



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

Website: www.standrewspcc.ca

Interim Moderator: Rev. Calvin Burt, 1-902-715-4006; calvinburt@bellaliant.net

Minister Emeritus: Rev. R.A.B. MacLean

Session Clerk: Cheryl E. Weeks, 902-435-4112; cweeks@ns.sympatico.ca

Advent 2, December 8, 2024

Service colour: Blue

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP 10:30 a.m. (also on YouTube)

Prelude (a time for prayer and reflection)

Placing of the Bible (*stand if able*)

Lighting of the Christ Candle; Doxology (Book of Praise 830)

Call to Worship: (*standing if able*) A voice in the wilderness cries out:

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill be made low.

The crooked shall be made straight, and rough places, smooth.

A voice in the wilderness cries out: **All people shall see the salvation of God!**

Lift up your hearts in expectation!

We will lift up our praise to the One who is coming into the world once more.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: 146 "Angels from the realms of glory"

Call to confession

Prayer of Confession: (unison) **Merciful God, baptism promises the washing away of our sin and the start of our new life in Christ. But we confess that we still in love with our old ways. We sin against you and one another, in what we do and in what we fail to do. We excuse ourselves and take comfort in what is familiar and pleases us rather than what serves you. Forgive us when we mistake such comfort for the peace you offer us in Christ Jesus, and prepare our hearts to embrace new ways of following him. Amen.**

Song: 561 "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us."

Declaration of forgiveness: The Lord's Prayer (debts, debtors)

A sharing of the Peace of Christ followed by *Hallelujah* (Hymn 294)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candle of Peace – Jamie Leck

Solo: "There's a voice in the wilderness crying"

Learning for all ages: {children gather at Chancel stairs}

Prayer for Illumination

Lessons: Malachi 3:1–4 (p. 841); Luke 1:68–79 – Song of Mary (p. 50);

Philippians 1:3–11 (p.173); Luke 3:1–6 (p.52)

Reader: The Word of the Lord. Congregation: **Thanks be to God. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Sermon: based on Malachi 3: 1–4

Hymn: 752 "Blest be the God of Israel"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Announcing the Offering of our gifts followed by The Offertory

Prayer of Dedication (*stand if able*)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and for others (Christ Jesus, coming among us, **bring us peace**)

Hymn: 116 "Hark! a shrilling voice is sounding"

Benediction & Choral Amen

Song: "Go now in peace" (*all seated*) (hymn book – inside back cover)

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Postlude

Welcoming Worshipers: Jim & Kathy Kennedy

Elevator: Heather Barkhouse

Organist: Dr. Ken Cameron

Conducting the Service: Rev. Bert Vanderbeek **Soloist:** David Campbell

Placing the Bible: Nancy Heighton

Reader: Jocelyn Ryan-Wiggin

Audio: Ross Barkhouse, Luke Campbell, Erin Sloan

This week at St. Andrew's

Wed: Hope Cottage Ministry; installation of heat pumps begin

Sun: Dec. 15 10:30 a.m Service of lessons and carols; fellowship in Hall

The poinsettia plant is placed in loving memory of Doris Manuel by Robyn Murray; the flowers were placed in loving memory of Fraser Heighton by his wife, Nancy.

The mother of Nancy MacNeill Smith died on November 29 in PEI; she was 100 years old. A sister-in-law of Wade MacDonald died on November 28 in Kentville. Please keep these families in your prayers.

Sunday, December 15: The focus will be on music, including carols and lessons. You are invited to expand our choir for this special service to help lead the singing! We will be singing familiar carols. Fellowship in Hall after the service with music led by Bob & Al Macdonald.

Christmas Project: \$3,415 was received and taken to FEED NOVA SCOTIA on December 2; Sobey's doubled this amount. A huge thank you to the people of St. Andrew's for your generosity!

Hymn 146

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night:
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star.

4. Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.

5. Though an infant now we view him, he shall fill his Father's throne, gather
all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down.

Hymn 752

1. Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of rescue and release;
God shall fulfil the promise to bring the gift of peace.

2. Now from the house of David a child of grace has come,
a Saviour who will lead us to our eternal home.
Before him goes his herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the messenger of day.

3. On those who live in darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.

Oh bless our God and Saviour with songs that never cease!

MERLE'S TUNE 7.6.7.6.D. Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company Text:

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Hymn 116

1. Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding:
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

2. Wakened by the solemn warning,
let us all from sleep arise;
Christ, our sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven.

4. When our Saviour comes in glory,
though the world be wrapped in fear,
with his mercy he will shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

5. Honour, glory, might and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while eternal ages run.