

*Serving God and neighbour
in this community
since 1817*

Order of Worship

WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 3, 2016



How brightly beams the morning star!

A warm welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. and a special welcome to all visitors and friends with us this morning. Please join us for a refreshments including Fair Trade Coffee and a time of fellowship in St Andrew's Hall after the service and consider signing our visitors' pew cards or guest book by the Princess Street doors. Our church school resumes January 10th - children this morning are invited to pick up activity sheets in the sanctuary.

Prelude Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern
Dietrich Buxtehude

Entry of Holy Scriptures

Call to Worship

Hymn In the bleak midwinter #145

Prayer of Approach & The Lord's Prayer (inside)

Introit Introit for Advent Healey Willan
*Behold he appeareth, the Lord and Ruler:
and in his hand the Kingdom, and power and dominion.
Give the King thy judgements, O God:
and thy righteousness unto the King's Son.*

Greetings & Announcements

Hymn We three kings #173

Time with Children

Scripture Readings William Anthony

Isaiah 60:1-3, 6-7

Matthew 2:1-11

Anthem The Three Kings Peter Cornelius

*Three Kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star;
And this the quest of the travelers
three, Where the newborn King of the Jews may be.*

*Full royal gifts they bear for the King:
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.*

Sermon Epiphany 1: The Magi and their Gifts

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern J. C. Bach

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings (inside)

Hymn How brightly beams the morning star #180

The Nicene Creed (inside)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing of Bread & Wine

Hymn As with gladness #172

Benediction & Congregational Amen

Postlude Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern
Andreas Armsdorff

If you wish to leave during the Postlude, please do so quietly.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1-3, 6-7

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Matthew 2:1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah; for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go

and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified. who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Notes from the Director of Music

Most of the music today is based on a hymn composed by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608). Nicolai was a Lutheran pastor, theologian and competent musician who had to move several times because of

religious persecution. During a severe plague, when he lost over 1300 of his parishioners, he compiled a book entitled “Freudenspiegel” (Mirror of Joy) to try to cheer up his remaining flock. Two very famous hymns were included in this book: “Wachet Auf ruft uns die Stimme” (our hymn #127) and “Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern” (**Hymn #180**) which is sung today with English translation by Catherine Winkworth. Nicolai described this latter hymn as: “A spiritual bridal song of the believing soul / concerning Jesus Christ, her heavenly bridegroom, founded on the 45th Psalm of the prophet David”.

The original tune by Nicolai is heard as the first **Prelude** and is followed by a Chorale fantasia based on this tune by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707). Buxtehude was a very great inspiration to Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Another great inspiration for Bach was the set of the two hymns of Nicolai. He composed several works based on *Wachet Auf* and he composed two cantatas based on *Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern*. One of Bach’s harmonizations is used for **Hymn #180**. Another is used to introduce the **Offertory** which is by J.S. Bach’s uncle, Johann Christoph Bach (1642-1703).

Another German organist and composer who lived at this time was Andreas Armsdorff (1679-1699) who despite his early death, has left us with many popular chorale preludes including today’s **Postlude**.

The **Anthem**, composed by Peter Cornelius (1824-1874), uses the tune *Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern* as an accompaniment to an original tune and text about the three Kings. It is most commonly heard today as an arrangement for soloist, choir and organ by Ivor Atkins and others, but what is presented today is Cornelius’ original arrangement of this piece for baritone solo and piano.

Prayers

Radiant One, every day is an epiphany in which I, too, can pay you homage. Every day I can kneel before you and open the treasure chest of my life. In there, I find unending gifts of every kind to offer you. Every day I bring my gratitude to you, my desire to grow more loving, my longing to be true. Every day I reach into that treasure chest and offer my trust that you are near, my hope for all you promise, my belief in what is unseen. Every day I offer my

desire to live justly, my commitment to be generous, my struggle to be whole.

Divine Light, I give these gifts and so much more ... Bestower of Gifts, thank you for all that my treasure chest of life holds.

Joyce Rupp

God of all people and all places, like the magi we would journey into the presence of Jesus the Christ. There we would offer our gifts; before Christ, we would lay the realities of our lives, good and bad. We offer our joy and love and laughter, that they might be made holy; we relinquish our bitterness and hatred and worry, that we might be made whole once more; through the living Spirit of Christ. Amen.

Ruth C. Duck

Ushers

Today: Elders

Next Week: Bob Hessel, Rory Warnock, Holly Turnbull & Cheng Shyu

Gratitude

Let us begin the New Year simply and sincerely with 'thank you'. Many have been at work among us over the past couple of weeks and have contributed much to our joy over the Christmas season. We thank God for: the choir of St. Andrew's and our Director of Music for the wonderful music, for John and Kim playing the peal of bells, for Wendy and Anne providing the decorations outside and Evelyn and Phyllis Ann arranging the sanctuary so beautifully, for Laura and Kalista with Gavin, Lindsay, Olivia and Crystal offering the great angelic 'memos', for Al and Barb who co-ordinated the collection of Christmas Child boxes, for Ben who helped raise the 'Jesus was a refugee' tent on the lawn, for Allison and Ann in the office and Frank and Larry and their service during a very demanding time...

Update

Fifty two boxes were contributed to Samaritan's Purse. Two boxes were filled with new books for the children and youth who will seek shelter with their mothers over the coming year at Interval House. Over 200 were served at the Christmas Sunday Supper. Offerings to HomeBaseHousing and

Refugee Relief on Christmas Eve amounted to over \$200.

Advance Notice...

The Days of January will be distributed next Sunday. Please have notices in to the Minister by Tuesday morning.

January Meetings

Mission - Tuesday January 5, 7 p.m.
Session - Monday January 11, 7 p.m.
Budget Planning - Tuesday January 12, 7 p.m.
P&M - Monday January 25, 7 p.m.
Joint P&M, Session, Trustees Meeting - Tuesday January 26, 7 p.m.

January Gatherings

Morning Bible Study - Thursday January 14, 10 a.m.
Congregational Potluck – Sunday January 17
Women's Missionary Society - Monday January 18, 1:30 p.m.

Body, Mind and Soul

This is the title of the study guide produced at the request of the last General Assembly after its discussions on sexuality and full inclusion within the PCC. This is a significant document (78 pages!) but the elders commend it for reading and reflection - it can be found online at www.presbyterian.ca and a limited number of paper copies are available in St. Andrew's Hall. An event is being planned for the afternoon of Saturday January 30 at Strathcona Park Presbyterian Church that will bring the various Kingston-area congregations together for a presentation of some of the key sections of the study guide. After having participated in this study, individuals, congregations and presbyteries are invited to share their reflections (by February 15).

Elders' Visits

The elders of St. Andrew's would like to visit members and adherents of the congregation over the coming months. No issue or 'ask', just a gesture of pastoral care in Christian fellowship. When an elder calls to set up a visit, either at home or a coffee shop, we hope you can welcome us.

Donna Delacretaz, Clerk of Session

Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together

This one hour fitness workshop is held at St. Andrew's Monday and Wednesday mornings, 10 - 11 a.m., run by the VON. You would be welcome!

Presbytery Visitation

Every three years, the Presbytery visits its congregations to receive an update on the worship and witness of each community of faith. The visit to St. Andrew's Kingston will be held on Sunday February 21. The Service of Worship will be led by the Rev. Marian Raynard of Sand Hill/Middle Road Presbyterian Churches, and immediately after there will be a brief opportunity for members of the congregation to speak to the current life and challenges of the congregation. The monthly potluck will follow. Separate meetings with the Property and Maintenance Committee, the Session and the Minister will follow later in the week.

Assisted Death: Faithful Responses in a New Landscape

February 23-26 at Presbyterian College Montreal. An excellent panel will help explore a Christian response to the ethical and theological issues of physician-assisted death and public policy. Information can be found at www.presbyteriancollege.ca

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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Office Hours – 9:00 a.m. to noon. Mon-Thurs.
(use the Clergy St. door, next to the cannon)

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