

Gathering to serve God & neighbour  
in this community  
since 1817

# Order of Worship

## WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 12, 2017



The Ascension of Christ - Salvador Dali (1958)

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 after the service for refreshments in St Andrew's Hall.

Ashley Reynolds is our certified caregiver for the nursery held just off St. Andrew's Hall in the Polson Davis Room. Infants and children aged three and under are welcome. Laura Tyner-Clement is our church school teacher, whom children are welcome to join immediately after the 'Time for Children' during the service. Please ask one of the ushers for any additional information. As a matter of respect for our Indigenous neighbours, we acknowledge that we meet on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory.

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
130 Clergy Street East, Kingston, ON K7K 3S3  
TEL: (613) 546-6316  
Director of Music – John Hall  
Minister – The Rev. Andrew Johnston

**Preludes** Mein G'müt est mir Verwirret Anon.  
Chorale: Herzlich tut mich erfreuen Walther  
Herzlich tut mich verlangen (#10) Brahms

### Silent Meditation

### Entry of Holy Scriptures

### Call to Worship

**Hymn** The head that once was crowned with thorns 270

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

**Introit** O Christ, thou hast ascended E.H. Bickersteth  
O Christ, thou hast ascended triumphantly on high,  
By cherub guards attended and armies of the sky:  
Let earth tell forth the story, -our very flesh and bone,  
Emmanuel, in glory, ascends his Father's throne..

### Greetings & Announcements

**Responsive Psalm** 47:1-2, 5-9

**Hymn** King of Kings 266

### Time with Children

### Scripture Readings

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:3-14

**Anthem** For Such a Time as This Joseph Martin  
*For such a time as this, we are called to service  
For such a time as this, we are called to grace.  
For such a time as this, we are called to worship  
This is the day that God has made,  
And for such a time, we are called to praise.*

### Prayers of Thanksgiving & Intercession

**Hymn** Jesus, our mighty Lord 273

**Sermon** The Ascension of Jesus: Which way is up?

### Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

**Offertory** Herzlich tut mich erfreuen Brahms

**Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow (inside)

**Hymn** Hail the day that sees Christ rise 265

### Benediction & Choral Congregational Amen

**Postlude** Second Sonata, Third movement Mendelssohn

*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.

## **Ushers**

This morning – Elaine Coderre, Pat Coderre,  
Doug Rigsby, Philippe Gabriini  
June 4 – TBA

## **Flowers**

The flowers today are placed by David & Alberta Saunders in celebration of the long awaited flowers of Spring. Thanks be to God for the gift of seasons.

## **Prayers for Ascension Sunday**

O God,  
you withdraw from our sight  
that you may be known by our love:  
help us to enter the cloud  
where you are hidden,  
and surrender all our certainty  
to the darkness of faith  
in Jesus Christ.

-Janet Morley

## **Responsive Reading**

*Responsive Psalm*

Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,  
a great ruler over all the earth.**

God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sings praises;  
sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises.**

For God is the ruler of all the earth;  
**sing praises with a psalm.**

God reigns over the nations;  
God sits on the holy throne.

**The princess of the people gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.**

**For the shields of earth belong to God;  
the Lord is highly exalted.**

*Acts 1:1-11*

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in

him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

### **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**

Today's reading from the book of Acts, describes the disciples gazing up into heaven after Christ's ascension. One wonders what they might be feeling. Although we might sing triumphantly about the Ascension, no doubt they were awe-struck; but there must have been a sense of sadness and loss that their leader, Redeemer and friend had finished his days on earth. Of course in the days ahead they would experience the power of the Holy Spirit and the full realization that Christ was with us always. And so the service begins with a rather melancholy chorale **Prelude** by Johannes Brahms (1833-1897). He published only eleven chorale preludes and two of them were based on this tune by Hans Hassler published in 1613 using the text 'Herzlich tut mich verlangen' (My heart is longing). The inspiration for Hassler's tune came from a secular song, *My Peace of Mind is Shattered* which is played as the **first Prelude**. Later, Hassler's tune was used for the now famous *Passion Chorale* used by Bach and several others including Brahms.

Another of Brahms's Chorale Preludes is based on the hymn tune 'Herzlich tut mich Erfreuen' which is played as the **second Prelude**. The Chorale Prelude is heard as the **Offertory** and is a happier piece, appropriate for the liturgical time of year and the seasonal time of year. A translation by Harold Heiberg goes: "With joy I await the lovely summer time, when God shall transform all things for

Eternity. Heaven and earth shall be created anew and all His creatures glorified."

In 1872, Bishop E.H. Bickersteth wrote a hymn for Ascension Day which appeared in only a few hymn books. There are precious few hymns for Ascension in today's hymn books. We hear Bickersteth's words set to the tune Ellacombe as our **Introit**. The words of today's **Anthem** seem appropriate for the celebration of Ascension, when Christ's work as a man on earth is complete and the work of the church begins. American composer Joseph Martin wrote both music and words for this in 2004.

The service ends with a triumphant movement from an organ sonata by Felix Mendelssohn. Sadness is dispelled and in the words of the famous hymn: "Triumphant in his glory now – to him all power is given."

### **Today**

#### **Historical Banners**

All are invited to linger for a moment after the service in St. Andrew's Hall, for some refreshments and a time of fellowship. This morning be sure to leave some time to peruse our pop-up banners that tell something of the story of St. Andrew's Church, to be used this summer in the sanctuary during weekday tours. Thanks to Andy Mills for coordinating

#### **Burning Bush**

Another edition of our congregational newsletter has been published and is available in St. Andrew's Hall. Be sure to pick up a copy. We thank Ada Mallory, our editor, and all who have contributed.

#### **Sunday Perspectives**

This evening at 7 p.m. an opportunity to see the film that was awarded both the Palm d'Or and the Ecumenical Jury prize at Cannes – 'I, Daniel Blake' by Ken Loach. Buy your own ticket at the Screening Room, and join with others from St. Mark's Lutheran and Chalmers United at the Screening Room for a contemporary film and a brief discussion afterwards.

#### **Anniversary Banquet**

Tickets are now available for our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> here at the church. The evening will include contributions by our choir and an address by the Honourable Peter Milliken. The meal will be catered by Ramekins and is

being offered at a cost of \$15. Any additional funds will help support another member to attend. See Rose DeShaw in St. Andrew's Hall after the service this morning.

## This Week

### General Assembly

Here in the Presbytery of Kingston, we have a once-in-a-generation to participate in a General Assembly. You are invited to join with 300 commissioners, national staff, ecumenical visitor, and fellow Presbyterians.

#### a) Sunday, June 4, 7pm

The Sanctuary of St. Andrew's will be filled with God's people and God's praise. Drummers will greet us. A combined choir will sing. The themes of both the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation will be celebrated in hymns. Carpool or take public transport if you can.

#### b) Sederunts of Assembly.

The meetings of Assembly are open to all. They will be held in the lower level gym of the Queen's Athletic and Recreation Centre (ARC) Monday and Tuesday 8:30am – noon, 2pm – 5:30pm, 7pm – 9pm and Wednesday 8:30am – noon. Of special note is the presentation by Cindy Blackstock on Monday afternoon. If you are interested, the Book of Reports can be found at <http://presbyterian.ca/gao/ga2017/> It gives a comprehensive overview of the Church across Canada and the issues before it.

## Advance Notice

### Sunday June 4

The Elders are encouraging as many members of St. Andrew's as possible to attend the evening service, at which Holy Communion will be celebrated. Our morning service will be a "regular" service, or at least as regular as Pentecost Sunday could be!

### Doors Open Kingston

On Saturday, June 17, we hope to have the doors of the church open for our Kingston neighbours to wander in and tour the beauty of the sanctuary. Would you be willing to offer your time, either 10am – 1pm or 1pm – 4pm? Please speak to Andrew.

## Also...

### Baby Bottle Drive

If you have not already done so, please pick up your baby bottle for the "Change for Life" fundraiser to

support The Kingston Pregnancy Care Centre in aid of those in crisis pregnancy situations. The bottles are returned on Father's Day. Our newborns are counting on you!

## Presbyterians Sharing



Presbyterians Sharing helps Toronto's ARISE Ministry offer outreach, case management and pastoral care to victims of human trafficking and people involved in the sex trade. As part of this ministry, the Rev. Deb Rapport sets out once a week at midnight with one or two others to chat with women they meet and find out if they are ok. They hand out bags filled by volunteers with things a woman might want - including hand sanitizer, tissues, lip gloss, chocolate and emergency numbers - and even more important, a sign that someone cares. Deb shares, "ARISE Ministry is where hope lives! What a profoundly awe-inspiring experience to see hope take hold in someone's life. Please pray for ARISE as we continue to plant, tend and care for the seeds of hope growing in the lives of individuals involved in the sex trade." In 2017, St. Andrew's Kingston has committed the sum of \$25,000 to Presbyterians Sharing as part of our witness.

## Weekly Givings

	Budgeted	Received
May 21, 2017	\$8,408	\$7,874
Year to Date	\$101,983	\$90,888

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## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

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