

Sunday December 17, 2023



**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 Haudonosaunee peoples.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Preludes Be Glad Now, All Ye Christian Men Pachelbel

Entry of the Bible

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candle #3 - Joy

(see insert)

Hymn	Hail to the Lord's Anointed	115
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Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Words of Assurance

Gospel Box

The Lord's Prayer

Mission Moment Holly

Scripture Lessons Responsive Psalm 126 David

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Hymn	People in darkness	124
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Message “On the Brink”

Music Ministry People Look East Besançon Carol

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow 830

Dedication of Offering

Prayers of the People

Hymn	Christ is coming	795
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Benediction and Choral Amen

Postlude Noel X Louis C. Daquin



Third Sunday in Advent

Joy

Voice 1: The prophets call and an apostle writes to announce that joy comes from God.

Voice 2: “The spirit of the Lord God is upon me...and has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, ...to comfort all who mourn; ...to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning...”
(Isaiah 61)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice.”
(Philippians 4)

Voice 1: Grief, pain and loss are inevitable. But woven into life is the joy of living in a universe that reflects God's beauty. Advent provides time to nurture joy in our lives and in the world God loves. Advent calls us to share with others the good news that comes into the world with the birth of Christ.

Voice 2: Holy are you, Source of all new life among us.

All: **Jesus Christ comes as joy to the world.**

Voice 2: We join with all creation and lift our hearts in joyful praise.

All: **We light this candle to glow for joy.**
(while lighting the candle of joy)

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

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Responsive Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negev.

**May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.**

Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,

**shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the
Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold
fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Response to readings

For the word of God in Scripture

For the word of God within us

For the word of God around us

Thanks be to God

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706) was a friend of the father of the great J.S. Bach and the composer of many fine works including last week's Postlude and this week's **Prelude**. Again, his chorale prelude is in a fugetta style and I will precede it with the original chorale harmonized by J.S. Bach. The original words were by Martin Luther in 1523 and shortly after, a translation was made by Bishop Coverdale in 1539. It appeared in his book with the curious title *Goostly Psalmes and Spirituall Songs*:

(I love the old language and spelink)

*Be glad now, all ye christen men,
And let us rejoyce unfaynedly,
The kyndnesse cannot be written with penne
That we have receaved of God's mercy,
Whose love towards us hath never ende:
He hath done for us as a frende;
Now let us thank him hartely.*

The tune for today's **Anthem** comes from a region of in the northeast of France called Besançon and first appeared in a collection entitled *Recueil de Noël's anciens au patois de Besançon* published in 1842. The words are by Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) a celebrated author of plays, poems and children's books and is best known for her hymn "Morning has Broken".

We are so close to Christmas so I must conclude the service with another Noël, this time by one of the most famous composers of Noëls for organ, Louis Claude D'Aquin (1694-1772). This is the tenth of his collection and his often playful extemporization is based on the French carol “Bon Joseph, écoutez-moi”.

Anthem – People Look East

People look east, the time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

Hark! Even now the bells ring round.
Listen to their merry sound;
Hark! How the birds new songs are making,
As if winter's chains were breaking.
Shepherds, the chorus come and swell,
Sing Noel, Noel, Noel!

Angels announce to man and beast
Him who cometh from the East.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word,
THE LORD IS COMING!
People, look East, and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

*Text: Eleanor Farieon
Music: old Besançon Carol*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this week, in person and online. We are happy that you're here, and hope you find the service meaningful and satisfying. Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments in St. Andrew's Hall after the service so that we might greet each other.

Circle of Prayer

This team of St. Andrew's members is ready to add their prayers to yours. If you would like to join our circle, or if you have a prayer request (confidentiality assured), please contact our co-ordinator Dorothy at dotmessenger@gmail.com

Advent Tree

During Advent, in St. Andrew's Hall, you will see a tree whose branches are beautifully laden down with socks, scarves, hats and mittens. Thank you so much for your generous contributions! After Christmas, these items will be distributed to those in need of a little extra winter warmth. If you still have items to bring, and there is no room on the tree, just add them to the baskets underneath.

Scripture Readers

Seeking Scripture readers for 2024. If you would like to participate, please sign the roster at the back of the church.

Christmas Services

Sunday, 24th December, 10:30 – Sunday worship: 4th Sunday in Advent

Sunday, 24th December, 5:00 – Family friendly Lessons and Carols
service, including a costumed tableau

Sunday, 31st December, 10:30 – Sunday worship

Year-end donations

Thank you for your continued financial support of St. Andrew's. For contributions to be reflected on your 2023 tax receipt, please make any year end donations prior to Christmas.

Christmas Office Hours

Please note that, as usual, the church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year. This year, that will be the week of Dec 25-29. If you have pastoral concerns during this time, please contact Rev. Carr on his cell phone at: (613)451-2067

Church Directory

Please ensure that the Roll Clerk/Office has been made aware if you have moved within the last year, acquired a new phone number or new email address. This is to ensure that the new directory of Members and Adherents (to be distributed in January) has the correct information.

Financial Review to Nov 30, 2023	Budgeted	Received
General Offerings	\$204,858	\$179,245
Missions	\$15,000	\$11,241

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR FALL 2023

Sunday School – a multi-grade class, each Sunday immediately after Children’s Time. We also have a nursery for infants and pre-schoolers, staffed by a certified ECE.

Choir – Thursdays 7:00 pm, St. Andrew’s Hall, mjchall@telusplanet.net

Imago Dei – A gathering to read Scripture, discuss, study and spend time in contemplative prayer. 1st Thursday monthly, 4:30-5:30. Contact: dotmessenger@gmail.com

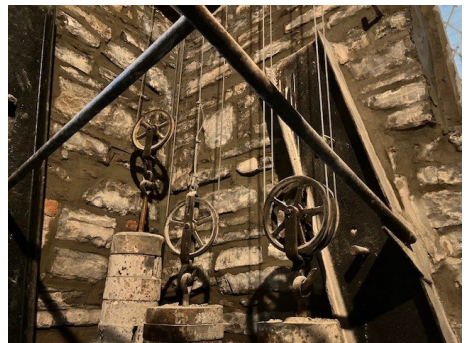
Prayer in Song – A meditative ecumenical gathering of singing and prayer in the Taizé tradition. Last Friday of each month, 5:15-6:00 pm, in the chapel of St. Andrew’s. Enter via doors on Princess St. Dates for 2023/4: Dec 29, Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 29, Apr 26, May 31, Jun 28.

AROUND THE CHURCH



If you've been around the church on a weekday, this past month or so, you'll have noticed a rather dusty quartet of fellas walking quietly across the back of the sanctuary and disappearing up into the bell tower. This was Jamie Hickey and his team of stone masons from Limestone Masonry who have been toiling away in the chilly, close quarters of the tower, renovating the stone-work to keep the tower safe, and the elements outside. Since folks rarely go up into the tower, here are some photos of the finished

product. We send a huge 'thank you' to John Hall as well, for revealing a hidden talent as a drywall installer – he did all the finished work in the bell ringing area! The old drywall had been badly damaged by ice and water, but now looks spiffy and bright. None of this is glamorous work, but like so much that goes on behind the scenes, it is necessary to keep an historic building functioning. Kudos to all involved.



IN THE COMMUNITY

Partners in Mission Foodbank

As we approach the Christmas season – traditionally their busiest time of year – Partners in Mission is especially grateful for donations. Their most needed items include:

Canned meat/fish

Peanut Butter

Cereal

Baby Food

Stews/Chunky Soups

Canned Tomatoes

Pasta Sauce

100% Fruit Juice

Soup

Monetary donations

(<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/11240>)

SERVING THIS MORNING

Beadle: Larry

Livestreaming: Christopher

Flowers: Decorating Committee

Ushers this week: Helene and Michael

Ushers 24 Dec (a.m.) Elaine and Pat

Ushers 24 Dec (p.m.) Alberta and David

Convener of Property and Maintenance – John Sanger

Treasurer – Paul Payne

Chair of Trustees – Ken Hancock

Clerk of Session – David Holland

Office – Lori-Kim den Otter lorikim@standrewskingston.org

Bookkeeper – Candace Gomes candace@standrewskingston.org

Weekday Custodian – Glen Mercer

Weekend Custodian – Larry Moore

Director of Music – John Hall – mjchall@telusplanet.net

Minister – Rev. Barry Carr – rvrndbcarr@gmail.com

Mission Moment – Geneva House



Geneva House is part of a broader campus ministry called Momentum Campus Ministries. Geneva House has been serving students at Queen's University campus since 1974. Their mission is to be an incredible community where people experience Jesus and his transformation in their lives. To fulfil their mission, Geneva House strives to build community, disciples and leaders. To create community, an environment is fostered where people feel cared for, valued and part of the Geneva family and where deep relationships of authenticity and accountability are cultivated. Discipleship is encouraged by helping people connect deeply with God and flourish as followers of Jesus. Leadership is built by investing in the next generation and inspiring them to be exceptional leaders who step more fully into their mission in life.

“Geneva House was a calm oasis where my heart found rest and joy, and new brothers and sister in Jesus Christ.”

Exchange Student- Queen's University

In 2023, through offerings designated “Mission”, members of St. Andrew's Kingston have a goal of contributing \$1,165 to Geneva House.