

# ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

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

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Music Director: Naomi Piggott-Suchan

Organist: Paul Suchan

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### **Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord**

*"This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that [God] has carried out in Christ Jesus, our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him." – Ephesians 3:11-12*

*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.*

Prelude: We Three Kings

Preparation for Worship:

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

Welcome and Announcements

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

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

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

Arise, shine: for your light has come!

**The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

Lift up your eyes and look around!

**We shall see and be radiant; our hearts shall rejoice.**

For the Lord will be our everlasting light and our glory!

**And so we worship God in humble expectation.**

Prayer of Adoration

**Praise:**

***"We three kings"***

**#173**

Prayer of Confession: (**Unison**)

**God of mercy and loving-kindness,**

**you sent Christ among us to be the light of the world  
and reveal your love to all people.**

**Yet our sins hide the brightness of your light  
that should shine through us.**

**Forgive us for wasting our gifts,  
ignoring cries for justice,  
and harming the earth you love.**

**In your mercy, cleanse us and make us new.**

Assurance of Pardon

*(Children come forward)*

Children's Time: Martha Fergusson

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.**

**Praise:** *"Christ, whose glory fills the skies"* **#141**  
*(Children leave for Church School)*

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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

- Fafali Ahiahonu

Psalms 72: 1-7, 10-14 Refrain 2

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Matthew 2: 1-12

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

**Thanks be to God**

Sermon: "Heirs in Christ" - The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem: Prelude in E Major – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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:** *"As with gladness men of old"* **#172**

Benediction

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

Postlude: The First Nowell

---

**Greeters & Ushers:**

**Pearson & Elizabeth Ahiahonu,  
William Ahiahonu, Fafali Ahiahonu**

**Lock up:**

**Colin Robb**

**Coffee Hosts:**

**Laura Van Loon & Elizabeth Shih**

---



YOU ARE INVITED to the lower hall following the worship service for refreshments and conversation

A SPECIAL WELCOME is extended to our visitors this morning. Please sign the guest book in the entranceway, or fill out a visitor's envelope found in the pews. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider St.

Andrew's.

CHILDCARE: There is a nursery available in the lower hall.

LARGE PRINT Bibles, bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

PARKING: There is courtesy parking in the Delta's underground parkade on Sunday mornings (for those who have St. Andrew's parking stickers).

CONTACT US: Phone 306-242-0525, Email [office@standrews-saskatoon.com](mailto:office@standrews-saskatoon.com), Website: [www.standrews-saskatoon.com](http://www.standrews-saskatoon.com)

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS: Monday to Thursday, 9:00AM-2:00 PM

---

## *Announcements*

**Happy Epiphany! Today in Children's Time everyone is going to be asked to write a word on a star for 2024.**

Epiphany is a day in the liturgical calendar when we celebrate the magi's arrival to Jesus. The magi, a noble group of people, studied stars and knew when a new one appeared. The star guided them to the place of Jesus' birth. There, they presented the young Jesus with gifts fit for a king, recognizing and honoring him. As we reflect on how the star guided the magi, we will also choose a star word to guide us this year. These words will serve as an intention and are best kept in a place you see daily (bathroom mirror, bedside table, car, etc.)

Review the Word Star and select one word that stands out to you. Do this without judgment or hesitation. Simply breathe and choose the word your eye keeps coming back to. This will be your star word. Once you've chosen your star word, write it in the center of your two stars *THEN* leave one in the Narthex and take one home to hang.

***Author T.S. Elliot writes, "For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning."***

### **Mini Bake Sale-**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual series of mini bake sales during Advent was a success. Over \$400 was raised for the General Fund. The event also gave members of the congregation an opportunity to use their time and talents to produce homemade goods that were enjoyed by those who purchased them. Thank you to all who participated.

### **THURSDAY JANUARY 25 7:00 A.M.**

Are you a happy morning person?

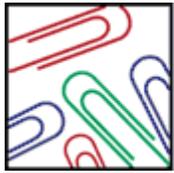
Come help put on the coffee pot for the guests of St. Andrew's morning worship for Week of Prayer.

Contact worship leader Rev. Roberto, or Hospitality coordinator Martha, to say you can help. (worship begins at 8:00 a.m. coffee to follow at approximately 8:30 a.m.). Both Rev Roberto and Martha are board members of the Prairie Centre of Ecumenical who sponsor The Week of Prayer locally.

**ENVELOPES** It's soon time to order offering envelopes for next year. If you no longer use envelopes, or would like to start using envelopes, please let the office know! [office@standrews-saskatoon.com](mailto:office@standrews-saskatoon.com)



**2024 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 like to have your own box of envelopes, fill out the information on a Visitor's Envelope located in the pews and place it on the offering plate, or contact the church office. ***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.***



FROM THE  
CHURCH  
OFFICE

- ❖ The end of the year is here! Please ensure that all invoices for payment, and any donations are received by the office asap.
- ❖ To have donations eligible for a 2023 charitable donation receipt, they must be received by the office **NO LATER** than January 15, and dated 2023.

**These Days** – the company that delivered “These Days” to us has closed, and we are no longer able to get the daily devotional. We looked for other Canadian companies that might be a distributor, but were not successful. We know many of you enjoyed “These Days”, and we apologize for the disappointment.

In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission made 94 Calls to Action; this week we are reminded of Call to Action #55.

National Council for Reconciliation

55. We call upon all levels of government to provide annual reports or any current data requested by the National Council for Reconciliation so that it can report on the progress towards reconciliation. The reports or data would include, but not be limited to:

- i. The number of Aboriginal children—including Métis and Inuit children—in care, compared with non-Aboriginal children, the reasons for apprehension, and the total spending on preventive and care services by child-welfare agencies.
- ii. Comparative funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves.
- iii. The educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people.
- iv. Progress on closing the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in a number of health indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.
- v. Progress on eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in youth custody over the next decade.
- vi. Progress on reducing the rate of criminal victimization of Aboriginal people, including data related to homicide and family violence victimization and other crimes.
- vii. Progress on reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice and correctional systems.

## *In Our Wider Community*

The first meeting of the New Year takes place at Calvin-GoForth Church on Monday Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM. For further information, call Laura at (306) 229-7846.

# MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, January 7

When the Rev. Lora Nafziger visited her sister in Nepal in 2022, she never imagined that she would return as Staff Care and Counselling Advisor with United Mission to Nepal (UMN). A faith-based international NGO, UMN strives to help all Nepalis achieve a fuller life through medical and community development programs. Responding to God's call, Lora departed for Kathmandu in early January 2024 with her spouse Mitch Rhodes and their two youngest children.



Lora, who is also a clinical social worker, will provide spiritual and emotional support to expatriate UMN staff and Nepali staff. She is jointly supported by the PCC through gifts to Presbyterians Sharing and Mennonite Mission Network.

---

## DAILY PRAYERS

---

**Sunday, January 7** We pray that the faculty of Knox College, The Presbyterian College of Montreal and the Vancouver School of Theology find joy and wisdom in the work of theological education.

**Monday, January 8** We pray for the people of Ochapowace First Nation, SK, for their healing from the colonization tactics used in "Indian" residential schools. God bless their youth determined to overcome the effects of abuse and belittling that their parents and grandparents experienced in residential and day schools.

**Tuesday, January 9** We pray for the members of the Women's Missionary Society as they plan programs and special events for 2024.

**Wednesday, January 10** We pray for refugees around the world.

**Thursday, January 11** We pray for colleague covenant groups and clergy support groups as they support one another and develop healthy perspectives on themselves and their ministries.

**Friday, January 12** We praise God for the generosity of people across Canada who support congregations with financial gifts, and pray for the hardworking congregational treasurers who are finalizing their records to prepare year-end reports.

**Saturday, January 13** We give thanks for the new members of the Executive and pray for God's guidance as they lead the Atlantic Mission Society into the future.