

# ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

## ***THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP***

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Guest Pianist: Fran Gordon

Guest Musician: Michael Swan

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed." – Luke 1: 46b-47*

*As we gather, we are mindful of the fact that we meet on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Treaty Six First Nations and the traditional home of the Métis.*

*We are grateful for the hospitality we have received as settlers in this place and recommit ourselves to the work of reconciliation and building good relations with the First Peoples of this land.*



Welcome and Announcements

## **WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Lighting the Candle of Love  
(See PWS&D insert)

-Laura Roy

Prayer of Adoration

**Praise:**

***"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"***

**#126**

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son; Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He brings salvation speedy to those who suffer wrong; he saves the poor and needy, and helps the weak be strong; they sing who once were sighing, their darkness turned to light, for they, who once were dying, are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

All powers shall bow before him, and gold and incense bring; all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing, for he shall have dominion o'er river, sea and shore, far as the eagle's pinion or dove's light wing can soar.

O'er every foe victorious, Christ on his throne shall rest, from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest: the tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand forever - that name to us is Love.

Prayer of Confession:

**God of Life and Love,**

**The stories of Advent remind us that you are a God of surprises.**

**You surprised Elizabeth with news she would bear a child late in life.**

**You surprised Mary with news she would bear our Saviour.**

**Your surprises overturned their lives**

**We confess we do not always meet life's surprises with the same courage.**

**Forgive us when we hesitate to greet you in the unexpected.**

**Forgive us when we prefer routine over new possibilities.**

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Time

## **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**Praise:**

***"The angel Gabriel from heaven"***

**#156**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "O Lowly maiden Mary," most highly favoured lady: Gloria!

"For know a blessed mother you shall be, all generations praise continually, your son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold," most highly favoured lady: Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleases God," she said, "my soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name," most highly favoured lady: Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: most highly favoured lady: Gloria!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Micah 5: 2-5a

Psalm 80: 1-7

Luke 1: 39-55

-Orlanda Drebit

Sermon:

"Love"

-The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology (#830) and Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below:**

**praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Offertory Prayer

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### Prayers of the People

Leader: Lord in your mercy...

**All: Hear our prayer.**

### 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, and 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, forever. Amen.**

## WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

### **Praise:**

***"From heaven you came, helpless babe"***

**#125**

From heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled, not to be served but to serve, and give your life that we might live.

Refrain: This is our God, the servant King, he calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears, my heavy load he chose to bear; his heart with sorrow was torn: "Yet not my will but yours," he said.

*Refrain*

Come see his hands and his feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice, hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered.

*Refrain*

So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone him, each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving.

*Refrain*

### Benediction

**A-men, a-men, a - - - men**

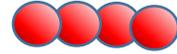


# Announcements



## ADVENT IN LUKE

The Christian Education Committee invites you to take part in a four week online (Zoom) Advent Bible. The last study is Tuesday December 21<sup>st</sup>. This year we will be following the lectionary through the Gospel of Luke to prepare our hearts to receive Christ at Christmas. To register, please contact Martha Fergusson at [martha.22@live.com](mailto:martha.22@live.com)



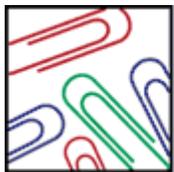
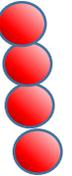
## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The candlelight Christmas Eve Worship will begin at 7pm. We are delighted to welcome our new friends-in-Christ Rev. Vasty Obge and the Presbyterian Ghanaian Church - Saskatoon to share in the service and worship with us this year. Come in person, or watch from home. Live streamed, and available later on YouTube.

The latest "**These Days**", the daily devotional for January, February and March, has arrived in the office. They are available on the entranceway table, or through the church office.



**CHANCEL FLOWERS** With the reopening of St. Andrew's and the continuing increase in the number of those worshipping within our sanctuary, the Flower Fund is coming out of retirement! Live flowers and plants are always placed to the Glory of God, and to enhance your Worship experience. Please prayerfully consider donations to the Flower Fund so that we can once again bring some of the beauty of God's world into our sanctuary. Clearly mark "Flower Fund" on any donations.



## FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

- ❖ The end of the year is quickly approaching! Please ensure that all invoices for payment, and any donations are received by the office asap.
- ❖ The church offices will be closed over the holidays. December 24 – January 2, inclusive.
- ❖ To have donations eligible for a 2021 charitable donation receipt, they must be received by the office **NO LATER** than January 15.
- ❖ Dorothy will be creating a new database in the new year, and needs your most current information!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** – In 2021, less than one third of the offering envelopes were distributed. Many people have moved to electronic offerings instead, during Covid. The 2022 offering envelopes have arrived in the office. You can pick them up, or we can mail/deliver them. Please contact the church office to make a plan. Since paying for envelopes that are unused is not a wise use of church funds, any offering envelopes that are not claimed for 2022 will not be re-ordered for 2023.





## ADVENT UPDATE

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who has already donated to this year's Advent Appeal, either through online monetary donations or by bringing in items to the church. Through your generosity, it has meant that on our first Sunday of Advent we were able to add around 39 ornaments to the Advent tree in our sanctuary (amazing)! This week we have increased that total to **\$1100!** Thank you!

For those who worship with us online we will continue to place one ornament in various places in the online bulletin for each \$10 that has been donated. For those worshipping with us in person, we will add ornaments to the Advent tree at the front of

the sanctuary.



After talking to Dylon at SNCM, we have learned that there is currently a need for toques, mitts and warm clothing, now that winter has finally arrived. If you are a knitter, here is a wonderful opportunity for outreach!

If you don't knit, you can still contribute by selecting an item for an agency that you would like to support from the list below, and then donate the corresponding amount. This can be done in a number of ways: You can go to the St. Andrew's website and donate the amount that you would spend by clicking on our website's DONATE button. Where it asks where you would like your donation allocated select 'other', enter the amount for the donation in the appropriate spot along with any other needed information, scroll down to the bottom and add a note to let us know that it for the Advent Appeal AND the agency that you would like to support. By doing this we can add your ornament(s) to the tree, and direct your donation to your preferred agency.

You can also donate using E-Transfer if this is a method that you are more comfortable using. Make sure that you include the same information; that it is for the Advent Appeal, and the agency to receive the donation. For those without internet connections, checks are still more than welcome.

The last way of donating is through our FundScrip program. Not only do you support the agencies, you support St. Andrew's as well.

### **SNCM**

### Suggested

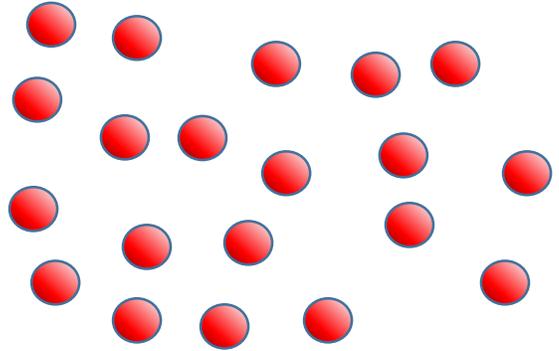
dish towels	\$5.00-\$20.00	
gently used shoes and warm boots	\$0.00-\$50.00	
Gift Cards (SuperStore)	\$10.00-\$100.00	
long johns	\$10.00-\$20.00	
mittens	\$0.00-\$10.00	
Monetary	\$1.00-\$100.00	
Donate money for sandwiches	\$1.00-\$100.00	
new and gently used back packs	\$0.00-\$30.00	
new and gently used blankets	\$0.00-\$30.00	
New dish cloths	\$4.00-\$12.00	
printer paper	\$8.00-\$40.00	
scarves	\$0.00-\$8.00	
Sleeping bags	\$29.00-\$60.00	
socks	\$12.00-\$20.00	
tarps	\$5.00-\$15.00	
toques	\$0.00-\$10.00	
underwear	\$15.00-\$20.00	
Winter jackets, ski pants	\$0.00-\$50.00	
women's tights - all sizes	\$10.00-\$20.00	

6 pr

4 pk

**Haven Family Connections (Crisis Nursery) Suggested**

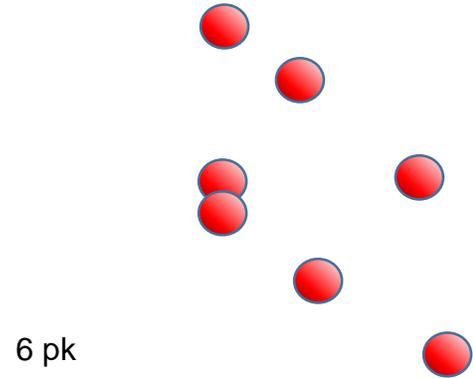
toilet paper	\$15.00-\$30.00
Kleenex	\$8.00-\$20.00
paper towels	\$15.00-\$25.00
Fruit	\$1.00-\$10.00
cheese	\$1.00-\$10.00
yoghurt	\$1.00-\$10.00
veggies	\$1.00-\$10.00
snacks	\$1.00-\$10.00
SuperStore Gift Cards	\$25.00-\$100.00
Childs outerwear	\$5.00-\$50.00
children's boots	\$5.00-\$50.00
children's pants, shirts socks etc.	\$5.00-\$20.00



**Friendship Inn**

**Suggested**

canned goods	\$1.00-\$5.00
conditioner	\$4.00-\$8.00
deodorant	\$4.00-\$10.00
Diapers	\$15.00-\$30.00
flour	\$8.00-\$15.00
Formula	\$15.00-\$30.00
juice boxes	\$1.00-\$10.00
rice	\$6.00-\$25.00
shampoo	\$4.00-\$10.00
soup stocks	\$2.50-\$5.00
toothbrushes	\$12.00-\$15.00
toothpaste	\$4.00-\$7.00
vegetables	\$5.00-\$10.00

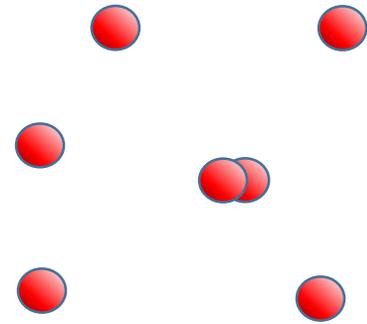


6 pk

**Interval House**

**Suggested**

Gift cards	\$25.00-\$100.00
Night lights	\$5.00-\$10.00
dish sets, pots and pans	\$25.00-\$50.00
pots and pans	\$50.00-\$125.00
house coats	\$45.00-\$60.00
pillows (new)	\$10.00-\$50.00
twin bed sheets, comforters	\$30.00-\$60.00
socks, underwear (new)	\$5.00-\$15.00
shampoo and conditioner	\$4.00-\$10.00
pyjamas	\$5.00-\$25.00
laundry baskets	\$12.00-\$20.00
baby monitors	\$20.00-\$70.00



**Egadz**

**Suggested**

Cash donations (for gifts)	\$30.00-\$60.00
feminine hygiene items in packaging	\$5.00-\$25.00
pens/pencils/erasers	\$2.00-\$10.00
loose-leaf	\$2.00-\$12.00
calculators, geometry sets, rulers, etc.	\$5.00-\$30.00
markers, pencil crayons	\$7.00-\$15.00
alarm clocks	\$6.00-\$10.00
quilts/duvets, sheets, pillows	\$25.00-\$60.00



Thermometers	\$8.00-\$40.00	
Teethers	\$5.00-\$15.00	
Baby bottles/nipples	\$7.00-\$20.00	
Baby towels	\$10.00-\$20.00	
Baby wipes	\$3.00-\$10.00	
sleeping bags	\$29.00-\$60.00	
diapers	\$15.00-\$30.00	
baby/toddler clothing	\$10.00-\$20.00	
formula	\$15.00-\$30.00	
toys and games	\$0.00-\$30.00	
youth and teen appropriate clothing	\$15.00-\$50.00	
new or gently used winter clothing	\$0.00-\$50.00	
socks	\$12.00-\$20.00	6 pr
new or gently used shoes and boots	\$0.00-\$50.00	
baby blankets	\$19.00-\$25.00	
baby shampoo/lotion	\$5.00-\$15.00	
Baby bags*	\$65.00-\$145.00	

\*the baby bags consist of blankets, shampoo, lotion, thermometers, baby bottles, wipes, towels, teethers, clippers and soothers.

**YWCA Women's Shelter**

**Suggested**

Baby and Toddler Clothing	\$5.00-\$25.00	
baby bottle nipples	\$2.00-\$10.00	
Baby bottles	\$5.00-\$7.00	
Baby Food/Snacks	\$3.00-\$10.00	
Disposable Diapers	\$15.00-\$30.00	
Disposable Diapers (larger sizes)	\$15.00-\$30.00	
Formula	\$15.00-\$30.00	
gloves/mitts	\$5.00-\$25.00	
headbands	\$2.50-\$5.00	
New bedding for single beds	\$30.00-\$50.00	
new bowls, cups and mugs	\$3.00-\$25.00	
new cutlery	\$4.00-\$25.00	
new dishcloths and dish towels	\$4.00-\$20.00	
New multi pack generic crew neck t-shirts sizes M-XL	\$8.00-\$25.00	
new pyjamas for women and children	\$5.00-\$25.00	
new socks and underwear for kids and women	\$10.00-\$20.00	
New sweat pants of various sizes	\$20.00-\$30.00	
New towels and face cloths	\$4.00-\$12.00	
New, unopened shampoo and conditioner	\$4.00-\$10.00	
winter jackets, ski pants	\$0.00-\$50.00	

**Elizabeth Fry Society**

**Suggested**

backpacks/totes	\$0.00-\$25.00	
body lotion	\$7.00-\$15.00	
body wash/shower gel	\$4.00-\$10.00	
brushes	\$5.00-\$15.00	
combs	\$2.00-\$5.00	
deodorant	\$4.00-\$8.00	
Disposable Razors	\$20.00	16 pk 
gently used/new coats and jackets	\$0.00-\$50.00	
gently used/new footwear	\$0.00-\$50.00	

new undergarments (bras and panties)	\$10.00-\$20.00		
new/gently used toques, mitts and scarves	\$0.00-\$10.00		
shampoo/conditioner	\$4.00-\$10.00		
Tampons and pads	\$5.00-\$25.00		
toothbrushes	\$12.00-\$15.00	4 pk	
toothpaste	\$4.00-\$7.00		
water bottles	\$5.00-\$10.00		
women's tights - all sizes	\$10.00-\$20.00		

**The Amazing Stuff**

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| • Set the table during Lent                                | Suggested Priceless! |
| • Make your bed without too much complaining               | “                    |
| • Be especially nice to your sister/brother                | “                    |
| • Shovel the walk after it snows                           | “                    |
| • Keep your room tidy (my wife’s personal favourite)       | ”                    |
| • Do you know someone who is isolated? Give them a call!   | ”                    |
| • Invite someone to take part in Kidz Klub                 | ”                    |
| • Invite someone to participate in our on-line service     | ”                    |
| • Surprise your mom and clean up <u>her</u> room.          | ”                    |
| • Be especially nice to everyone around you during Advent. | ”                    |



The leadership of St. Andrew's is aware of the changing Covid-19 situation, as well as the presence of the "4th wave" in our city. **The Session has moved to continue with in-person as well as online worship for the time being.** We will continue to closely monitor the situation and communicate any future decisions to the congregation. For those attending in-person worship, **MASKS ARE NOW MANDATORY** until further notice.

We thank you for your help and prayers as we strive to provide a safe worship environment for all. Blessings,  
Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

**VOLUNTEERS FOR ON-LINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

We are currently in need of more volunteers to help with the production of our on-line service. As we have moved through Covid, I think that most of us have appreciated the ministry that has allowed us to take part in Rev. Roberto DeSandoli’s services while remaining safely in our homes. It has reached out and touched not only those of us who call St. Andrew’s home, but many others who have found St. Andrew’s while browsing on the internet. None of the skills needed are very demanding but would make a huge difference in the workload of our production team for our on-line service. If you are interested in helping out, or would like to learn more, please call the office (306-242-0525) and leave your name, and someone will get back to you.

**CHURCH MUSICIANS NEEDED**

Dear Friends,  
The Worship and Music Committee, on behalf of the Session, invites any and all who wish to participate in music during worship services from now until the end of December to contact Rev. Roberto.  
We seek people willing to accompany congregational singing and the choir on either the piano or the organ. We also seek people willing to provide music for the offertory, prelude and postlude, and other special music offerings.



Please indicate in what form, and for how many Sundays, you would be willing to provide music ministry during worship services.

Please also do not hesitate to suggest other people who might be willing to provide music ministry.

With thanks,

The Worship and Music Committee.



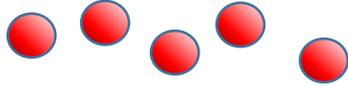
### Missed out on a worship service?

If you are looking for a service you missed, or want to see information in a previous bulletin, simply follow these steps:

1) Visit [standrews-saskatoon.com](http://standrews-saskatoon.com)

2) Scroll down just below this week's video until you see the date of the service you are looking for and click on it

3) You can now click the video box to watch the service and the "(date)\_bulletin" to see the bulletin



### SUNDAYS

**09:30 AM - 09:45 AM**

**Sprouts** – preschool and early elementary aged children

Meeting ID: 862 0953 1359

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Roots** – older elementary and high school youth

Meeting ID: 867 4107 9007



# Fourth Sunday in Advent

# Love

*Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development*

**L:** Love is a gift of God.

**P:** Love burns in our hearts.

**L:** Love is warmth in a world that is often bitter and cold.

**P:** In Jesus Christ, we receive God's gift of love.

*(The candle is lit.)*

**L:** Let us pray:

**P:** Source of light,  
shine in our lives  
and in your world with  
your unending love.  
Through Jesus, in whose  
name we pray. Amen.



# An Education for Robina

Robina lives with her mother, father and five siblings in a make-shift house in Afghanistan. This past year, Robina was the only member of her family in school—but it wasn't just because of COVID-19.

Prior to the Taliban takeover of the country, only 38 percent of children in Afghanistan attended school. Poverty is one of the leading causes; families with many children often can't afford uniforms and school supplies for each child.

Girls are affected unequally because of a cultural belief that there is little value for education for girls. Only one in five students in Afghan schools are female, and only about one in 10 adult women are literate. And the current political situation in Afghanistan means many more children are faced with uncertainty about their futures, particularly girls.

PWS&D is passionate about ensuring children have access to quality education. Starting at the community level, PWS&D's local partner in Afghanistan helps parents and religious leaders understand girls' rights—most importantly, the right to education.

This Advent season help make sure children like Robina have access to a quality education so that they can build bright and sustainable futures.

[WeRespond.ca](https://www.werespond.ca)



## Sharing Hope

We are a vibrant denomination, working together to put our faith into action. Through Presbyterians Sharing, we participate in God's mission together: building strong congregations, serving vulnerable people, seeking justice, walking with Indigenous people, and sharing God's love and hope around the world. We share hope when a new faith community meets for the first time. We share hope when a child in Romania escapes poverty through education. We share hope when an Indigenous woman in Taiwan reads the Bible in her own language for the first time. We share hope when a boarding home resident confides in a trusted visitor. All of this is possible because of generous gifts to Presbyterians Sharing. When we put our gifts in God's hands, God does remarkable things!



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### DAILY PRAYERS

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**Sunday, December 19 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)** We pray that the love we find in the Christ child will nourish and nurture our love.

**Monday, December 20** We pray for socially marginalized and vulnerable people who find this time of the year difficult.

**Tuesday, December 21** We pray for the Presbytery of West Toronto's Ministry Committee. May they feel a strong sense of God's presence to strengthen, focus and lead their discernment.

**Wednesday, December 22** We give thanks for the efforts that have been made to confront systemic racism in our society, and we pray for those who continue to work toward ending racial discrimination.

**Thursday, December 23** We give thanks and pray for organizations and people that dedicate their work to ensuring the care, protection and rights of all children.

**Friday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)** Christ was born as one of us and, in him, God shows us how much the world is loved. We pray that the light of God's love blesses and fills the world.

**Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day)** Holy Child, born of Earth woman and the Spirit of heaven. Warrior of heaven and earth who conquered death, we thank you. For the life, love and hope you give us through children, kakike ka' nanaskom'tinaan (Cree for "we will always be grateful").