ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli
Music Director: Naomi Piggott-Suchan
Organist: Paul Suchan
Guest Musician: Elias McWalter
December 28th, 2025

1st Sunday after Christmas Day

"An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you."" – Matthew 2: 13

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.

Preparation for Worship:
As the Christ Candle is lit, we invite you to observe a time of quiet reflection prior to our service.
Prelude

Welcome and Announcements - The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise the Lord in the heights!
Praise the Lord, all the angels; praise the Lord, all the host of heaven!
Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars!
Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord; who commanded they were created,
All: Who established them forever and ever, and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Prayer of Adoration

Praise: ***"Joy to the world"*** ***#153***

Prayer of Confession: (**Unison**)

God of compassion, you promise new life, but we confess that we are in love with our old ways; with hurts that we nourish, hatreds that hold us hostage, and fantasies that restrict our faithful living. You offer to us unconditional love, but we reject our neighbours and live apart from you and one another in many ways. Recreate us in the image of your son, and for your glory's sake, forgive us.

Assurance of Pardon

(Children come forward)
Children's Time

Praise: ***"Away in a manger"*** ***#149***

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.

(Children leave for church school)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 63: 7-9 - Allan Ireland

Psalm 148 Refrain 2

Hebrews 2: 10-18

Matthew 2: 13-23 - The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: "The Flight to Egypt" - The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem

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

Prayers of the People

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Praise: ***"O little town of Bethlehem"*** ***#165***

Benediction

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

Postlude

Greeters & Collectors: Trung Nguyen, Elizabeth & Pearson Ahiahonu, Luella Moore

Coffee Hosts: Sharon Wiseman & Elizabeth Shih



2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available on the entranceway table. In each box there is a designated envelope that enables you to help offset the cost of the offering envelopes. ***If you would prefer to make pre-authorized remittances, please fill out a blue PAR authorization form (found on the entranceway table), attach a void cheque, and place it in the offering plate. E-transfers are also an easy way to donate, but please remember to use the new e-mail address: finance@standrewsyxe.ca***

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

All Donations to St. Andrew's, the national church (PWS+D and Presbyterians Sharing) and other ministries, **MUST** be in the church office no later than Thursday January 8, 2026. All donations **MUST** be dated 2025.

All church expenses must also be in to the office with supporting documentation by this date or we cannot pay them. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

The church offices will be closed over the holidays; Thursday, December 25 – Sunday, January 4, inclusive.

If you placed a poinsettia in the sanctuary this season and would like to take it home, please do so either on December 24 or December 28. Otherwise the poinsettia will be donated or disposed of.
Merry Christmas to you and your family

Dear St. Andrew's Saskatoon;
"We have made it - again - without fail - for our 10th year!
During this Advent Season, starting on Nov. 27, 2025, members of St. Andrew's Saskatoon Congregation have walked 524.4 KM which fulfills the **Walk to Belthlehem** goal from Nazareth to Bethlehem for the birth of Our Lord and Saviour. It has been a most difficult journey for us in Saskatoon as we trudge through wind, snow, white-outs and icy conditions; however, we have arrived at the stable to rejoice at seeing the "Anointed One", "Emmanuel" (God with us), the Saviour, who is Christ the Lord".
With the weeks of spiritual preparation of **Hope** (The Prophecy), **Peace** (Our Faith), **Joy** (The Shepherd's) and **Love** (God's Love), we have anticipated the happiness of celebrating Jesus' birth.
May you all have this reason to celebrate the season.
Laura Van Loon, RN, Pastoral Care Nurse

Beginning January 2026, all donations to **Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry** must be sent directly to the Mission, as St. Andrew's will no longer be accepting and issuing receipts for SNCM. Here's how you can donate:
- Mail a cheque to SNCM, and we will issue you a tax receipt.
450 20th St. W
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0X4
- Send us an EFT at sncm1981@gmail.com, and we will issue you a tax receipt.
- Donate through CanadaHelps, and download your tax receipt.
www.canadahelps.org
Thank you for your continued support.
Blessings,
Anne Drover
Chair

OPERATION SANDWICHES: is an ongoing outreach mission program, in partnership with Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. SNCM has a lunch program in our inner-city neighbourhood, and we get to help on the second and fourth Sunday of the month! Help out with a "sandwich making party" in the church kitchen, or make a donation to help with the cost of sandwich ingredients. Just mark your donation "Operation Sandwiches", and place it in the offering plate.



Muffins

If you would like to help with this important ministry, or if you just like baking muffins, we would encourage you to sign up on a sheet that we have left in the entryway. Select a month that is convenient and let us know how many muffins you will be able to supply. It may seem like a small thing, but it means a lot to some very stressed (and hungry) students.



We are attempting to provide 10-12 dozen muffins to the Ecumenical Chaplaincy's Good Breakfast program at the U of S on the third Sunday of each month.

All muffins should be brought to the church on the date noted on the sign-up sheet and the Outreach committee will make sure that they get to where they need to go.

It is important to note that we have been asked to not provide any muffins with either nuts or icing. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Outreach committee.



Coffee hour has resumed.

A sign up roster can be found in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Charles Roy at 306-361-1976 or by email cl.roy@shaw.ca

If you have things in your life for which you want to thank God, or things that are challenging in your life for which you need support, share it with the Prayer team of 15 people who are willing to spend time in prayer with God to support you.

All information is confidential. If you are asking for someone else, please make sure you have their permission to do so.

Share your requests and updates with the Team through Margaret Wilson by email **ma.wilson@shaw.ca** or text 306-227-7100

AVAILABLE ON THE ENTRANCEWAY TABLE:

- Copies of the winter issue of the Presbyterian Connection
- Contact Information Forms
- The latest edition of "*Saints Alive!*", the newsletter
- Annual Report & Financial Statements

Old Scripture Cake

Here is a post-Christmas Quiz for the fun of everyone. I wonder if anyone will solve the recipe and share it? Laura Van Loon, Pastoral Care Nurse

It is a recipe for the **OLD SCRIPTURE CAKE** which is a favourite from the **Dutch Oven, a** Cook Book of coveted traditional recipes from the kitchens of Lunenburg, NS.

Old Scripture Cake - page 246

1 cup Judges 5:25
2 cups Jeremiah 6:20
3 1/2 cups 1st Kings 4:22
3 cups Samuel 30:12
1 cup Genesis 43:11
1 cup Exodus 3:8
5 Isaiah 10:14
A little Leviticus 2:13
A few kinds of 1st Kings 10:2
1 large spoon Genesis 24:20
Follow Solomon's Advice for making a good boy
(Proverbs 23:14) and you will have a good cake.

Ida E. Himmelman (Mrs. L.A.H.)

MISSION MOMENT **Sunday, December 28**



The Government of Pakistan is intensifying its efforts to expel undocumented Afghans, as well as those with temporary permission to stay in the country. Between 700 and 800 families have been deported daily. These deportations pose devastating risks, particularly for women and girls who face increased threats of violence, persecution and loss of access to basic rights upon return to Afghanistan. Such actions violate international protection principles and undermine decades of humanitarian efforts to protect vulnerable populations. Your voice and solidarity are crucial at this moment. Visit WeRespond.ca/advocate-for-Afghan-refugees to learn more and take action.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 28 We pray for the health and well-being of members of the National Indigenous Ministries Council, and for the staff, volunteers and communities of people they support at each of the eight National Indigenous Ministries in the church.

Monday, December 29 We pray for The Presbyterian College, Montreal's chapel program. As students, faculty and staff come together each week for worship, may each one be strengthened in their respective calling and mission.

Tuesday, December 30 We pray for the members of the Committee on Church Doctrine, that their shared commitment to truth and reconciliation may inform and shape their focus and work.

Wednesday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) On the eve of a new year, we give thanks for what has been, for the people in our lives, the gift of faith and for God's loving kindness.

One Mission, Two Funds

Your gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and Presbyterian World Service & Development make a difference!

Presbyterians Sharing supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Congregations are encouraged to raise an accepted allocation each year.

Presbyterian World Service & Development is the PCC's development, relief and refugee sponsorship agency. PWS&D raises funds directly from congregations and individuals—over and above gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.