

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 9th, 2025

First Sunday in Lent

"No one who believes in him will be put to shame". – Romans 10: 11

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: Erbaum dich mein, O Herr Gott – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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)

- Martha Fergusson

Prayer of Adoration

Praise:

"Forty days and forty nights"

#197

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

**Almighty and most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in things we have done,
and things we have neglected to do.
We have held back from giving
to protect what we have.
We have not trusted in your goodness
and relied on the world's empty promises instead.
Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall become.
Help us to serve you**

by serving your world with generous spirits.

Assurance of Pardon

(Children come forward)

Children's Time

Praise: *"Throughout these Lenten days and nights"*

#196 vs. 1-4

(Children leave for Church School)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

- Martha Fergusson

Psalms 91: 1-2, 9-16 Refrain 1

Romans 10: 8b-13

- Evelyn Suchan

Luke 4: 1-13

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: "All this Authority"

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem: Go Now in Peace – Don Besig (b. 1936)

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

GOD'S WORD MADE VISIBLE

Invitation to the Table

The Apostles' Creed (#539)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Praise: *"For the bread which you have broken"*

#549

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The prayer opens with thanksgiving to God: "... we join with the whole creation to lift our hearts in joyful praise."

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. (#829)

Thanksgiving continues for the work of Jesus Christ: "... we proclaim the mystery of faith:"

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. (#523)

*The presence of the Holy Spirit is invoked followed by a doxology
and the people say: **Amen.***

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.

Communion Music: Herzlich tut mich verlangen – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

(The Elements are Distributed)

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer after Communion:

Loving God,

you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup and made us one with Christ.

Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Praise:

"We lay our broken world"

#202

Benediction

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

Postlude: Prelude in G Minor, BWV 558 – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Greeters & Collectors: Terry & Anne Drover, Sharon Wiseman, Angie Smibert

Coffee Hosts: No Coffee time today



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

We celebrate along with the Suchan family today as Evelyn Suchan partakes in the Lord's Supper for the first time. Please extend a warm welcome to Evelyn and join us for cake during coffee hour.



Check your in-box for the latest copy of "**SAINTS ALIVE!**", St. Andrew's newsletter. There are paper copies available on the entranceway table this morning. Extra copies are available for newcomers, visitors, or for regulars to pass along.

A Blood Pressure Clinic will be offered following the church service downstairs in the lower hall. Laura Van Loon, Pastoral Care Nurse, will assist you.



The **Outreach Committee** and **Christian Education Committee** thank Youth members Rehema, Ramona, Rianne and Brian, and committee helpers Fafali Ahiahonu, Patti Polowick, Terry Drover, Alicia Monson, Hastings Nyekanyeka, and Sandra Monson, who helped over 50 people celebrate **Shrove Tuesday** on March 4th. The current amount raised to launch the PWS&D 2025 fundraising is \$503.10, with online totals still being processed. Contributions can be made all through the year, (just identify your donation as PWS&D). Thank you!

Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Roberto

All are invited to join us Monday evenings at 7pm in Lent, online and at the church, for our weekly Bible Study. This year we will be following Kate Bowler's study "The Hardest Part" (Available for free download here: https://katebowler.com/seasonal_devotional/the-hardest-part/#individual). If you would like to join online please contact Rev. Roberto at revroberto@standrewsyxe.ca



PWS&D 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.

The **Anniversary Committee** and the **Board of Managers** are inviting you to attend a recital entitled “*Dreams of Love and Spring*” on Friday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30pm. This recital is being brought to us from the University of Saskatchewan, Music Department under the leadership of Dr. Betty Allison with support from Naomi Suchan. Together they are creating a repertoire of vocal music choices from their voice students. Join us after the concert for a fellowship hour in the lower hall. Donation at the door.



OPERATION SANDWICHES: A HUGE thank you to everyone who increased their donations to the Sandwich Fund for Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry over the past year. It has allowed us to finally resume our pre-Covid commitment to the Mission to supply 12 dozen sandwiches twice each month. We cheerfully hold our sandwich making parties on the second and the fourth Sundays of each month.

If you would like to help with the sandwiches, please come and join us in the kitchen after the service on March 9th.

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. We would like to thank everyone who hosted in 2024 and hope you will continue to sign up in 2025. 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



WARM CLOTHING AND BLANKET DRIVE

Outreach and Pastoral Care are gathering and distributing donations of new and gently used blankets, winter jackets, sweaters, boots, socks, mitts, scarves and toques for Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. New underwear and stockings would also be greatly appreciated. If you have anything that you wish to donate, please drop it off in the barrel at the back of the church. The bin will be available all winter.

Thank you for your support!



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

New contact information!

Website: www.standrewsyxe.ca

Office email: office@standrewsyxe.ca

Bookkeeping: finance@standrewsyxe.ca

In Our Wider Community

On Sunday, March 16, there will be an exciting concert on the Pipe Organ at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. Montreal organist Jean-Willy Kunz will be performing at 7 P.M. Mr. Kunz is a well known performer in Canada.

He is organist-in-residence for the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, professor of organ for the Conservatory of Music in Montreal, artistic director for the Canadian International Organ Competition and organist for the church of Saint-Jean-Baptistes de Montreal. We are very privileged to have Mr. Kunz in Saskatoon and would like to welcome him with an enthusiastic audience.

The concert admission is by donation (\$25/adult suggested; \$15 student)

PRESBYTERIANS IN EARLY SASKATOON

To coincide with the dedication and first service of the new building, the first issue of the Blue Banner was presented.

Rev. Brown, no doubt, had a hand in getting it ready for printing, but it was issued by the Boys' Club. The Blue Banner gave an overview of the church activities from January, 1925 to October, 1926. Included is a profile article of Rev. Brown.

The Women's Club gave a summary submitted by Margaret Hill (Secretary). The report tells of the various ways they raised money for the Church.

The total raised was \$1,135.90. With that money, they paid cash for the Thomas Orchestral Organ and bought the entire light fixtures "with a little left over"!

Other group reports were from the Choir and the Women's League, who said that they started with 29 members and soon grew to 60 members. The Sabbath School Report provided a good overview that shows how important it was in those days. The Sabbath Schools were held in various areas in the City. There were 250 students at Nutana School, 60 at the Church base, and 80 at the Wilson School Branch. Pleasant Hill had 40, Albert School group numbered 40, Thornton had 35. In total, that would be close to 500!

No wonder, in those days, every adult had to take a turn teaching!

The Girls' Club reported having about 40 members. They had wiener roasts, skating parties and other gatherings. This group, wanting to be a part of raising funds for the church, by holding home baking sales, afternoon teas, and a candy sale. They were assisted by their mothers who taught them "how to do it"! They raised \$75.

Other groups submitting reports were the Choir, the Auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Society and the Auxiliary of Young Women.

I save my favourite report for the last: The Report of The Boys' Club: the leadership of Fraser McDonald, Rev. Brown and many others were factors in making this group a success. Obviously, they wrote their own report and included details important to them. Their report describes how they entered both Senior and Junior teams in the Rotary Rugby League. Other teams in this League included Wesley, Knox and the Hilltops. Their Report tells how the Junior Team, in the finals against the Hilltops, cinched the win and concluded with "our joy is now complete"!

Their venture into the Church Hockey League was even more detailed, with actual scores reported of many games.

You must be asking the question, "How did they attract so many boys?" First of all, to be able to play on a team, one had to attend church on Sunday.

Hockey, in 1925-26, was the influence of church attendance being over 50%. Imagine, today, if we had over 50 boys attending each Sunday!

A further incentive was that any boy who attended church on 45 Sundays out of 54 weeks earned a specially-designed crest. This group was active in other areas.

Their gift to the church was tables they made to be used at banquets, etc.

The report concluded with the phrase, "with a little help from our Dads"!

The special focus on serving Sunday School, Boys' and Girls' Clubs, took the support and "hands-on" approach of many adults resulting in a vibrant, inclusive church community.



First Sunday in Lent

Written by the Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls

One: In the wilderness, Jesus was tempted to
abandon God

**All: for the false hopes of indulgence, arrogance
and certainty.**

One: During our Lenten journey, we recognize we too
are tempted

**All: to turn aside from seeking only God and
God's ways.**

One: As we worship, may we celebrate all the bounty
of God's grace

**All: and always return with mindfulness and
gratitude to God.**



THE DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

Overcoming Adversity in Ghana

Abdul Razak Ayawin, a 23-year-old from Bugri community in Northern Ghana, faced a life-altering accident that led to the amputation of his left leg. Unable to continue his education due to financial constraints and fear of stigma, Razak was distraught.



Then, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana's Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program identified him to provide support. Razak enrolled in a dressmaking apprenticeship and received a sewing machine and a small stipend. He learned quickly, became self-employed and gained confidence in his new skills.

The CBR program, which is supported by PWS&D, also facilitated his assessment for a prosthetic limb. Despite the financial challenges, Razak is determinedly raising funds so that he can get the prosthetic. "I am working hard to raise enough with the dresses that I am making for my customers. I hope I will be able to get the prosthesis. Thanks for your love and support," he expresses.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to Christ's call to help ensure people have the tools they need to create a livelihood and learn new skills.

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MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, March 9

Did you know that gifts to Presbyterians Sharing provide the foundation for what we do together as the PCC? Through our gifts, we provide funding for ministries with vulnerable people and appeal to governments to take action and prioritize funding to protect our planet, stop racism and discrimination, eliminate poverty and more. We equip leaders through theological colleges, conferences and webinars. Coaches and mentors walk alongside congregations as they seek out new directions. Grants help launch new faith communities and renew established ones. We work with international partners to share the good news of Christ. We speak up for children's rights and the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, migrant workers and their families. We provide spaces for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to walk together on a journey of healing and reconciliation. Together, we are working to build a church where all are welcome.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, March 9 (1st Sunday in Lent) We pray that we may know the Spirit's blessing blowing in us and through us, so that we may live out what is required of us: to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

Monday, March 10 We pray for all the military chaplains who bring guidance and support to our troops and their families at home and abroad.

Tuesday, March 11 We give thanks for all those who have left bequests to the church to help continue Christ's ministry in the world after their death.

Wednesday, March 12 We pray for Presbyterian certified candidates at Vancouver School of Theology preparing for ordained ministry and supported in their studies by St. Andrew's Hall.

Thursday, March 13 We pray for international students at the Presbyterian Colleges who are far from family and friends. We pray that they sense God's presence in a special way during times of grief and sadness.

Friday, March 14 We pray for the Rev. Dr. Ary Fernández Albán in his first year as Rector of Seminario Evangélico de Teología in Matanzas, Cuba.

Saturday, March 15 We pray that the staff and faculty at Knox College will find joy in their work.