

Sunday December 20, 2020



Angels Appearing before the Shepherds c. 1910 Henry Ossawa Tanner

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

130 Clergy Street East, Kingston, ON, K7K 3S3

www.StAndrewsKingston.org

613-546-6316

Gathering to serve God & neighbour
in this community since 1817

We acknowledge that we meet on the traditional lands
of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude Holy Lord, Our Grateful Prayer now hear
Beethoven
Where are these merry Shepherds going?
Charpentier

Entry of the Bible

Call to Worship

Hymn Angels from the realms of glory 146

Prayer of Approach

The Lord's Prayer

Introit Shepherds! Shake off your drowsy sleep

Greetings & Announcements

Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent The Bell Family

Time with Children

Scripture Lessons Luke 2: 8-20 Philippe G

Acts 1:8

Hymn People in darkness 124

Sermon Dimensions of Christian Faith
4) Shepherds and the Spirit-Led Life

Meditative Music Shepherds, let your animals graze Charpentier

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Hymn The first nowell 136

Benediction & Choral Amen

Postlude Noël Suisse D'Aquin

Please remain in your seat until after the postlude
When the usher will provide guidance for you to leave your pew.
Outside, after the service – 'Angels from the realms of glory'

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.
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, for ever.
Amen.

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ!

While it is good to be able to re-open the doors to this sanctuary, this service of worship will not be as we knew worship prior to this pandemic. The Elders thank all present for their willingness to abide by the protocols established as we honour the guidance of public health authorities and denominational leadership. Please review these guidelines, as summarized on the inside of the back page of this bulletin. The Minister will be conducting worship from the pulpit, as now required when speaking while not wearing a mask.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 2: 8-20

The Shepherds and the Angels

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
 and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Acts 1:8

'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.'

NOTES FROM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Last Wednesday was the 250th birthday of one of the greatest composers of all time. The first **Prelude** is from our choral library: an anthem arrangement of the 2nd movement of his piano sonata Op. 13. Happy Birthday dear Ludwig!

So far this Advent season, the music has come mostly from Germany and England. Today, the last Sunday of Advent, all of the music comes from France, all of it based on those marvellous French carols or "Noëls". To go along with the sermon theme, the Noëls in today's service deal with the Shepherds. With the wonderful pipe organs available, French organists throughout the years have played and improvised on these Noëls. The rather lengthy **Prelude** *Où s'en vont ces gais bergers?* is by a composer with the rather lengthy name Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier (1734-94). He also composed the music after the **Sermon**, *Laissez paître vos bêtes*. Both of these pieces present the original Noël and then create variations on the melody. During the early classical period in which Charpentier lived, there was not much written for the organ, probably because many composers had been humbled by the giants of the preceding Baroque period. One of these giants was Louis Claude D'Aquin (1694-1772) who was Charpentier's predecessor at Eglise St. Paul in Paris. One of his best known Noëls is presented as the **Postlude**. The **Solo** comes from the

city of Besançon in France near the Swiss border. We know the tune from the carol with the modern words: *People Look East*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gifts on the Christmas Tree

Each of the balls on the tree represents a gift of support to Partners in Mission food bank. Thanks to all who have participated so far. We can donate at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/11240/donation>.

Mission Offerings

It is with thanksgiving and joy that the Mission Committee reports that our 2020 goals have been met, and surpassed! Dedicated offerings totalling over \$20,000 have supported Camp Iawah, HomeBase Housing, Cariboo House Churches BC, Flora House Winnipeg, Theological College Beirut, Presbyterian World Service and Development, Presbyterian College Montreal, SAT-7, Salvation Army Prison Ministry Kingston, and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship!

Christmas Eve

Thursday December 24

Outdoor Carol Sing and Candles

4:30 p.m. on the Church Lawn

Socially distanced, with masks on, but singing (!) our joy and hope, and we will conclude with 'Silent night, Holy night'

Service of Readings, Carols and Music

7:30 p.m. online only

Finally, our waiting is over and the Christ Candle is lit. We hear again how the Holy One came to us, as one of us, to bring God's love into our lives.

The link is found at www.standrewskingston.org

The Lord's Supper and Epiphany Sunday January 3

Last Epiphany small paper stars were distributed with a word that might prompt reflection and inspiration through the year. Would you be willing to share some thoughts that came to you on this coming

Epiphany Sunday? Please let Andrew know. A new star-word for 2021 will be distributed with the Days of January to be mailed January 7.

Possible New Direction for Use of Manse

Some months ago, the Session appointed a committee to review the use of the manse in light of the Christian witness of the congregation. For some years the manse has been dedicated to housing an intentional Christian student community. At a recent meeting, it was agreed to explore the possibility of shifting use to help meet the current crisis in the availability of affordable housing in Kingston. A request for 'Expressions of Interest' is being distributed to various housing circles and social agencies, and a report will be presented to the AGM the end of February for consideration by the congregation.

First Coming by Madeline L'Engle

God did not wait till the world was ready,
till ... nations were at peace.
God came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

God did not wait for the perfect time.
God came when the need was deep and great.
God dined with sinners in all their grim,
turned water into wine. God did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy God came
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
God came, and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Protocol for Worship in the Sanctuary of St. Andrew's during a Time of Pandemic

- you will be greeted by an usher outside the open door of the sanctuary to answer any questions and ensure a measured entrance into the church
- the wearing of face masks at all times in the building is mandatory
- you will be ushered to a seat, filling the front pews first
- there will be no congregational singing or choir: to ensure no sharing of materials, the lyrics to hymns and scripture passages are included in the bulletin
- you will be asked to leave from the same door in which you entered, beginning from the back pews
- our offerings of thanksgiving and dedication will be received at the back of the sanctuary as we leave
- we are asked to leave the sanctuary immediately to avoid close proximity to others in the narrow aisles at the back or in the foyers, and we will have no opportunity for fellowship within the church facilities

SERVING THIS MORNING

Bell Ringer

Margaret H

Cantor

Paul P

Ushers This Morning

December 20

John S, Murray & Dixie D, Dorothy M, Rory W,
Susan & David H

December 27

Elaine & Pat C, Janet & Paul, Kim S, Andy M,
Holly T

Financial Review to Nov 30, 2020

Budgeted

Received

Community Use Contributions + Manse

\$ 56,833

\$ 32,645

Designated Mission Offerings

\$ 16,958

\$ 21,644

General Offerings

\$213,328

\$214,408

Sacred Spaces and Faith Formation



Camps and conference centres have been an important part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada for many years, providing vital ministry outreach to all ages. For adults, conference centres create “sacred spaces” for retreat, leadership development, education, missionary

training, vocational discernment and so much more. For children and youth, a summer camp experience can help them to grow spiritually, socially and physically in a fun-filled and safe place of adventure and challenge. Camps play an important role in faith formation for children who would not otherwise have an opportunity to learn about Christ’s love. Please pray for PCC camps and conference centres so that they may continue to provide vital, life-giving outreach for many years to come. Presbyterians Sharing provides resources for camps

In 2020, St. Andrew’s Kingston has a goal of contributing the sum of \$25,500 to support a witness together through Presbyterians Sharing.

**Chair of Property and Maintenance - Dennis Tysick
Treasurer - Paul Payne**

**Chair of Trustees - Ralph Kendall
Clerk of Session - Alberta Saunders**

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