

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 6206, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 6J9

76 Queen's Road at Long's Hill

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Dent, BA, MTS, STM, PhD.

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White Gift - Advent 3

December 14, 2014

Welcome to St. Andrew's Church! In Advent we prepare to celebrate the gift of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We bring our hope, peace, joy and love to be touched by His. May God bless you richly and deeply as we prepare for Christmas together

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP, 11:00 A.M. APPROACH TO GOD

Organ Prelude

Entry of the Bible

(Congregation Standing)

Introit: " Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

...McGee

Greeting

Responsive Call to Worship:

A voice cries out:

In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up.

Every mountain and hill shall be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

All people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Hymn of Approach: Hark the Glad Sound

#118

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.

Children's Hymn: In the Bleak Mid winter

#145

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Joy

(see insert)

Children's Story and Prayer

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Thomas Roberts

(page 691)

Responsive Psalm: 126

(page 572)

New Testament: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Christina Templeton

(page 091)

Choral Anthem: "My soul gives glory to my God"

...Winter/Douglas

Sermon: "Pointing People to Jesus"

Hymn: Once in Royal David's City

#166

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Announcements

Offering and Offertory

Doxology (822, vs.4)

Offertory Prayer

Confession of Faith: Living Faith

9.2.2

(page 27)

"We witness to God in Christ..."

Commissioning Hymn: The Angel Gabriel from heaven came

#156

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude

NURSERY ATTENDANT Kim Marshall *For those who wish, a nursery is available in the church hall next door.*

Bears and winter ice candles! **These booklets will change on a regular basis. Check the box in the vestibule for the latest booklets.

SPECIAL GREETINGS to Ray MacGillivray who celebrated his 100th birthday on October 8th! Congratulations from the Congregation.

ANNIVERSARIES... Dec - 14 Stewart and Linda Fraser; Dec - 15 Clyde and Janet Wiseman, David and Rose Frew; Dec- 20 Glen Hamlyn and Elizabeth Green.

If Pastoral Care is required, please contact Rev. Bob Rowlands at the church office (726-5385) or home (754-8944).

Do you love to sing the carols during the Advent and Christmas season? Perhaps you could lend your voice to the "Christmas Choir". Several of our choir members are going to be away with family and it would be a wonderful opportunity to lend your voice for just a couple of weeks to the choir. Practice is Wednesday at 7:30 and if you are interested but unable to make a Wednesday practice, just join the choir stall on Sunday!

Would you like to be a King? A Shepherd? A Soldier? Now you can! After more than 40 years our costumes for the annual children's pageant are being updated with new ones. With the help of many elves this task is underway so that we can debut the new costumes this year. The cost of the new costumes is \$500 and we are asking the congregation to help cover this by giving as they are able. Please mark your envelope in the "Other" section with a note saying "Costumes". We are so blessed with a congregation who supports our Sunday school with a generous heart.

It's that time of year again: St Andrew's Sunday School Annual Christmas Pageant is Dec 21st. We will be preparing for it over the next few weeks and would like to extend an invitation to all our youth to come along and take part in all the fun. In order to make it a big success we need lots of help and extras so even if you have not attended or are here every other week please feel free to come and bring a friend. As is tradition, our Christmas party and dress rehearsal will be held on Sat., Dec. 20th. We will once again have our Baby Shower where gifts are brought in by students and members of the congregation and given to Santa at the Christmas party for those in need. Please contact Jennifer Pallard at 697-6183 or jennpallard@gmail.com with any questions. Hope to see you soon.

The Friday Morning Bible Study will be in recess for the remainder of Advent and the twelve days of Christmas. The Study will resume at 10 AM on the first Friday after Epiphany (January 9).

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY We ask that adults who bring white gifts place them under one of the two Christmas trees prior to the worship service. During the service we will more formally invite the children to come and place their white gifts under the trees.

THE ATLANTIC MISSION SOCIETY (AMS) will be holding its meeting today at 12:30pm in the Hall. It will focus on preparing gift packages followed by a short meeting. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

NEW Take Home Booklets available! Unit 3: Preparing and Celebrating booklet has lots of suggestions for families to learn about Advent, Christmas, and the Season after Epiphany. Have fun making an Advent wreath, Gingerbread Teddy

CHRISTMAS CAKES: Rotary Christmas Cakes and assorted TREATS are available! The cakes are \$10 each and the proceeds will go to the Kirk Association. For more information on the TREATS, please contact Ian Wishart at 722-3769.

Bridges To Hope: The Pantry at Bridges To Hope requires your donations more than ever. More and more families and individuals are hungry. Your generous support is appreciated.

Christmas encouragement cards have been sent out. Thank you to those who gave names and mailing addresses.

Advent Babysitting is on Saturday, December 13th from 1-4pm at St. David's church (98 Elizabeth Ave). The Youth Group is offering free babysitting to parents with young children. There will be snacks, legos, games and cookie decorating. Parents - take some time to relax, enjoy peace, quiet and a moment to yourselves.

The last **Youth Group** (grades 7-12) for 2014 is this Sunday from 7-9pm at St. David's church. If it is nice, we'll do some carolling so be prepared to be outside! There will be hot chocolate and marshmallows to warm us when we return.

Food for Thought is finished for the term! Many blessings on the young adults as they finish up their work and school. Safe travels home!

Youth Group will resume again on Sunday, January 11th. Food for Thought will resume again on Monday, January 12th.

The Youth Ministry website has been updated: <http://pccweb.ca/newfoundland-youth-ministry>. Schedules and news will be posted there. If you have additional photos you'd like to share, please contact Amy Palmer.

Please pray this week for the exams, tests and projects that are due for our youth. Pray for perseverance, motivation, and understanding. Pray that hope, peace, and joy may be part of their study time.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CALENDARS for 2015 are available in the church vestibule. They can be purchased for \$5. Please place your money in the donation box provided.

Dec 14 - Dec 20		
Sun	11:00am	3rd Sunday of Advent White Gift
Mon	7:00pm	Rovers Meeting
Wed	7:30	Choir Practice
Fri/Sat		Rotary Hampers Preparation/ Distribution
Sat	10:00	Pageant Rehearsal
Upcoming		
Dec 21		Pageant Sunday
Dec 24		4:30pm Family Service 11:00pm Candlelight Service