

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Music Director: Naomi Piggott-Suchan

Organist: Paul Suchan

March 23rd, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent

"Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?" – Isaiah 55: 2a

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: Alma Redemptoris Mater, from *8 Short Preludes on Gregorian Themes* – Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

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: (Lenten Insert)

- Rehema Nyekanyeka

Prayer of Adoration

Praise:

"I heard the voice of Jesus say"

#671

Prayer of Confession: (**Unison**)

God of grace and mercy,

**We confess that our thoughts are so often not your thoughts;
our ways are rarely your ways.**

Our tempers are short and we fail to act with kindness.

Our confidence is weak and we treat others without respect.

Our faith falters and we lose track of you.

**Forgive the many ways we fail you,
and inspire us to follow you more faithfully.**

Assurance of Pardon

(Children come forward)

Children's Time

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: *"I hunger and I thirst"*

#198

(Children leave for Church School)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 55: 1-9

- Rehema Nyekanyeka

Psalms 63: 1-8 Refrain 2

1 Corinthians 10: 1- 13

Luke 13: 1-9

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: "Mercy, Warning, and Hope"

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem: Holy is the Lord – Franz Schubert (1797-1828), arr. Fred Bock

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: *"Amazing grace"*

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Benediction

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

Postlude: Virgo Dei Genitrix, from *8 Short Preludes on Gregorian Themes* – Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Greeters & Collectors: Christine Meier, Esther Efeme, Sammy & Prince Lyonga

Coffee Hosts: Sharon & Mary Ann



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.

CONTACT US: Phone 306-242-0525, Website: www.standrewsyxe.ca; email: office@standrewsyxe.ca

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

Announcements

Downtown Talks: Resourcing Downtown Tuesday, April 1 at 7pm

The fourth and final Downtown Talks conversation of 2024/25 will be April 1 at 7pm at St. Andrew's. As we join together for panel discussion and Q&A, we will be learning from expert panelists and one another about the future of our Downtown neighbourhood, and how we can participate in building it.

ANNUAL MEETING

St. Andrew's Annual General Meeting on Sunday, April 6th. After Worship, there is a potluck luncheon in the lower hall, followed by the AGM. The meeting is hybrid – in person and by Zoom. In preparation, on the entranceway table you can find hard copies of the annual report, the accountant's statements and the proposed budget for 2025.

Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Roberto

All who are interested in studying Scripture and praying through Lent together are invited to contact Rev. Roberto. We will follow a daily schedule of readings and gather weekly to discuss and pray together. Date and time TBD based on availability (Lent begins March 5). Please contact Roberto at

revroberto@standrewsyxe.ca



PWS&D - Annual Lenten Appeal

While the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper has been completed, the annual Lenten Appeal for PWS&D continues until Easter. This year's proceeds will go towards PWS&D work in responding to emergencies, both natural and manmade.

Please consider PWS&D during this Lenten season, as well as the remainder of the year. Mark your offering as PWS&D.



OPERATION SANDWICHES: Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry requires sandwiches for its lunch program. Help out with a "sandwich making party" in the church kitchen **following worship today**, 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.

We are looking for volunteers to host coffee hour. If you have never done this before but would like to try, we have written instructions on what needs to be done. Ideally it is best to have two hosts for each Sunday. Our goal is to have enough people so that no one has to host more than once per quarter. Everything is supplied but if you wish to bring your own "goodies" that is up to you. A sign up roster can be found on the coffee table each Sunday. If anyone has any questions please contact Charles Roy at 306-361-1976 or cl.roy@shaw.ca



Socks for SNCM 2025

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." (Romans 10:15)

May 10 – June 16, 2025

There are two ways to donate: (1) **Donate online or in person**– Funds will be given to SNCM for purchasing suitable socks. (2) **Purchase a pair of socks** and put them in the sock box located in the Narthex. **Note:** These socks should be durable-long lasting socks.

St. Andrew's Pastoral Care Committee & Outreach Committee



Prayer Requests: Email Margaret Wilson at: ma.wilson@shaw.ca More information on Pastoral Care Bulletin Board.

AVAILABLE ON THE ENTRANCEWAY TABLE:

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

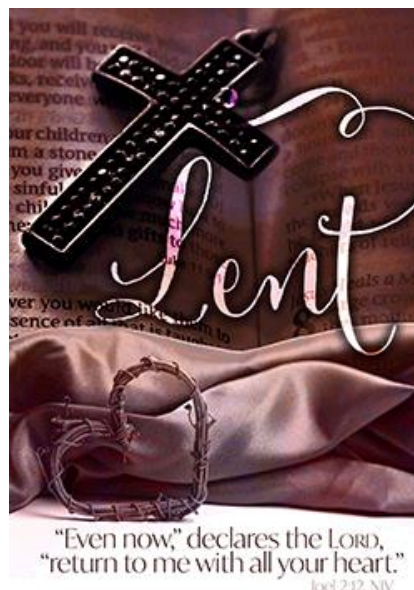
Missed out on a worship service?

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

1) Visit standrewsyxe.ca

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



In Our Wider Community

PRESBYTERIANS IN EARLY SASKATOON

In the Fall of 1929, the Congregation presented Rev. Brown with a new car, a De Sota to replace his old Ford Touring car (Rev. Roberto, don't hold your breath, it is not going to happen in the Fall of 2025!)

The start of the Great Depression in 1929 changed everything.

As more and more people lost their jobs – or couldn't find one – and had to apply for City Welfare, the offerings at St. Andrew's plunged but the spirit of the Church did not. The Congregation worked even harder to raise money for Church support, with significantly less returns.

In 1931, Rev. Brown was elected as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. St. Andrew's Congregation was thrilled and presented him with a new gown. Rev. Brown and Mrs. Martha Brown travelled extensively during his term.

They visited Formosa (Taiwan) to help celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Mission that was started by George Leslie MacKay.

They also travelled to Manchuria, Korea and Japan. That year, they travelled 78,000 miles without any expense to St. Andrew's. For years after, Martha Brown was a popular speaker at many groups in our Province.

A few of these items were used by other speakers for years. I remember a set of tiny, embroidered slippers that Martha Brown obtained in Manchuria.

Another interesting chapter is the story of the Presbyterian Residence, usually just called, "Pres Res". It was opened by the Synod of Saskatchewan, as they felt there was a need for lodging for young men coming to the City from rural areas to attend University.

In the 1930's, 1940's, and into the 1950's, a special Summer School was held for girls. This was a week-long event, usually held in July. Various Ministers' wives were expected to take a turn acting as House Mother.

The position of Registrar was created and held by Miss Ethel McCutcheon. She kept detailed records and "ruled this Kingdom for years!" During the school year, she was a Grade 1 Teacher in Saskatoon. As well, she worked with new immigrants: Chinese – and later had one of the first private Kindergartens. Miss McCutcheon was one of the more colorful members of St. Andrew's!

An instant bond was formed between people if they found out they had survived Grade 1 with Miss McCutcheon. I survived in 1942 and still have disturbing dreams and memories!

Lyell Gustin Recital Series presents brilliant young pianist Kevin Chen in recital, Tuesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m., St. John's Anglican Cathedral, 816 Spadina Cres. East.

Piano phenomenon Kevin Chen, first-place winner of six consecutive international competitions, will give a recital of magnificent Romantic music by Chopin and Liszt. At 20 years of age, the Alberta-born artist performs around the world, acclaimed for superb technical virtuosity and deep poetic sensitivity. Critics from Europe to Asia speak of him as a musical star, shining among us! Tickets: St. John's Music, Saskatoon Academy of Music, Gustin Committee, at the door, or online at www.gustinhouse.ca. (Child, 12 or under, free if accompanied by an adult.)



Third Sunday in Lent

Written by the Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls

One: In Lent, we hear Jesus' call to mend our ways:

All: repentance is necessary no matter who we are.

One: So we come to listen and respond to Jesus' word of life,

All: for the Holy One will abundantly pardon.

One: In returning to the Lord, we trust that mercy will be ours

All: and our lips will again praise the God of life.



THE DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

Alice Embraces New Techniques

In Malawi, Alice has struggled with food insecurity for many years. Due to frequent dry spells and unpredictable rains caused by climate change, her family was harvesting little. She knew something had to change.

Alice attended a community gathering organized by PWS&D's partner Churches Action in Relief in Development, where she was introduced to a project focusing on innovative and sustainable farming techniques.

"They explained the importance of conserving the environment amidst effects of climate change, which have negatively impacted agriculture production, including our area," Alice recalls. She hoped that participating would change her situation by reducing soil erosion and minimizing water needs, two crucial problems they were facing.

Alice embraced conservation agriculture practices, transitioning away from the less productive methods she had been using. The shift yielded remarkable results, as she doubled her harvest on the same plot of land.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to help farmers learn to improve crops and conserve resources—providing food for today and an income for the future.



**Presbyterian World Service
& Development**

WeRespond.ca

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MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, March 23

Five years after getting married, Cristina's husband emigrated to the United States from Guatemala, leaving her in debt. Unable to pay off the debt, she lost the land her husband had left as collateral, an inheritance from her parents. She struggled to earn enough daily to feed



her young children and repay the debt and interest. Things got a little easier when her children turned 18, emigrated to the United States and sent money. She also received support from Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas, PWS&D's local partner. She was trained in managing her cornfields, family gardens, backyard animals, and in topics related to healthy and nutritional diets.

DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, March 23 (3rd Sunday in Lent) We pray for those who are keeping a Lenten devotion and discipline.

Monday, March 24 We give thanks for the gifts and time that members of the Assembly Council offer, especially over these next few days as they meet at Crieff Hills.

Tuesday, March 25 We pray for interfaith movements and initiatives, from communal meals in our local places of worship to significant acts of diplomacy on the global stage.

Wednesday, March 26 We pray for congregations and missions receiving grants this spring, that their programs and initiatives will share the love of Christ in their communities.

Thursday, March 27 We pray for Elders and volunteers who faithfully serve at the eight PCC Indigenous Ministries.

Friday, March 28 We pray for those in the Order of Diaconal Ministries who are called to serve the church in the areas of Christian education, pastoral care and social ministries.

Saturday, March 29 We pray for the Committee on Church Doctrine as it discerns how the church demonstrates the love of God in Christ to those who have chosen medical assistance in dying and to their families.