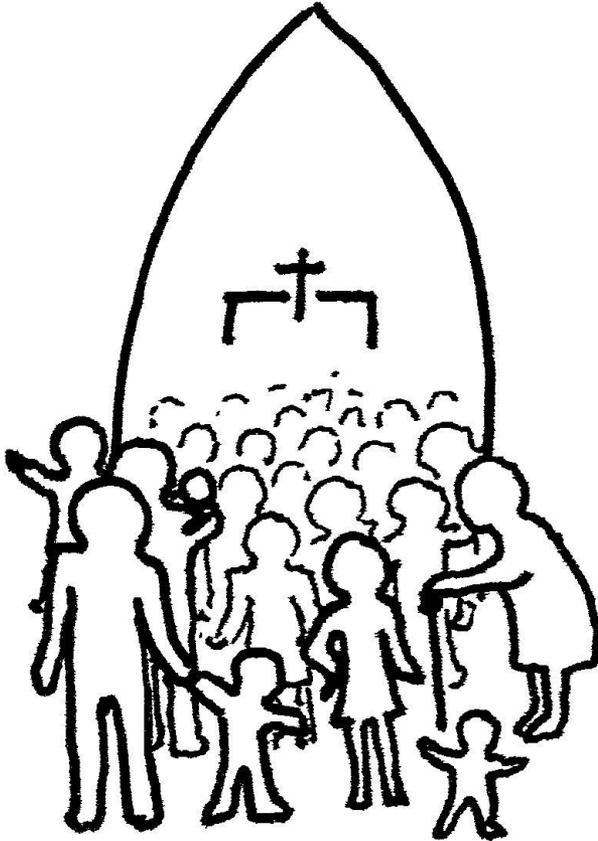


ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Harvey Station, New Brunswick

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StAndrewsHarvey

Webpage: <https://standrewsunitedharvey.com>



If you are curious and have come to explore...

If you are weary and have come to rest...

If you are grateful and have come to give thanks...

If you are hurting and have come for solace...

If you are listening and have come to pray...

If you are seeking and have come to join fellow seekers...

PJILA'SI ❖ WELCOME ❖ BIENVENUE

December 13, 2020

Advent 3 - Joy

GATHERING

Music to Welcome Us

*the asterisk * indicates rising in body or spirit*

Welcome & 'This Week' at St. Andrew's

Notices, birthdays and anniversaries, significant events, Candle of Concern

***Entry into the Celebration**

Advent is about the birth of something sacred.

For something sacred needs to be born:

born from the coupling of what is, and what might be.

It needs a manger.

So, let us prepare a manger in our hearts

for the birth of the sacred

***Invitation to Worship**

God is coming

to push back the shadows of this world.

God is coming

to announce the dawning of a new day.

God is coming

to bring life where there is no life,

hope where there is no hope,

love where there is no love.

During the long nights of December,

we dance in Advent light because

we know our God is coming.

Gathering Prayer

Fullness of Joy, we enter into this relationship we call worship with a song of joy in our hearts. We enter seeking affirmation of the love that brings us new life. Fullness of Joy, hear our prayers this day and in your love, answer. May it be so. Amen.

We Mark our Advent Journey ~ Joy

Advent is a season of waiting: waiting for the hope, peace, joy, and love of God to break into our lives anew through the story of the birth of Jesus, and through acts of hope, peace, joy, and love. Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy.

We wait.

We wait – not because we do not know the story of Jesus, and not because God is not already and always here.

We wait because to wait is to expect something more.

To wait is to expect that the story
might enter our hearts
and our world
in new ways,
to bring the change for which we long.
the candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY are lit

**As we light the candle of joy,
we remember the stories
of God's loyalty to all creation.
We give thanks for the messengers -
the apostles, prophets, artists, sages, faithful ones
- present in every age,
who bring us the good news
of God's restoring love;
and we shout with joy,
trusting that God is with us and before us,
and that joy will be born anew in us.**

GROWING WITH GOD

Learning Together

Prayer for the Day

Thomas Carruth, adapted

The kingdom of love is coming because:
**somewhere someone is kind when others are unkind,
somewhere someone shares with another in need,
somewhere someone refuses to hate, while others hate,
somewhere someone is patient - and waits in love,
somewhere someone returns good for evil,
somewhere someone serves another, in love,
somewhere someone is calm in a storm,
somewhere someone is loving everybody.
Help that someone to be me. Amen.**

CENTERING

Centering Silence

Let there now be a silence among us...

**May God's stillness and peace rest upon us.
May God's presence permeate all our living.
May God's blessing bloom around us.**

Moment for Silent Reflection

Music for Reflection

EXPLORING

*Eternal God, in the reading of scripture, may your word be heard;
in the meditations of our hearts, may your word be known;
and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown. Amen.*

Readings from our Faith Tradition

Mark 1:2-3

Story: Who Are You?

John 1:6-8, 19-28

*Inclusive Text
from Spill the Beans
Inclusive Text, adapted*

Reflection

AFFIRMING

We Dedicate Our Gifts ~ Prayer

Prayers of the People ~ The Prayer the Jesus Taught

We are people of all ages who enter this space bringing our joys and concerns.
Joys and celebrations; griefs and concerns shared

SCATTERING

***Blessing for the Way**

Let us go in faith to ponder in our hearts
the mystery and the wonder of this season...

Gathered together

We wait for the light.

Standing together

We trust in the light.

Praying together

We hope for the light.

Seeking together

We step out with the light.

Singing together

We are blessed by the light.

Go now in joy, building, living in, and enjoying
a community full of welcome and equality.

Thanks be to God. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Getting Ready for Baby Jesus *online* Advent Sundays, 9am

Starting November 29, join us on Facebook Live as we get ready to meet Baby Jesus with these child-focused, family friendly services for all ages.

Wednesday Evening Prayer Service *online* - December 2-23, 7pm

Join us on Facebook Live as we take time to step back and reflect on the meaning of the season with these short mid-week evening candlelight services.

Communion at Home *online* - December 20, 1:30 pm

BYOB&W (bring your own bread and wine) and join us on Facebook Live as we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion together. Don't have bread and grape juice at home? Not to worry, we have you covered. Communion elements for this service are available for pick up at St. Andrew's United on Sunday, December 13 & 20, 11:30 - 1pm.

Christingle at Home *online* - December 20, 6:30pm

Join us on Facebook Live for this fun interactive all-ages service as we hear the Christmas story, make a Christingle and share the light of the season. A Christingle kit and worship materials for this service are available for pick up at St. Andrew's United on Sunday, December 13 & 20, 11:30 - 1pm. Can't make it on those dates? If you would like a Christingle kit delivered to your home or would like to arrange for an alternative time to pick up a Christingle kit from the Manse during the week of December 13 - 20, please call the church study.

Longest Night Service *online* - December 21, 7pm

Also known as a Blue Christmas service, this service is for those of us who find the season challenging or just need space to reflect. Worship materials for this service are available for pick up at St. Andrew's United on Sunday, December 13 & 20, 11:30 - 1pm. Can't make it on those dates? If you would like worship materials delivered to your home or would like to arrange for an alternative time to pick up a Christingle kit from the Manse during the week of December 13 - 20, please call the church study.

Christmas Eve Service - December 24, 3pm & 7pm

Join us in person and online for one of our uplifting, upbeat services as we celebrate the birth of Christ into our lives and our world.

To reserve your seat for in person worship at your preferred time, please register online. Registration December 20. See our website for more details. Not online and want to reserve a seat? Please call the church study.

Thank You!

Thank you! In this time of transition your generosity helps!

Your ongoing support of the ministry and mission of St. Andrew's United Church means that we can keep doing what we've always done – care for each other and our neighbours in this time and in this place.

Together we do important work.

Here are the best ways to financially support the ministry we share:

Offering plates are located at the entrance and exit of the sanctuary for your envelope and/or loose offering

Through e-transfers:

The email address to use is: standrewsharvey@gmail.com

Through PAR (pre-authorized remittance) for your ongoing financial support: <https://www.united-church.ca/.../f.../resources/par-brochure.pdf>

By cheques:

Harvey Station Pastoral Charge – St. Andrew's United

137 Arnold Little Road

Harvey, NB E6k 1S7

Attn: Sabina

Also, donations can be received through Canada Helps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/.../harvey-station-pastoral-char.../>

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Ministers of Music: Sue Richards & Beverley Little

Clergy: Rev. Christine Johnson, BFA, M.Div (Hons)

Church Study: 1985 Route 3, Harvey Station **Tel:** 366-3220

email: rev.christinejohnson@gmail.com

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on this land, their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

We are gathered on the unceded traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq peoples and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

WELCOME A warm welcome is extended to all. Especially those who are worshipping with us for the first time or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together.



St. Andrew's United is equipped with a hearing loop. To enjoy better hearing in the loop, switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to one of the following settings:

- T
- T-Coil
- Telephone

FOODBANK SUNDAY is the last Sunday of the month. Locally, our ongoing support of the Foodbank is vital. Offerings of food and financial support enable many people to have access to the food they need.

Children are an important part of our church and are always welcome in worship. For now, regular Sunday school programming is taking a break. Until Sunday school resumes, there are weekly 'children's church' pew packs available for active minds and bodies. You can find them at the entrance of the sanctuary. If you missed them on the way in and want one, please raise your hand and an usher will get one for you. **Please take your pew pack home with you following worship.** While our nursery facilities are closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, both washrooms in the CE Centre are equipped with changing tables. Nice to see you! We are glad you are here!

Ways you can support our ministry at St. Andrew's United Church

Sign up to be a Sunday morning usher or to lend a hand with cleaning. Come to one of our monthly Zoom gatherings like *Theology on Tap* or *Coffee and Conversation*. Play an instrument or sing a solo during worship. Like and share our Facebook posts. Use PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) for sharing financial gifts. There are lots of ways to support our shared ministry. Together we make a difference. For more info contact Rev. Christine at rev.christinejohnson@gmail.com or 366-3220