

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Stratford

Minister: The Rev. Mark Wolfe Music Director: Earl Clark

Sunday, December 8, 2019 - 10:30 am

2nd Sunday of Advent

WE APPROACH GOD

Carol Sing:

O come all ye Faithful
Silent Night
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Away in the Manger

Welcoming and Sharing (10:25 am)

***Entry of The Word** (please rise)

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Rejoice and be glad always,

All: because our God is ever faithful.

Leader: Pray without ceasing,

All: so God's purposes may be fulfilled.

Leader: Give thanks in all circumstances,

All: for the Lord is near.

Leader: Do not quench the Spirit,

All: but stay alert for the coming of the Lord.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: We will rejoice and be glad in it!

***Hymn # 293:** "Come, thou almighty King"

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

These things we pray through him who taught us to pray saying...

The Lord's Prayer (Trespases)

Assurance of Pardon

The Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Marie McNamara

***Hymn # 124:** "People in darkness"

Children's Message:

Anthem "Come to Us, Emmanuel"

C. Scialla

Stewardship Thought for today:

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all your deeds.

Psalm 9:1

This Week at St. Andrew's

Monday Nov. 25 9:30 am Flower Guild
7:00 pm PCW—All women welcome
Tuesday 6:30 pm Board Sub Committee
7:00 pm Board Meeting
Wednesday 2:00 pm Book Club
7:00 pm Welcoming Team
Thursday 7:00 Choir
Sunday 10:25 a.m. Announcements
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
Coffee Time: Session

UPCOMING AT ST. ANDREW'S

Camp Kintail—Kin-Tales, is posted on the bulletin board outside the Nursery. It includes summer programs for 2020.

Avondale United Church welcomes you to a "Blue Christmas Service"

7 p.m. Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 194 Avondale Ave, Stratford

(parking off Huntingdon Ave). A community service for those who find this time of year difficult. This service is coordinated by Rev. Kathi and the Pastoral Care Team.

Memorial Tree Service is Sunday December 15 at 7:00 pm.

Sign up sheets for Meals on Wheels are available in McCullough Hall covering Tuesdays and Thursdays December 3rd to December 24th. No delivery Dec. 26th

Thought for Today

The Prophet of the Most High will be the Lord's forerunner, to prepare his way and lead his people to a knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.

St Luke 1:76-77

Welcome, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the worship of God. May God give us a special blessing by being together to share the life-giving Word. Following worship, join in fellowship downstairs. The notices on this sheet will keep you informed of the life of the congregation from day to day, as well as offer prayers for your daily devotions. Thanks for being part of the church family

It is with sadness we announce the passing of Lloyd Cook. Lloyd was a long time faithful member of our congregation. Please remember Lloyd's family in your prayers.

Opportunity Sheet

Prayer and praise opportunities

- For Chris, Lloyd, Susan, Margaret, Marilyn, Wanda, Eva Dorothy, Carol and those known to us who are in need of prayer for any reason, that prayer lifted will be prayer heard, and that prayer heard is answered by almighty God

Pray for Rev. Derek Krunys and St. Andrew's PC, St. Johns NL, as they gather for worship today and as they continue to discern their life and mission.

Worship and Pastoral care opportunities

Prayer or visit request cards are available in the narthex.

Want to Ride the Bus to Church! Call the Church Office, 519-271-5668 by Thursday! Arrangements will then be made for you.

Mission and Stewardship Opportunities

Mission Moment:

Human Rights Day (Dec. 10)

For Ahmad and Sarah and their daughters Reem and Rana, each day brought distress, thinking about what the future might hold. Their home in al Raqqa, Syria had been bombed, and acts of brutal violence were taking place in their own neighbourhood. The family escaped to Kfarbo and forged a home in a cramped, unfurnished apartment. Navigating the streets of a brand-new city, in a country broken by over eight years of civil conflict, Ahmad and Sarah prayed each day for peace and relief from hunger. Their prayers were answered when the family received their first food and hygiene basket through a PWS&D-supported project with Canadian Foodgrains Bank partners. "It came through at the right moment," says Ahmad.

PWS&D responds to those living in danger or exile.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

Most Holy God,
for whom we watch and wait,
give us courage to speak the truth in love,
a hunger for justice and righteousness,
and the grace to walk humbly with you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4
Psalm 126 (Refrain 1)
Luke 4:16-30

Sermon : "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me"
-The Rev. Mark Wolfe-

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

***Hymn # 712:** "Arise, your light is come"

Prayers of the People

Offertory: "A Grand Noel #1"
Charpentier

***Doxology #661** "We give Thee but Thine own"
We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
Ushers come forward with offering at the beginning of singing this verse.

***Offertory Prayer**
Ushers then present the offering to speaker.

***Hymn # 110:** "Come, thou long-expected Jesus"

***Benediction**

***Parting Hymn**

"Go In Love"
Go in love; have no fear.
God will guide you, He is always near.
Go in Love; take His hand.
God will hear you, He will understand.
May His light forever shine upon you;
may His peace be always in your heart.
Go in love; face each day, God will lead you,
He will show the way, Go in love and live in faith,
Amen

Postlude: "There's a Song in the Air"
Wilbur Held