

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 40:1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.
A voice cries out:
'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Hebrews 1:1-3a

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

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.

Notes from the Director of Music

The tune for the opening hymn, "O come, O come Emmanuel" is an old Gregorian plainsong melody from the 15th century or earlier. There was speculation for many years that the tune had been made up, possibly by the translator John Mason Neale, to resemble an ancient plainsong melody. Only recently, in 1966, a manuscript was discovered which proved that the tune had been used as a processional by an order of nuns in France. The words go back to early Latin antiphons but first appeared as a hymn in 1710, later translated into English in the 19th century. The use of plainsong sets the tone for this the first Sunday of Advent and the first of the liturgical year. The ancient sound of plainsong is also used for the **Introit** by Healey Willan and for the **Prelude** and **Offertory**.

Early organ music was largely based on the plainsong melodies heard in the pre-Reformation church. The **Prelude** composed by John Redford (c.1500-1547), is one of the earliest examples of organ music in England since much of the organ music of the time was improvised and not written down. Throughout the piece, the plainsong melody is presented as a solo line so the basis for this composition is clearly established. Redford was organist at St. Paul's in London and also wrote morality plays. The **Offertory** by John Blitheman (c.1525-1591) is really two short pieces; the first uses fragments of a plainsong melody and the second is based on a chorale melody. During Redford's time, there was not only a shift in religious thinking, but also in music there was a shift from largely plainsong-based music to music based on the chorale and we see this in Redford's two short pieces. He was the organist at the Chapel Royal between the time of Thomas Tallis and John Bull.

The **Postlude** is an early example of chorale-based composition. Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654) was the first internationally recognized composer and represented the North German style of writing which came to a peak in the writing of J.S. Bach. The South German style retained its links with Rome and plainsong-based writing continued in the Catholic South. This imaginative piece by Scheidt is a long set of variations on the chorale melody and only the last variations are presented today. Our third **Hymn** is from this time period and shows a remarkable energy and rhythm – a style which was eventually toned down through the next few centuries.

The **Anthem** was composed for a well-known British television show “The Vicar of Dibley” and was intentionally written as a piece that might stand well on its own. In that regard, Howard Goodall has succeeded and this beautiful and sensitive setting of the 23rd Psalm has become popular with choirs around the world.

Ushers

Today: Helen Ledford, Doreen Henshaw, Shirley & Rhonda Aitken

Next Week: Elders

Prayer

You keep us waiting.
You, the God of all time,
want us to wait
for the right time in which to discover
who we are, where we must go,
who will be with us, and what we must do.

So thank you ... for the waiting time.

You keep us looking.
You, the God of all space,
want us to look in the right and wrong places
for signs of hope,
for people who are hopeless,
for visions of a better world that will appear
among the disappointments of the world we know.

So thank you ... for the looking time.

You keep us loving.
You, the God whose name is love,
want us to be like you -
to love the loveless and the unlovely and the
unloveable;
to love without jealousy or design or threat;
and, most difficult of all,
to love ourselves.

So thank you ... for the loving time.

And in all this,
you keep us.
Through hard questions with no easy answers;
through failing where we hoped to succeed
and making an impact when we felt we were
useless;
through the patience and the dreams and the love
of others;
and through Jesus Christ and his Spirit,
you keep us.

So thank you ... for the keeping time,

**and for now,
and for ever,
Amen.**

Iona Community Worship Book, 1988

Today...

The flowers today are given In loving memory of the Baudoux family - Stirling, Kay, Roger and Jean.

Congregational Discussions

We have been discussing the possibilities of witness at the centre of Kingston. Today at 11:45 a.m. we will be considering priorities in ministry as we move forward, and the role of the church building in that ministry. On the basis of these discussions, recommendations will be brought forward for the congregation to consider at a formal meeting on Sunday December 13, 11:45 a.m. A 'resume' of the discussions held thus far will be available today.

Session Recommendations

Session commends the recommendation of the General Assembly that church members write and meet with their Members of Parliament prior to the "Conference of the Parties 21" meeting in December 2015 to express their support for the development of an internationally negotiated and binding agreement that sets reduction targets in green-house gas emissions in order to limit the increase in the globally averaged combined land and ocean surface temperature to 2 degrees Celsius. A sample letter is available in St. Andrew's Hall to take home this morning.

The Session recommends that members and adherents of St. Andrew's be encouraged to subscribe to the PCConnect monthly e-newsletter. This can be done by visiting presbyterian.ca/pconnect. Donna Delacretaz

Advent Devotions

Hard to believe we begin our journey towards Christmas today! Pick up a copy of one of the daily devotions in St Andrew's Hall in preparation.

Email Contact

In response to a request from a member of the congregation for access to other member's email addresses for easier contact, Session has agreed to invite you to register your email address with Allison in the office. She will keep a list of email addresses

for use only by other members of the congregation. If you are willing to make your contact address available to other members, please ask Allison to include it on her list. Donna Delacretaz

College and Careers Dinner

Join other students and young adults for a home cooked meal, this evening at 6 p.m. in the Minister's home. This month Franciele and friends will be offering a Brazilian supper. Speak to Andrew for details a.johnston@standrewskingston.org

People's Climate March - Kingston Rally

Today 1-3 p.m. Market Square

As world leaders meet in Paris, concerned citizens will gather at thousands of events around the earth to show our support for strong action on climate change. In Kingston, we will gather downtown for live music and engaging speakers, including activities for children. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/1502440906747485/> or speak to Kim Sutherland-Mills this morning.

Next Week...

Saturday December 5th Carols in the Shed "2"

Come and enjoy singing Christmas carols in our historic horse sheds at Sand Hill Presbyterian Church, 7:30 pm., 2720 Sand Hill Road. Please dress warmly! All are welcome. For more information please contact Sam Nuttall, [613-382-2576](tel:613-382-2576).

Advance Notice...

Saturday December 12th

A musical concert featuring the Pittsburgh Pickers - the praise ensemble of St. John's Presbyterian Church. 7 pm. at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2360 Middle Road, Kingston. Cost \$10 at the door. Proceeds go to the Partners in Mission food bank in Kingston. All are welcome. For more information please contact Gail at [613-542-0997](tel:613-542-0997).

Opportunities to Serve...

The Way Ahead

This is the name of the seniors' computer centre here at St. Andrew's. The present co-ordinator, Peter Skelton, will be 'retiring' this month, and if this great community service is to continue, a new co-ordinator is needed. The co-ordinator does not need to be involved in the computer tutoring, but rather

an ability to ensure publicity of the service and scheduling of tutors. If you have any interest personally, or a recommendation to offer, please speak to Andrew.

The Pastoral Care Committee

Is looking for help with visiting homebound members of the congregation on a regular basis. If this a ministry that interests you, contact Elaine Coderre for more information at [613-389-4813](tel:613-389-4813) or elainecoderre@hotmail.ca

Kingston Street Mission

We need additional dedicated, reliable and compassionate volunteers to be part of our outreach team. The mission is open from October 24th, 2015 through the end of April 2016. Hours are 7 nights a week from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. We are presently looking for volunteers for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights to help ... provide a temporary warm and safe haven to escape the harsh winter weather – help to locate a warm place to stay at one of the local shelters, supply/serve hot drinks, soup, crackers, cookies and other special treats - provide warm supplies to help shelter those sleeping outside - offer friendly conversation with an ear to really hear what they say - offer caring and compassion with no judgement. Please have a look at the poster in St. Andrew's Hall and contact me ... Marilyn McLean Chair: Kingston Street Mission kingston.street.mission@gmail.com

Salvation Army Kettles

Might you be able to dedicate 2 hours of your time to assist at one of the 17 Christmas kettles around town between Saturday, November 14 and Thursday, December 24? See poster in St. Andrew's Hall. Call [613-531-5918](tel:613-531-5918) or register yourself at volunteer.sacfs.ca

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