

# ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

## *THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP*

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Music Director: Gillian Lyons

Choir Conductor and Soloist: Terri-Lynn Mitchell

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

***"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor." John 12: 26***



Welcome and Announcements

-The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

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

Call to Worship

Lenten Insert

**Praise:**

***"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun"***

**#275**

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

For him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head; his name like fragrance sweet shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains; the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring the honours due our glorious King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the long Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

**Jesus, our friend and Saviour, as we ponder your sacrifice, we recognize the self-centred ways in which we lead our lives.**

**You entrust us with the task of sharing your love in this world, yet we often fall short. We get lost in our own plans and worries and neglect to show love, even to those right beside us. We find some people too difficult to care for.**

**We think some people unworthy of your love and ours. Our own needs seem insurmountable and we cannot reach out to someone else. Forgive us, Lord Jesus. Renew a right spirit within us, so that we find the courage to go on and the compassion to reach out in your name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

**Praise:**

***"Open our eyes, Lord"***

**#445**

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Psalms 51: 1-12

Hebrews 5: 5-10

John 12: 20-33

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

Sermon:

"Loss and Gain"

-The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Invitation to the Offering

Solo: "Create in Me a Clean Heart" Hurd

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayers of the People

Leader: Lord in your mercy...

**All: Hear our prayer.**

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.**

**WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME**

**Praise:**

***"Christ for the world we sing"***

**#772**

"Christ for the world" we sing; the world to Christ we bring with loving zeal, the poor and all that mourn, the faint and over-borne, sin-sick and sorrow-worn, for Christ to heal.

"Christ for the world" we sing; the world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer, the wayward and the lost, be restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.

"Christ for the world" we sing; the world to Christ we bring with one accord, with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear for Christ our Lord.

"Christ for the world" we sing; the world to Christ we bring with joyful song; the new-born souls whose days, reclaimed to live always, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

Benediction and Sung Response  
**Amen, Amen, A - - men.**

Postlude:

“Lift High the Cross”

Nicholson, arr. Lopez



## Announcements



Saskatoon St. Andrew's Coffee Hour at 12:30 pm Sundays:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81575438545>



### HOLY WEEK SERVICES (All worship services ONLINE until further notice)

Palm Sunday – March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am

Good Friday - April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 am

Easter Sunday Kid's Service - April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Easter Sunday - April 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am

The Pastoral Care Committee will have a team meeting on Tuesday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. by teleconference.

The latest “**These Days**”, the daily devotional for April, May and June, has arrived in the office. If you would like a copy, please contact the office, and we can make that happen. The spring edition of “**Presbyterian Connections**” is also available.

### COVID TOWN HALL

We are fortunate at St. Andrew's to have a member of our congregation who is part of Public Health. Dr. Tabien has been working through the past year helping with the province's response to the Covid pandemic and is willing to answer any questions that we might have by holding a town hall meeting by zoom. Because of her schedule, this would take place after April 18<sup>th</sup>, giving us a chance to come up with questions. A Zoom link will be sent out once a firm date has been set for all those who are interested.





their home in the Waras district of the Bamyan province. Living conditions had worsened as COVID-19 caused many livelihood opportunities to disappear.

With no place to call home and abandoned by her husband, the thirty-five-year-old mother, along with her three young daughters and son, sought refuge in a nearby village. The family found shelter—making a home for themselves in a spare room of a mosque that was traditionally used to host meetings and gatherings. The conditions of the space were challenging to live in, with no electricity, gas or water supply. In the winter, the concrete room became very cold.

Still, Razia and her children tried to make the best of the situation, seeking limited employment opportunities to help sustain themselves. Najib, Razia's eldest son, runs an ice cream cart in the summer and works in a recycling shop during the winter months, earning about \$3.25 (CAD) a day. Razia and her three daughters knit and embroider handicrafts to sell. However, with COVID-19 impacting people's purchasing ability, Razia has not received many orders, making the situation extremely challenging for the family to make ends meet.

In response to the overwhelming impact of COVID-19, PWS&D's local partner in Afghanistan is distributing monthly cash transfers to 1,100 vulnerable households. The funds allow families to purchase much-needed food and essential items. The five-month project is made possible with support from partners at Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Government of Canada.

With this support, Razia and many other families are better prepared to combat food insecurity. Razia is now less stressed about where her family's next meal will come from or how she will manage her household expenses in the harsh winter months. "We were blessed this season as the cash helped us to purchase essential groceries including flour, rice, oil, vegetables, wood and gas. I have also bought warm clothing for my children so the winters will be warm and comfortable," she shares.

## **COVID-19: How to know your calls are from the SHA – Pastoral Care Committee**

Thursday, March 4, 2021 in News Release

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) has some tips for helping the public know when a phone call is from the SHA for individuals receiving calls about test results and contact tracing:

□ Partial information exchange to confirm identity: At the beginning of the call, the SHA will provide the recipient with the first three digits of their Saskatchewan Health Card number. The recipient will then be asked to provide the last three digits of their health card. The SHA may also ask individuals to confirm their first and last name, and date of birth. This will ensure that both the caller and recipient are legitimate.

o NOTE: This partial information exchange may not be possible in all situations; for example, when an individual is initially contacted by the SHA to inform them they are a close contact of a positive case. In these instances, the SHA may only have the individual's first name and phone number.

□ Call-back option: If you are unsure of the legitimacy of the caller or you prefer not to answer your phone when an unknown number appears, please take note of the number and call back to verify that it is an SHA number. When calling back, you will either be connected with an SHA representative or receive a recording indicating you have reached the Saskatchewan Health Authority and that a representative of the SHA will try to reach you again from the same number.

When the SHA calls, it is possible that the number displayed on your phone may be from out of country. This is because the SHA is using a Hosted Call Centre. If you prefer not to answer an unknown call, please take note of the number and call back to verify. This is especially important during the pandemic in order to protect yourself and your loved ones from potentially fraudulent calls.

Remember to also take protective measures against COVID-19, including: wearing a mask, physical distancing, washing your hands, staying home when sick and getting tested.

# Take-OUT

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The church school will continue to worship on zoom. The Front Porch Ministry team will be delivering "greenery" and other Holy Week - Easter items next weekend. The items can be used both in the zoom sessions or with your family. For further information on the children's ministry, call Martha Fergusson 306 270-2378.

### **IN-PERSON WORSHIP IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Please note that due to the recent local uptick in Covid-19 cases, St. Andrew's will be closed to in-person worship until further notice. We will continue to meet online at 11:00am every Sunday on our website ([standrews-saskatoon.com](http://standrews-saskatoon.com)). We hope to see you again soon!

### **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](http://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



### **SUNDAYS**

**09:30 AM - 09:45 AM**

**Sprouts** – preschool and early elementary aged children

Meeting ID: 862 0953 1359

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**Roots** – older elementary and high school youth

Meeting ID: 867 4107 9007

### **NOW ON THURSDAYS**

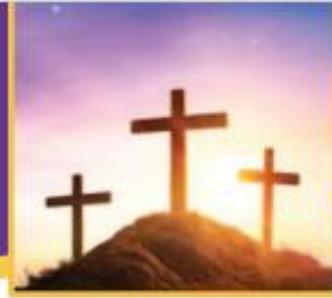
**06:15 PM**

**Kids Klub Thursday Afterschool** – ages 7 and up

Meeting ID: 884 2782 8650



# Fifth Sunday in Lent



*Adapted from the original  
written by the Rev. Mary Whitson*

- L: We are closer to the events in Jerusalem every day.
- P: We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are travelers on the road.
- L: When your people were slaves, you led the faithful through the waters  
and set them free. But we struggle with the freedom you give us.
- P: We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are travelers on the road.
- L: Always you reach out to us. Yet so often we have ignored your open arms  
and fled from your grace and freedom—and our responsibility.
- P: We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are travelers on the road.
- L: Let us pray.
- All: Loving God, you have loved us  
beyond all measure,  
but we continue to look for  
life outside of your embrace.  
On this journey, remind us  
that true freedom comes  
in obedience to you and  
following where you lead.  
In the name of Jesus we pray,  
Amen.



# Women Farmers Ensure Food Security

In the village of Mwenitanga in Malawi, Twambilire inspected the soil that lay beneath the layers of flimsy husks on her plot of land.

Twambilire had witnessed the effects of climate change on her farm in the frequency and severity of both droughts and rain—events that make it difficult for her to grow enough food to eat and sell at the market.

One day, Twambilire decided to sign up for a PWS&D-supported program teaching conservation agriculture. At the workshop, she learned to farm in a way that encourages crop rotation, organic fertilizers and minimal soil disturbance.

Twambilire proudly shares that since mulching her plot and implementing what she had learned, her once-degraded soil is now fertile and healthy. She has also become a lead farmer with the PWS&D project, teaching other farmers in her community about conservation agriculture.

This Lenten season faithfully respond with PWS&D as we help farmers adapt to climate change so that they can increase their yields and improve nutrition for their families.

[WeRespond.ca](http://WeRespond.ca)

