



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Sunday, September 29, 2024
19th Sunday After Pentecost

 *Please stand if you are able*

 *Available on screen*

Our Reason for Being

*As a community of the people of God,
called by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

*Our purpose is to reach the hearts, minds,
bodies and souls of individuals,
thus, bringing the Kingdom of God upon ourselves and others.
We do this through **worship, nurture and outreach.***



PRELUDE "Contemplations" arr. Ron Mallory

(Chi-Rho Ringers)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GATHER

  **HYMN #530 "I Come with Joy"** (Verses 1, 3, and 5)

 **CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Come, let us gather to worship the living God.

We come with open hearts, ready to receive His word.

The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?

We come to seek His face, to know His will, and to be transformed by His love.

Let us taste and see that the Lord is good!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Gracious Lord,

We come before you with hearts full of gratitude and praise. As we gather in your holy presence this morning, we acknowledge your greatness and majesty.

You are the Creator of the heavens and the earth, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

Lord, we thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to worship you as one body. We ask that you quiet our minds and still our hearts, that we may fully enter into your presence. Remove any distractions or burdens we may carry, and help us to focus solely on you.

As we sing, pray, and hear your Word, may your Spirit move among us, filling us with renewed faith, hope, and love. Teach us your ways, O Lord, that we may walk in your truth and reflect your light in the world.

We offer this time to you, asking that it be a fragrant offering, pleasing and acceptable in your sight. Draw us closer to you and to one another, and empower us to live out our faith with boldness and compassion. We pray this in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

  **HYMN #688 "As Water to the Thirsty"**

Let us come and have our prayer of confession together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

All-embracing God,

we confess we don't like to feel uncomfortable.

**We often turn away from suffering or injustice,
even when the evidence is right before our eyes.**

**We don't like to feel responsible for reaching out,
even when we could.**

Forgive us, O God.

**Give us courage to love others as you love us,
and respond with the same mind we meet in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, forgiveness comes from God and He doesn't count our sin against us. For God has reconciled us through Christ and entrusts to us the message of reconciliation. So, believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. So let the *"peace of Christ be with you as you come to Him!"* ♥

WE LISTEN

MINISTRY OF MUSIC “Stand Up And Bless The Lord” arr. Bill Ingram
(*Chi-Rho Ringers*)

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

 **The Lord’s Prayer** (*let us sing it together – please remain seated*)

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done
On earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins as we forgive
Those who sin against us
Save us from the time of trials and deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 9:38-50

Reader: **Dillon Hausauer**

PRAYER OF UNDERSTANDING

Heavenly Father, as we prepare to hear your Word, open our hearts and minds. Help us to listen attentively and understand deeply. May your message transform us and guide our lives.
In Jesus' holy name we pray, amen.

SERMON: “Choices”

Rev. Les Skonnord

WE RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Heavenly Father,
We come before You with hearts full of gratitude and hope. We lift up our prayers for the world, our community, and our loved ones.

We pray for peace in our world, for an end to conflict and violence. May Your peace reign in every corner of the earth, and may leaders work towards justice and reconciliation.

We ask for Your comfort and healing for those who are suffering. Bring strength and hope to the sick, the grieving, and those facing challenges. Surround them with Your love and grace.

We lift up our community and our church family. Guide us in our mission to serve others and to reflect Your love. Help us to be a beacon of hope and a source of support to those around us.

We pray for our leaders and those in authority. Grant them wisdom and discernment as they make decisions that affect many lives. May they seek Your guidance in all they do.

Lord, we also bring before You the personal concerns and joys of our hearts.
[Pause for individual prayers.]

We trust in Your goodness and faithfulness. Hear our prayers and act according to Your will, as we commit all these things into Your loving hands.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OFFERING TIME

God calls us to show our love through the kindness we offer our neighbours. Our offering will spread the gifts God has given us to neighbours in need in the name of Christ, our Lord.

As the offering plate comes around respond in openness to all we've been given. Place your financial offering in the plate but also – and more importantly – place your hand over it and silently commit to God to use your gifts, talents, and hearts for furthering the unfolding realm of God on earth.

 **HYMN #519 "Jesus, Friend So Kind and Gentle"**

(please stand on verse 3)

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, we have received so much from you in Christ and in creation. Bless the gifts we offer so that they will speak of your love for the world in all its detail and diversity. May our gifts touch the need around us in the name of Christ who makes us one. Amen.



DOXOLOGY HYMN #553 "May the Lord Bless You"

(Let us stand and face one another)

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

As you go forth from this place, may the love of God surround you, the wisdom of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord, sharing His light and love with all whom you meet.

Amen.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE "Unity" arr. Kurt Meyer

(Chi-Rho Ringers)

**Large print bulletins, sermons and audio enhancement devices
are available in the narthex.*

If you need help please ask your usher for assistance.

The Life and Work of the Church



Worship services will continue to be shown on **Roger's T.V. Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on channel 105**. These same services are also available on the **St. Andrew's Facebook page with a link to YouTube (search for St. Andrew's, Lethbridge)**. Presbyterian Daily Devotionals can be found at www.presbycan.ca.

Video-taping is in progress during the Church Service. Photographs may be also taken from time to time. Thus, your pictures and/or the videotapes may be shared on St. Andrew's website and/or social media platforms. If you would **prefer NOT** to have your images featured, please notify the Convenor of Spiritual Life Team or the Church office.



Busy Bags are quiet activities available in the Narthex for children to pick up and use during worship.



Prayer Wall: The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. *Isaiah 40:28b*

WELCOME - This morning we welcome **Rev. Les Skonnord**. May we be a blessing to him as he is to us.

While Rev Daniel is away, we have the following pulpit supply for the first week of October.

October 6 - Elder Dillon Hausauer

THANK YOU to the **Chi-Rho Ringers** for participating in the service. It is very much appreciated



Sunday, October 6, at coffee time, you will have an opportunity to meet with your elder and to have coffee and treats and get to know the people in your unit. **If you are new to St. Andrew's** and have questions who your elder might be or which unit you are in, you can call the church office.



“Thanksgiving Decorating” - The Spiritual Life Team will decorate the sanctuary for Thanksgiving **on Friday, October 11 at 2pm**. If congregants have preserves (jams, pickles etc) and /or fall produce (turnips, Zucchini, squash etc) to contribute to the decorations, **please bring to the church the morning of October 11th** and place in

kitchen. Note that decorations will be removed following the service on Sunday October 20th. Removal of donated items would be appreciated at that time. Thanks to all who contributed to this endeavour. Please direct any questions / offers to assist with decorating/removal of decorations to Judy McKay (403-331-0919) or Margaret Cook (403-317-0626).



Mark your Calendar, **Sunday, October 20th** following the Sunday service, **the Hospitality Team** is hosting an **International Potluck Lunch**. Please bring a dish to share that represents your family's heritage. We look forward to some unique and tasty dishes! Any questions

please call Deb Stankievech(403) 328 5195 or Kim Bohner (403)795 8377.



Youth Group - St. Andrew's requires some volunteers to coordinate youth group activities. Youth, ages 10 - 35ish, gather approximately once per month for a fun activity and fellowship. Since restarting the youth group in January 2024, we've had 8 to 15 youth attend these

activities. Coordinating involves working with youth to determine what activities they would like to do and then helping make it come to life. It requires minimal time to coordinate activities and we've had great response from the congregation for supplying snacks for these events. If you would like to play a role in nurturing the youth (our future!!) of St. Andrew's, please contact Isabelle Plomp at 403-824-3413 or email (isabelle.plomp44@gmail.com). We would like to start up as soon as possible so please consider and respond.



The MORE Team is inviting the congregation to participate in **Food Mountain**. It will run from now until the end of October. Non perishable food items are greatly appreciated and monetary gifts are also welcome to meet the needs of dairy, eggs and fresh produce.



September 29- October 6

Sunday:	10:30 am	Worship Service
Monday	6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Pickleball LCWC
Tuesday:	10:00 am	Pickleball
Wednesday:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Handbells Scottish Dance
Thursday:	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Pickleball Choir
Sunday:	10:30 am 11:45 am	Worship Service Elder/Unit coffee



Date	September 29	October 6	October 13 <i>Communion/ Thanksgiving</i>	October 20
Security	Gary Van Voorst	David Miller	Lawrence McCune	Bob Epp
Ushers	Team 5 Lawrence McCune	Team 6 Marilyn Harker	Team 1 Gary Van Voorst	Team 2 Hugh Grant
Greeters	George & Kim Bohner	Jim Gouw	Brain & Floria Fenz	
Announce- ments/ Lay Reader	Dillon Hausauer	Paula Degner	Margaret Cook	
Power Point	Dillon Hausauer	Dean Degner	Brendon Degner	John Plomp
Audio/ Video	George/kim Bohner	John B/ Chase S	John /Isabelle Plomp	Jim/Paul Deurloo
GIFT	Shona/Joan	Fiona/David	Kim/Floria	Gina/Selly
Coffee Hosts	Gord & Judy McKay	Elders	Hospitality Team	Hospitality Team (Potluck Lunch)
Van Drivers	Brian Fenz	Brian Fenz	Darwin Shoemaker	Darwin Shoemaker
Outside Care	Brad Parker Sept 30-Oct 6	Fall Clean Up	Jim Deurloo Oct 7-13	JJ Wamambo October 14-20

530 I Come With Joy

- 1. I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

- 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

- 5. Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.**

688 As Water To The Thirsty

- 1. As water to the thirsty,
as beauty to the eyes,
as strength that follows weakness,
as truth instead of lies,
as songtime and springtime
and summertime to be,
so is my Lord,
my living Lord,
so is my Lord to me.**

**2. Like calm in place of
clamour, like peace
that follows pain, like meeting after parting,
like sunshine after rain,
like moonlight and starlight
and sunlight on the sea, so is my Lord,
my living Lord,
so is my Lord to me.**

**3. As sleep that follows fever
as gold instead of grey,
as freedom after bondage,
as sunrise to the day,
as home to the traveler
and all we long to see,
so is my Lord,
my living Lord,
so is my Lord to me.**

519 Jesus, friend so kind and gentle

**1. Jesus, friend so kind and gentle,
bring we these beloved ones;
may they know your kindest blessing;
now enfold them in your arms;
may your goodness be around them;
keep them free from all that harms.**

**2. You received the little children
to yourself so tenderly;
give to us who teach and guide them,
wisdom and humility,
vision true, with joy and patience, love
to serve them faithfully.**

**3. Grant to us a deep compassion
for your children everywhere;
may we see our human family free
from sorrow and despair;
may your reign of love and glory dwell
among us, bright and fair.**

553 “May the Lord Bless You”

**May the Lord bless you,
May the Lord keep you;
May the Lord lift up His face
to shine on you.**