

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

Communion Servers: Donald Paddock, Dean Davidson, Bill Hunter, Joanne Waugh, Jean McMurtrie, Vern Platt, Jean Godin (prepared the communion elements)

Worship Assistant: Vin Seunath

Organist: Martin Bohl

Tech Team: Dylan Smith & Laura Einwechter

Sunday School: Alexis Smith & Joni Smith

Greeter: Bill & Marg Hunter

Beadle: Carol Johnston

Coming Up at St. Andrew's Hespeler

Monday, December 2: Child babysit so parents can go shopping
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, December 3: Kick off of our Annual Giving Tuesday Campaign,
plan to join us here at 10:00 am

Sunday, December 8: Congregational Meeting (re. Amalgamation)
following worship.

Tuesday, December 12: New Hope Friends group Christmas Social
7:00 - 9:00 pm

Sunday, December 15: Family Christmas Service

Saturday, December 21: Longest Night Service—7:00 pm

Sunday, December 22: Voices of Christmas service—**10:30 am, with a
Carol Sing 15 –20 minutes before worship begins**

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve service— 7:00 pm

- *Keep watching your bulletins and emails for more events and special dates*
- *Please note that on the first 4 Sundays in December we will be having refreshments or lunch*

Community Highlight ...

... This week's highlight is on **ACCKWA**, The Aids Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo & Area. Mikaela & Brigitte are Cambridge's Housing Street Outreach workers.

We support Mikaela and Brigitte's mission when we get donations of sleeping bags, tents and other warm items. They support people who access our programs, but need some extra care.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 1 (1st Sunday of Advent / World Aids Day) We pray for the millions of people affected by HIV and AIDS and for the work of PWS&D in Malawi, which is providing vital support to those living with HIV.

Monday, December 2 We pray for the people, ministries and mission of the Presbytery of Peace River.

Tuesday, December 3 (International Day for People with Disabilities) We pray for people living with disabilities in Ghana and Nepal, who are finding confidence and independence with support from PWS&D's partners.

Wednesday, December 4 We pray for those around the world who are the victims of violence and oppression, those who wonder how they will survive the next day, and those who have lost all they own. May God's reign of justice and peace inspire us to work for peace in their lands and provision for their needs.

Thursday, December 5 We pray for Dorica Nkhata, the PCC's leadership development student, as she begins the final stage of her medical training, an 18-month internship at Mzuzu Central Hospital in Malawi.

Friday, December 6 (The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women) We pray for the healing of women who experience violence, and for God's guidance as we work to build communities that do not tolerate misogyny and gender-based violence.

Saturday, December 7 We pray for theological students, that they would be taught by their teachers and God about God for the sake of life that is life indeed.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Prayer Partnership

Engaging in God's Mission
Through Word and Action

Mission Moment: November 24

The difficulty of accessing much-needed health care for people in Dorica's home village fueled her passion for becoming a doctor and serving the poor population in rural areas of Malawi. With support from Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines and Presbyterians Sharing, Dorica began her studies in 2017. In March 2024, Dorica graduated from the University of Malawi College of Medicine and began the final stage of her medical training, an 18-month internship. Following her internship, Dorica will be licensed to practice medicine in Malawi. She is grateful to the Knox congregation and the PCC for their financial support and prayer.



Presbyterians
Sharing



St. Andrew's Hespeler Presbyterian Church December 1, 2024 First Sunday of Advent



St. Andrew's Hespeler
Presbyterian Church
73 Queen Street East,
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519-658-2652

Rev. Scott McAndless: smcandless@standrewshespeler.ca

Joni Smith: jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca

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Prayer Requests: prayerchain@standrewshespeler.ca

Clerk of Session: st.a.hespeler.cos@gmail.com

Website: 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. This is a communion service. Please prepare bread and wine if you are joining us remotely.

Prelude: Prelude - O Come, O Come, Immanuel by Roger Wilson

Lighting the First Candle of Advent (By Pedro, Edna, Maria & Julietta)
L: As we enter the season of Advent, we remember God's call to seek justice in the world God loves.

P: We come longing for a brighter future for all.

L: We light the first candle of Advent, a symbol of God's hope, which shines in the darkness. *(Light the candle of hope)*

L: May the light of this candle ignite a fire within your people, who are often afraid or hesitant to work for change.

P: Holy One, strengthen us by your Spirit to commit ourselves to walking with those who are oppressed and marginalized. May our actions reflect your hope, which transforms your world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

#119 Hope is a star

1. Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

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Prayer of approach:

L: God of love, you come to your people to dwell with us. You come with power to transform all things. You come with promises to make all things new. You come with signs of your deep love for the world. You come, and your truth breaks into our lives shattering lies and half-truths, setting your people free. Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our praise and prayers in gratitude and anticipation. Come into our lives again, O God, and show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging, for we gather in the name of Hope made flesh, Jesus Christ, your promise and our desire.

Amen.

Laying Down our Burdens

Hymn #122 Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel (v. 1,2,5,6,7)

Luke 21:25-36 (Read by Jane Bennett)

Psalms 25:1-10

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

P: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

L: Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

P: let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

L: Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

P: teach me your paths.

L: Lead me in your truth and teach me,

P: for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

L: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

L: Good and upright is the LORD;

P: therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

L: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,

P: for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Hymn #124 People in darkness

Family Time

Life and Work of the Church

Celebration of our Generosity

Offertory: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Sung by Jane Bennett)

Sermon: Everything will always be alright when we go shopping!

Communion: Invitation

Communion Hymn #529 O holy Father, God most dear

#539 Apostle's Creed

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

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

Hymn #131 Tomorrow Christ is coming (Tune #218)

Benediction

Choral Response (to the tune of #146 Angels from the realms)

Christ, you taught us: "Pay attention!" So we humbly serve and pray:

May we gladly live your kingdom in a world that's gone astray.

May the hope of our salvation guide the things we do and say.

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Postlude: O Saviour, Rend the Heavens Asunder by Helmut Walcha

There will be a Congregational Meeting Next Sunday

We know that this is a busy time of year, but we hope you can plan to stay following worship for a congregational meeting next week. The sessions of Knox Preston Presbyterian Church and of St. Andrew's Hespeler have been working diligently to prepare a plan for the amalgamation of the two congregations.

We plan to be able to set a clear decision before you that deals with all of the details. There are several important meetings coming up in the coming week so please keep both sessions in your prayers.

A Very Special Service

We will be hosting a very special service here on Sunday, December 22.

The congregations of Doon, Duff's and Preston will be joining us for a musical celebration of the season. Our people are arranging a couple of songs to sing and there will be a mass choir that anyone can join. Speak to Scott if you'd like a copy of the mass choir music. There will be a practice for that here on the 19th of December at 7:00.

Next Week's Sermon:



Zechariah, the Righteous Priest

The December 22nd service will begin at 10:30 am (with a carol sing 15 minutes before).



Fünd Scrip



Christmas is coming!

Did you know that money raised from gift cards goes back into helping the church?

Restaurants, Clothing Stores, Gas, Grocery shopping: *McDonald's *Tim Horton's *Starbucks *Staples

*Ultimate dining cards *Zehrs *Food Basics *Metro

*Shell *Esso *Indigo *Cineplex *Gap/Old Navy * Giant Tiger

December 15th 2024 to get your orders in time for Christmas! Talk to Laura or Patrice if you have any questions!

There is a very special joint Advent Newsletter for the congregation today. Please pick up your copy and deliver onto someone else if you can!



This Week at St. Andrew's Hespeler

- Tuesday: Hope Clothing 9:30—11:00 am
- Tuesday: Giving Tuesday celebration kick off—10:00 am
- Tuesday: Session Meeting
- Wednesday: Mobile Food Market 12:30—1:30 pm
- Thursday: Hope Clothing Noon—2:00 pm
- Thursday: St. Andrew's Pantry Noon—2:00 pm

Annual Advent Mission Project is about to begin!

Our annual Advent Mission Project launches today! If you can help us stock St. Andrew's Pantry shelves with canned food items, toilet paper, Kleenex, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items, etc. we would appreciate it. Last year your contributions lasted until late April! These extra items are very much appreciated by members of our community. If you have questions please speak with Joni (jsmith@standrewshespeler.ca)

