.

Help us trust that through your mercy we can doubt and fear transcend, and to others be a blessing. Keep us faithful till life's end!

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Benediction

Choral Response #780 (Three-fold Amen)

Postlude: Processional by Handel

Please plan to join us on **Sunday, April 26** as we celebrate **Mission Awareness Sunday**. During this time together we will highlight 3 of our local outreach programs and some of our past work in Malawi.

After worship we will have coffee/tea in the Fellowship Hall as we have a chance to purchase some yummy baked goods and some hand carved artifacts from Bill & Margret Hunter's Malawi collection. Proceeds from this sale will be directed to work in Malawi. But we will need your help. If you are able would you please bring a packaged baked good, to be sold. Please no peanuts or peanut products. All purchases will be on a donation basis.



Next Week:



#### This Week at St. Andrew's Hespeler

|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tuesday: Hope Clothing              | 9:00 am—11:30 am     |
| Wednesday: Women in the Bible Study | <b>Noon—1:30 pm.</b> |
| Wednesday: Mobile Food Market       | 12:30 - 1:30 pm      |
| Thursday: Hope Clothing             | noon—2:00 pm         |
| Thursday: Food Bank                 | Noon—2:00 pm         |