

Announcements and Notices

Happy 14th Birthday today,
Wendy Johnson!!



Sheila and Reg (Happy belated birthday, Reg!) would like you to know that their woods paths in Round Hill are open. They lead to a pond and a cabin and are well maintained for walking. Give them a call at 902-532-2979

Readings for next week's worship and Bible study

Acts 11: 1-18 ; Galatians 3:26-28 Theme: All one in Christ

Bible study is every Tuesday morning by video tune in from 9:30-10:30. If you wish to participate its simple: call or email Rev. Elisabeth

Commissioning:

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind”.

2 Timothy 1:7

Blessing: [More Voices # 218]

**May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.**

Welcome!

St. George & St. Andrew United Church

Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Hearts



PO Box 493, 393 St. George Street
Annapolis Royal, NS B0S 1A0 Tel. (902) 532-7954
www.unitedchurchannapolisroyal.com
stgeorgeandstandrew@gmail.com

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Trinity Sunday

11th Sunday in Covid Lockdown

Gathering the Community

*Please spend a moment in preparation for worship.
Have a candle or tealight ready, and look for an
object that symbolizes community for you. Set a
small table with candle, object and perhaps some
flowers? This will be your worship place.
Calm your breath.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Light a candle or tealight in your home, saying:
We light this light in the name of **Creator** who said
“Let there be light” - and there was light.
We light this light in the name of **Christ**, who said:
“I am the light of the world, whoever walks in my
footsteps will not be in darkness
We light this light in the name of **Holy Spirit**, who
is our inner light and the light of God’s presence in
the world.
*Be still for a moment and become aware of God’s
light within you and of God’s presence in all of
God’s creation.*

Call to Worship

In a world that cries out, “Fear me!”
We will listen to Jesus’ words,
“Don’t be afraid!”
In a world that wants us to hate the other...
We will live Jesus’ call to,
“Love God.

Love your neighbour, as you love yourself.”

In a world that radicalizes...
We, too, will be radical.
Radical with our hospitality.
Radical with our hope.
Radical with our love.

Then come to this place,
ready to be who we are called to be.
Let us gather together
and worship God.

*~ written by Richard Bott, Moderator United
Church of Canada*

**Hymn: Voices United # 385 “Spirit Divine, attend
our prayers”**

click here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=UeT0NN_SIn4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeT0NN_SIn4)

Opening Prayer:

Holy One,
for all the ways you touch us;
in tears and in laughter, in music and in silence,
even in the news of the day.
In words we understand and in all the ways that
transcend language
we give thanks. Amen.

Discovery Time : “*We’re different- we’re the same*”

There is a young children’s book of that title (Sesame Street)-perhaps you know it? It’s also a treat for adults. The little book celebrates our differences: in foods we like, in skin colour and body shapes, in cultures and ways of behaving-we may look all different on the outside but its so important to remember that deep down we are all the same: feelings, needs, desires.

God made the world full of beautiful and amazing variety!

What an exciting world to live in! Rather than being silent about colour and race and pretending these don’t exist, we do well to explore differences, learn to affirm ourselves and others celebrate what we have in common, listen to the voices of brown and black skinned people, learn what we need to hear.

Hymn: Voices United # 554 God made from one blood all the families of earth

click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPuVuPdU6qw>

Hearing the Story

Prayer for Illumination (inner light of understanding)

Many of the church’s teachers “fathers” of the church, explain that there are two books of God. One is written in printed letters on papyrus or paper and one is written in lakes and forests, rivers and ancient rocks. As we open the book that is in print we ask for openness of our minds and a right attitude in our hearts while not forgetting the Divine “book “that is written in nature. May we always be attentive to God’s sacred work in both.

A reading from the book of Acts 2:42-17

Description of the first church community in Jerusalem

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **43** Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. **44** All the believers were together and had everything in

common. **45** They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. **46** Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **47** praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (Translation: NIV)

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 1:25-30

***25**For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.*

26 Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. **27** But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. **28** God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify

the things that are, **29** so that no one may boast before him. **30** It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. (Translation: NIV)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Voices United # 296 This is God's wondrous world

click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2kTEqkrnkQ>

Reflection/Message

Responding to the Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

You may want to begin by humming or singing the refrain of this African-American spiritual: **There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.** *A video of Paul Robeson singing this in Carnegie Hall in 1958 just may bring tears to your eyes... click here:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okl2XbTM7xM>

In our troubling times, dear Lord- we long for a balm indeed. And while the grief and concern are so strong we also give thanks: For the area we live in and the rich shades of spring green everywhere, for new grandchildren or greatgrandchildren, for the gift of technology that allows us to connect across the distance, and for the many demonstrations of protest against the deaths of African-American citizens at the hand of police: George Floyd, Steven Taylor, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. We know of far too many others and give thanks for demonstrations in solidarity in London, Amsterdam, Berlin, Auckland, Paris, Copenhagen, Milan; Rio de Janeiro, Dublin, Perth, Toronto, Halifax and many more places large and small across the globe. We have a balm in your word, O God of Peace and Love, a condemnation of the sin of racism and a call to brotherly and sisterly love.

Sing or hum: **There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.**

Holy One, we need a balm to heal the wounded bodies: the bodies of those diagnosed with Covid, the bodies of those hit, mugged or raped, the bodies

of brothers and sisters overseas suffering from chronic malnutrition or malaria, the bodies of friends and neighbours sick with cancer, heart disease, diabetes, dementia and many other ailments.

We need a balm for our wounded souls, souls that are lonely, shrinking, grieving, angry, indifferent or fearful... our spirits being often at their lowest ebb in these recent days, we turn to you.

Father-Mother God, in desperation, knowing that only in you can we find comfort, healing, a balm for those things we cannot seem to get right on our own. And, though we are not yet able to sing in our churches, we each and all can sing on our own, so we lift our tentative voices singing

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

And we pray together:

The Lord's Prayer

Offering our Gifts

"They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need" Acts 2:45

Don't sell your house to give to the church! But do consider how you may contribute to help those in need.

Ways to help, both through the Mission and Service Fund and through our local church:

*If you are able, please send a **cheque** or postdated cheques by mail, sign up for **PAR**, or send an **e-transfer** to stgeorgeandstandrew@gmail.com*

you can not financially support us at this time please know we appreciate your time and talent, prayers and faithful action. Thank you!



Preparing for the coming week

Spiritual practice: Review of the Day or

Daily Awareness “Examen”

Our faith is something we practice. Acts of mercy and justice, community worship and meals (sadly missed now!!!) and daily prayer are the



foundation blocks. Here is a prayer practice that was introduced by Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1566); the daily review or examen. Its proven to be a life changing prayer for countless people. These are the steps (in modern language of course) they can be done in 10 minutes.

1. Settle yourself and ask God for the light (I want to look at the day with God’s eyes, not merely my own)
2. Review your day in the way you would see your day played back as a movie. See it played back from first thing in the morning to now. The day you have just lived is a gift from God. Look at your day with gratitude.
3. Notice your emotions as you see your day. Ask yourself : In what moment of the day did I feel closest to Hope, Joy, Love..? In what moment did I feel furthest away from Hope, Joy, Love? Notice.
4. Pray with a feature of your day.
5. Look toward tomorrow.

