



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

KING & SIMCOE | TORONTO

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

**Sunday, December 28, 2025**  
**First Sunday after Christmas**

*We acknowledge that we gather to worship, this day, on the traditional territory of the First Nations of this land.*

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**Please note that our extensions have now changed**

<b>Senior Minister</b> - The Rev. Dr. William G. Ingram	will.ingram@standrewstoronto.org (ext. 1)
<b>Associate Minister</b> – The Rev. Jaylynn Byassee	jbyassee@standrewstoronto.org (ext. 2)
<b>Clerk of Session</b> – Pamela Richardson	clerk@standrewstoronto.org
<b>Convener, Board of Managers</b> - John Matheson	manager@standrewstoronto.org
<b>Director of Music</b> - Daniel Bickle	<i>dbickle@standrewstoronto.org</i> (ext. 3)
<b>Church Manager</b> - Diana Veenstra	dveenstra@standrewstoronto.org (ext. 4)
<b>Coordinator of Faith Formation for Children and Youth</b> – Cindy Chang	Cchang@standrewstoronto.org
<b>Ministry Coordinator</b> – Marcela Villalobos	mvillalobos@standrewstoronto.org (ext. 5)
<b>Administrative Assistant</b> – Maggie McGregor	maggiem@standrewstoronto.org (ext. 6)
<b>Nursery Supervisor</b> – Sheida Ebrahimi	
<b>Property Supervisor</b> – Marc Roberts	co@standrewstoronto.org; 647-376-6060
<b>Church Officers</b> - Adrian Espina, Theo Neuman, Ugyen Talha	

**Connect with us...**

For general inquiries, to submit or update your personal contact information, or to subscribe to any of our electronic newsletters, please contact the Church Office at: [info@standrewstoronto.org](mailto:info@standrewstoronto.org)

If you are interested in becoming a member of this dynamic congregation, in being baptized or having your child baptized, please contact our Senior Minister, the Rev. Dr. William Ingram, or the Church Office.

Please respect each other by refraining from using strongly scented products while at St. Andrew's Church. A scent-free area has been designated in the southwest corner of the sanctuary.

Please note that photography/filming may be taking place within the Sanctuary and/or Great Hall for promotional and archival purposes. The photographs and recordings are likely to appear on our website and our social media platforms.

*If you would prefer not to be photographed, please let the photographer know.*

**As you prepare for worship...**



*Please turn off the sound on your mobile phones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment without prior permission from the ministers.*

## ***Welcome to St. Andrew's Church***

The people of St. Andrew's are called, by God, to serve in faith, hope and love in the heart of Toronto.

We believe that we are called to be an inclusive community and to welcome all with open arms and hearts of love. We are glad that you are here today!



## ***Gathered in God's Presence***

# = *please stand if able*

### **Preparation for Worship**

*Prayer, Meditation and Quiet Visiting*

#### **Organ Prelude**

*Divinum mysterium*

*Near (1942 – )*

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

*Schaffner (1945 – 1995)*

*The congregation is invited to rise during the entry of the Bible*

### **Call to Worship #**

**Hymn #139 #**

***Hark the herald angels sing***

***MENDELSSOHN***

## Opening Responses ‡

One: How magnificent is all creation!

All: **God's love is poured throughout all God has created.**

One: God's love is poured out upon us each day.

All: **Praise be to God!**

One: Let your souls and spirits rejoice at the goodness of God.

All: **Let all the people praise God! Amen.**

## Introit

### **A tender shoot**

*Goldschmidt (1829 - 1907)*

*A tender shoot hath started up from a root of grace, As ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race.  
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter turning our darkness into light. This shoot,  
Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring. The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we  
sing. Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us, thus turning darkness into light.*

## Prayers of Approach and Confession

Adoration

Confession

*A time for the silent confession of sin will be observed*

Assurance of Pardon

Supplication and *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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass  
against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For  
Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**Children's Time** *Children ages 3 to 12, are welcome to go into Church School at this time.*

## Words of Welcome

## *The Word Proclaimed*

### **The Holy Scriptures**

*Reader: Judy Neal*

**Isaiah 63:7-9 (770, OT)**



*Barnby*

**Psalm: 148 ‡**

Praise the / Lord - from the / heavens;  
/...../ **Praise him / in the / heights.**  
Praise him / all his / angels ;  
/...../ **Praise him, / all his / host.**

Praise him / sun and / moon;  
**Praise him \*/ all you / shin-ing / stars.**  
Praise him, you / highest / heavens.  
**And you / waters - a/bove the / heavens.**

Let them praise the / name - of the / Lord;  
**For he com/manded, - and / they were - cre/ated.**  
He established them for/ever - and / ever;  
**He fixed their / bounds - which can/not - be / passed.**

*Continued/...*

Praise the Lord from the earth you sea monsters / and - all/ deeps,  
**Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind ful/filling / his com/mand!**  
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals / and all / cattle,  
**Creeping / things and / flying / birds!**

Kings of the / earth and - all / peoples,  
**Princes \* and / all the / rulers - of the / world;**  
Young men and women, old and / young to/gether!  
**Let them praise the name of the Lord, for / his - name a/lone - is ex/alted;**

His glory is above / earth and / heaven.  
**He has / raised - up a / horn - for his / people,**  
Praise for / all his / faithful,  
**For the people of / Israel / who are / close to him.**

**Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son,**  
**and / to the / Holy / Ghost;**  
**as it was in the beginning, \* is now, \* and / ever / shall be:**  
**World / with - out / end. A/men.**

**Hebrews 2:10-18 (235, NT)**  
**Luke 2:41-52 (60, NT)**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Anthem**

### ***The truth from above***

*Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)*

*This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love, therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create; The next thing which to you I'll tell woman was made with man to dwell. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose; and so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son. And at that season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear; He here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach. Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved; and if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.*

Hymn #141 ‡      *Good Christians, all rejoice*

*IN DULCI JUBILO*

### ***Our Response***

#### **Affirmation of Faith ‡**

***With the whole church, we affirm that we are made in God's image,  
Befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.  
With people everywhere, we affirm God's goodness at the heart of  
humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.  
With all creation, we celebrate the miracle and the wonder of life;  
the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.***

#### **The Offering**

**Offertory Anthem    *The blessed Son of God***

*Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958)*

*The blessed son of God only In a crib full poor did lie; With our poor flesh and our poor blood  
Was clothed that everlasting good. Kyrie eleison. The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear,  
Was a guest and a stranger here; us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally. Kyrie  
eleison. All this did he for us freely, for to declare his great mercy; all Christendom be merry  
therefore, And give him thanks for evermore, Kyrie eleison.*

#### **Presentation of the Offering ‡**

***Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His Name.  
Bring an offering and come into His courts.  
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.  
Let the whole earth stand in awe of Him.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.  
All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.***

#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

## Choral Amen

**Hymn #133 ♫** *Go, tell it on the mountain*

*GO, TELL IT*

## *The Sending*

**Dismissal ♫**

*Bodle (1923 - 2022)*



The Lord be with you. And with thy spir - it. Let us de-part in peace. Thanks be to God.

**Benediction ♫** *The congregation is invited to remain standing until the Ministers recess*

**Organ Postlude** *The day that is so rich in joy*

*J.S. Bach (1685 -1750)*

*Following our worship service, you are invited to gather in the Great Hall for a time of fellowship.  
Please use the blue doors to the left of the pulpit at the front.*

*We extend a special welcome to those of you visiting St. Andrew's for the first time, and to those who have visited us in the past. If you would like more information about life here at St. Andrew's church, we encourage you to complete our Welcome Card that can be found in each pew. You may drop it off in the collection plate during the offering, or in the designated box found in the Narthex as you leave.*



The St. Andrew's Choristers rehearsals are now on Christmas break. Rehearsals will resume on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

## Bible Study

The Sunday morning Bible Study Group will resume **Sunday, January 11, 2026** at 9am in the Boardroom. No background or understanding of the Bible is necessary to participate in this study group – all are welcome!

## **Church School**

Church School is available for children 3 to 12 years of age. To register your child, please complete the form found on our Faith Formation page at:

<https://standrewstoronto.org/connect/christian-education-events/>

The Nursery is available for those up to 2 years of age and may be found on the second floor.

## **The Church Library is Open!**

The church library is open and ready to welcome you! Feel free to browse the bookcases and discover something inspiring. The library hours will be every Sunday from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Visits outside these hours can be arranged by appointment. Please email [lorianncomeau@gmail.com](mailto:lorianncomeau@gmail.com) at least 24 hours in advance to schedule your visit. Happy reading, and thank you for supporting our church library!

Materials available in the library are listed in St. Andrew's online catalogue 'StAndrewsTO' at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/StAndrewsTO>



## **Better English Café**

The Better English Café meets Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the Great Hall. This is an opportunity for newcomers, international students and visitors to this city, to improve their conversational English. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this program, please let them know. For all Updates please checkout our Meetup Page at:

<https://www.meetup.com/Better-English-Cafe/>

**Please note that the last class of the Fall session was on Tuesday, December 16. We will resume on January 6, 2026.**



## STUDY AWARD

# Application

Are you a member or active participant of St. Andrew's and currently studying at a college, university, or trade school?

Apply now for the Study Award!"

 January 31, 2026

**APPLY NOW FOR THE STUDY AWARD!**



**You may apply by scanning the QR Code or via the URL at: <https://tinyurl.com/afthcpb8>**

### **Out of the Cold**

We can feed, clothe and provide the much-needed items to our OOTC guests because of the generosity of our church members, our kind volunteers and our esteemed donors. Thank you to everyone who has given of their time and talents and to those who have so generously donated to the Out of the Cold efforts.

Volunteers are always needed so if you would like to join our team, please begin by completing the online registration form: <https://secure.rotundasoftware.com/30/web-terminal/login/standrewstoronto>

Please note that the boutique will only be available on Monday evenings during dinner. A detailed list of current needs is available on the website at: <https://standrewstoronto.org/volunteer/out-of-the-cold/>

## Stewardship and Giving

### **Charitable Donation Income Tax Receipts - Donation deadline**

To be eligible for a 2025 official charitable donation receipt for tax purposes, donations must be received by the church in 2025. We are required to retain the envelope in which the donation came to be able to prove via the cancellation date stamp that the donation was received on or before December 31st.

You may also make a donation using the *Canada Helps* feature on our website: [www.standrewstoronto.org](http://www.standrewstoronto.org). From the Home Page, click on the Donation Button located in the upper right hand corner. Or, you may make an E-transfer to: [donations@standrewstoronto.org](mailto:donations@standrewstoronto.org) using the password "Standrews", by December 30<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Diana Veenstra in the church office at 416-593-5600 extension 4.

As a congregation, we are blessed in so many ways. Congregation givings are one of the key pillars that let us continue to work together to support the life and ministry of this wonderful community of faith.

#### Methods of giving:

- Signing up for PAR plan (pre-authorized remittance – forms can be found in the Narthex)
- Placing your offering in the collection plate during worship service.
- Mailing a cheque to the Church Office at:  
*73 Simcoe Street, Toronto, ON M5J 1W9*
- Donating online at [standrewstoronto.org/donate/](http://standrewstoronto.org/donate/)
- Sending an E-transfers to: [donations@standrewstoronto.org](mailto:donations@standrewstoronto.org) OR
- Scanning the QR code to donate online.
- Or by our latest method of donation – Contactless tap. A floor stand device will now be available in the Narthex each Sunday, allowing you to give a pre-set amount of \$10.00. This charge will appear on your statement as "St. Andrew's Church." Please note, no receipt will be issued for amounts given via this method.



*We appreciate your ongoing and faithful support!*

## PLANNING YOUR LEGACY

If you are considering making a legacy bequest to St. Andrew's Church, here is suggested wording for your will:

"I give and bequeath to St. Andrew's Heritage Trust (charitable registration number BN: 119163566RR0001), \_\_\_\_ % of the residue of my estate [or the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_] to be used for such purposes and designs as deemed appropriate by the Session of St. Andrew's Church."

For more information you may contact Graeme Hepburn at [graeme@hepburn.to](mailto:graeme@hepburn.to) or John Matheson at: [jmmatheson@rogers.com](mailto:jmmatheson@rogers.com)

**2026 - Giving Envelopes** are now available for pick up in the Narthex as of this Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> for those who requested them.

## Calendar of Events

### Mon. Dec. 29

5:00 pm	OOTC Dinner	Sanctuary
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### Tues, Dec. 30

7:30 am	OOTC Community Breakfast	Great Hall
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### Sun, Jan. 4

9:00 am	Library opens	Library
9:30 am	Nursery opens	Day Care Centre, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fl.
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	OOTC Prep	Kitchen/Great Hall

*Assistance during worship service is needed and appreciated. If you would like to be a Greeter or an Usher please contact Reece Hodgson at: [rhodgson@standrewstoronto.org](mailto:rhodgson@standrewstoronto.org) if you would like to be a Lay Reader during the service, please contact Selena Eng at: [selenatke@gmail.com](mailto:selenatke@gmail.com)*

*To list a meeting or event in this calendar, or to include an announcement in the bulletin, please send details to [maggiem@standrewstoronto.org](mailto:maggiem@standrewstoronto.org) by 9:00 am on Thursday 10 days before the Sunday to which it pertains.*

*More information about many of the activities listed above, may be found on the Church website at [www.standrewstoronto.org](http://www.standrewstoronto.org)*