

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Guest Preacher: Alicia Monson

Music Director: Naomi Piggott-Suchan

Organist: Paul Suchan

January 12th, 2025

Baptism of the Lord/First Sunday after the Epiphany

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: Etude Op. 10, no. 3 – Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

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)

One: Beloved, God chooses us and calls us by name.

All: We belong to God. Alleluia!

One: Our lives have purpose because we belong to God.

All: We are called to be like Christ and follow him.

One: We will find joy, peace, and restoration through God's amazing grace.

All: Let us worship God who claims us and loves us! Praise be to God!

Prayer of Adoration

Praise: *“Christ, when for us you were baptized”*

#183

Prayer of Confession: (Unison)

Merciful God,

**in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
but we confess that we prefer our old, familiar ways.**

**We cling to our destructive habits,
we harbor grudges,**

and are reluctant to welcome a stranger or to forgive one another.

Nostalgia for the past prevents us from exploring new possibilities.

In your loving kindness, forgive us.

Have mercy upon us and move among us

so that we might pursue new life in Christ together.

Assurance of Pardon

(Children come forward)
Children's Time: Alicia Monson

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: "Spirit of the living God" #400
(Children leave for Church School)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 43: 1-7

- Jim Fenton

Psalms 29 Refrain 1

Acts 8: 14-17

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

-Alicia Monson

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon:

-Alicia Monson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem: Deep River – Traditional, arr. H.T. Burleigh

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

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Praise: "How a firm a foundation" #685

Benediction

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

Postlude: Evening Prayer, from *Hansel & Gretel* – Engelbert Humperdinck (1854-1921)

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

Coffee Hosts: Luella, Sharon & Laura



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, Email office@standrews-saskatoon.com, Website: www.standrews-saskatoon.com

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

Announcements



2025 is our 100 years in Saskatoon and as a congregation! This is our year to reflect where we have come from and where we intend to go. On Sunday, January 12, the Worship and Music committee along with the Anniversary committee are hosting a CAROL SING beginning at 7pm. Come and sing your favorite Christmas Carols through the season of Epiphany. A fellowship will follow the CAROL SING.

January 19th is our Heritage Sunday reflecting on the history, the people, the depth of belief and commitment to have a Presbyterian denomination in Saskatoon. A special Heritage Worship service is being planned followed by fellowship and reflection during our coffee hour. We invite you all to attend and rejoice in our 100 years!

The **Poinsettia** display has been a beautiful addition to our sanctuary during the Christmas Season. Thank you to all the supporters. If you still want your poinsettia, please remove it from the Sanctuary by Wednesday, January 15. If not removed it will either be given away or thrown out depending on its condition. Thank you.

Advent Bake Sale

Thanks to the generosity of the bakers and crafters, as well as those purchasing these offerings of talents, almost \$400 was raised for Presbyterians Sharing. Stay tuned for next year.

With the start of a New Year 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



Join Rev Roberto & Pastor Ron as they share a pasta dinner and more on Sunday January 19 5:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. at Zion. Info & sharing you are attending: Martha 306.270.2378.



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. Our new year's resolution for 2025 is to cheerfully hold our sandwich making parties on the second and the fourth Sundays of each month.

Our first sandwich making party of 2025 will take place on January 26th, and we will start our new schedule on February 9th. If you would like to help with the sandwiches, please come and join us in the kitchen after the service.

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!



2025 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, which is \$12.29. 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.***

Any donations that you wish to have included on your 2024 charitable donation receipt **MUST** be received no later than January 15th, 2025, and be dated 2024.

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 fall 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 standrews-saskatoon.com
- 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

PRESBYTERIANS IN EARLY SASKATOON

Before I continue telling the story of the newly formed St. Andrew's Church in Saskatoon, an attempt will be made to piece together the events of the 51st General Assembly, 1925.

My sources were:

- Reproduced copies The Globe, Toronto, June 6, 1925.
- The Presbyterian Record, June, 1925 (original).
- The Presbyterian Record, October, 1925 (original).
- A newspaper with heading: Bulletin: News Items Concerning The Continuing Presbyterian Church In Canada, Toronto, June 27, 1925 (original).
- A series of Sermons Preached at St. Andrew's by first Minister, Rev. W.G. Brown, particularly Sermon #15 titled, "Why I Remained With The Presbyterian Church In Canada And Did Not Leave It To Enter The United Church of Canada in 1925". Printed c.1936 Original.

These sources are in our Church Archives. If interested, find them in White Binder, 1925. Hand with Care. Any quotes that I use will be from the above sources.

General Assembly, 1925 was held for two full weeks from June 3 – 16th. There were two distinct parts. The first part had 13 seditments (sessions). The second part was unique and separate from the first part.

The Unionists were determined to push the formation of the United Church.

The Presbyterian Church has four courts, the first being Session - the court of the individual congregations. Then comes the Presbytery – which is composed of the local Minister and an Elder. The next court is called Synod, which is composed of several Presbyteries in the same larger area. Finally, the highest court in the Church is General Assembly, held once a year.

Because it would be impossible or unwieldy to have so many at General Assembly, a system that had 1 in 6 of her Ministers on a loose rotation. However, each Presbytery chose the Minister and Elder to attend General Assembly for that year.

The pro-Unionists were determined that Union would be accomplished at 1925 General Assembly. This plan was only one of many tactics to assure the final vote would be in favour of Union, so they stacked "the deck" and manipulated to send representatives from individual presbyteries that were clearly Pro-Union.

There was a plan for the Assembly. Those in favour were determined to wipe out the Presbyterian Church, merge it into a new Denomination, leaving not a trace of it behind!

Even one of the reports in The Globe stated "that the Union Committee be continued in its present form until its work is completed".

I think if one read the reports without names, Unionists and Nonconformists be used, one could easily assume the discussion was one about a political issue or the devious plans of a takeover by a large company.

A bit of humour – in the midst of The Globe report was an ad for Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills – wherever there are people who are troubled with deranged nerves, they will find in Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills a remedy that restores equilibrium of these deranged centres and bring back the shattered nervous system to a perfect condition.

I am sure their sales increased among Presbyterians of all stripes!

(To be continued February 9, 2025.)

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, January 12

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, Hummingbird Ministries promotes healing for Indigenous generations, addressing the trauma of a colonial past while nurturing hopes for a brighter future. Led by the Rev. Mary Fontaine, the first Indigenous moderator of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, the ministry fosters healing and reconciliation through cultural arts, including dance and drama performances. Additionally, Hummingbird Ministries connects with congregations across the PCC to provide healing through workshops and events like National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Christmas Circle, and the Peace through the Arts Festival.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, January 12 (Baptism of the Lord) Let us remember our baptism and pray that we will live in ways that fulfil the promises made on our behalf, and may we boldly confess Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour.

Monday, January 13 We pray for the Rev. Lora Nafziger and her family as she begins her second year as Staff Support and Counselling Advisor at the United Mission to Nepal headquarters in Kathmandu.

Tuesday, January 14 We pray for St Paul's PC in Hamilton, Ontario as they engage in a community that is hurting from opioid addiction and homelessness, and for Hamilton Urban Core as it runs treatment and outreach services from its temporary home at St. Paul's.

Wednesday, January 15 We pray for residents of St. Andrew's Hall who gather on Wednesday evenings for soup and discussion on the Christian faith and mental health using the Sanctuary Course materials under the leadership of Chaplain Rev. Sumarme Goble.

Thursday, January 16 We pray for the Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls, Moderator of the 2024 General Assembly, as she connects with Presbyterians across the country in her visits and through letters and articles.

Friday, January 17 We pray for Cedar Tree Ministries on Vancouver Island as it works towards healing and reconciliation, serving Indigenous communities through spiritual, social and mental health services. We pray also for its Director, the Rev. Joey Cho.

Saturday, January 18 (World Week of Prayer for Christian Unity) We pray for the members and work of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee.