

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

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The First Sunday of Advent The Sacrament of Holy Communion Sunday, November 27, 2011



Our Mission

To send our people into the world
restored, refreshed, forgiven, and joyful;
to live as Christ would have us live,
with love and justice as our goals.

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church
The Sacrament of Holy Communion
The First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2011

ORDER OF SERVICE

*Congregation please stand, as you are able, and join congregational responses in **bold print**.

(Listening aids are available in the narthex; large print bulletins with hymns are available from the usher's table.)

The musical offerings during worship can be very inspirational. Please help us to preserve the sanctity of those offerings to God and God's people by allowing the music to stand alone in silence at its conclusion as it resonates in the sanctuary, in our hearts, and in our souls. If you wish to share your thoughts or appreciation with the musicians, please do so after worship.
Thank you!

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

Cate Adamson

PRELUDE:

'Elevation' on a Noel

A. Guilmant

We Gather

WELCOME

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

We Approach Our God

ADVENT LITURGY OF HOPE:

We wait –

We wait not because we do not know the story of Jesus, and not because Jesus is not already and always here. We wait because to wait is to expect something more. To wait is to expect that the story might enter our hearts and our world in new ways, to bring the change for which we long.

As we light the candle of hope this morning, we remember the stories of God with us, when life has been hard, and not what we expected. We can trust that God is with us, as we wait for hope to be born, anew, in us. Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: **9**

People, Look East

BESANÇON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE: MV**17** (verse 1)

God in the Darkness

TRARALGON

God in the darkness, God beyond our knowing,
patient creator, seed in secret growing,
rock of the living, water everflowing,
come and renew us.

*HYMN: **2**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTART

CHILDREN'S TIME: LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

ADVENT SONG: MV**220**

Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MacLean/Tissandier

Hope shines as the solitary star. Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

We Listen for God's Word

THE EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 N.T. pg.166

read by Grant MacDougall

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 13:24-37 N.T. pg.50

read by Eleanor MacDougall

ANTHEM: Let all mortal flesh keep silence Text: 4th century Greek
(Soloists: Sarah Cory; Fred Cross) Arr: Gustav Holst
Music: Old French melody (Picardy)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

MESSAGE: "The Longing of the Season"

We Make Our Response

*HYMN: **MV201**

I Am the Bread of Life

Kacemarek/arr.Tate

OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY:

Now come, saviour of the Gentiles

J. S. Bach

*DOXOLOGY: **353** (see page 10 of bulletin)

'Tis the Gift to Be Simple

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (VU914)

Service of the Table

INVITATION

THE PEACE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

Waiting.

Hoping.

Wondering.

Anticipating.

Seeking a path.

Finding a path.

Feeling your rhythm.

Your presence in a loaf of bread.

Your presence in a simple cup.

Remember me, Jesus said, and we remember.

It was as a baby that you came to us, gracious God.

A child in a manger – crying and smiling,

staring out in wonder and sleeping in contentment.

In a world of craziness and busy-ness,

Still our hearts and minds to the beauty of this sacred moment.

We thank you for Mary, a frightened teenage mother who dared to say “yes” to you.

We thank you for Joseph, confused father

who learned to trust in your mysterious and wonderful ways.

We thank you for Jesus – child, youth, adult –

who brought your presence into our world for us,

offering hope at times when we feel all is lost.

With the angels we sing together:

O holy, holy holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav’n, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name

always! (SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS: MV203 KINGSFOLD)

We remember, how, on the night Jesus was betrayed,

He sat at supper with his disciples.

While they were eating, Jesus broke bread and as he shared it said,

“remember me.”

Later, he took a cup of wine and shared it with the words,

“remember me.”

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again! (MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION: MV204

KINGSFOLD)

*And so, as Christ did,
we bless these gifts and share them amongst ourselves,
and in so doing we remember
Christ's presence with us – always.*

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

Amen, amen, O Holy One, Hosanna and Amen!

(GREAT AMEN: MV205 KINGSFOLD)

SHARING OF THE LOAF AND CUP
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We Go Forth

*RECESSIONAL HYMN: **25**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

*BLESSING

*BENEDICTION: **84** (verse 4)

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

CANONBURY

POSTLUDE:

Veni Immanuel

N. Rawsthorne



Please join us for coffee, tea and juice
after the service.



Welcome to Worship

We extend a special welcome to all our guests and newcomers. Please sign our guest register and introduce yourself to an usher so that we may help you feel at home. Would you like someone to phone you about St. Andrew's River Heights United Church? Please leave your phone number in the register and a representative of the Fellowship and Pastoral Care Committee will be happy to contact you.



You are welcome to take this bulletin home with you. If not, please place your bulletin in the paper-recycling bin.

The Anthem this week

This hymn, appears in Voices United (#473), in the “Holy Communion” section appropriately, as it was originally written in 4th century Greece as a Eucharistic hymn. Yet it has also become a song often sung in Advent as it foreshadows the birth of Christ. The text is based on a verse in Habakkuk 2:20, and was translated into English by Gerard Moultrie in the nineteenth century. In the early 20th century, English composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams, set it to a French melody, (Picardy), and it has been inserted into many hymn books since then.

This version is a setting by a good friend of Vaughan Williams, Gustav Holst (1874-1934), an Englishman despite his German sounding name. It was originally written for choir and orchestra. The organ part, particularly at the end of the fourth verse is quite elaborate, as it is a reduction of the original orchestral score, as it builds towards a grand finish. The first verse is set for soprano solo, and the second for baritone solo.

Sunday School This Week

This year the Sunday School is exploring what faith looks like in other world religions. Next Sunday, Lesley will be down with the Sunday School to speak about Hinduism. Christmas cards will be made, and snacks made for coffee time with the congregation as well. Today the children are learning all about Advent and what Christ's coming means to us as Christians.

Simple Gifts

An Appalachian Shaker Song

Joseph Brackett

'Tis the gift to be sim-ple, 'tis the gift to be free. 'Tis the
gift to come down where we ought to be. And when we find our-selves in the
place just right, 'Twill be in the val - ley of love and de-light.
When true sim-pli-ci-ty is gained. To bow and to bend we shan't be a-sham'd. To
turn, turn will be our de-light, Till by tur-ning, tur-ing we come round right.

Chord markings: F, Am, Gm, C7, F, Am, Gm, C7, F, Bb, F, F, C7, F, Am, Gm, C7, F, Bb, F.

The United Church of Canada

ST. ANDREW'S RIVER HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH

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Clergy:	Lesley Fox Karen Lumley
Ministry of Music:	Wes Elias Derek Morphy
Interim Sunday School Superintendent:	Tara McCallum
Office:	Maggie Zoske Bill Craddock
Caretaker:	Lou Jubinville