



## ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

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Mission, BC V2V 1J7

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Website: [www.saintandrewsunited.church](http://www.saintandrewsunited.church)

**December 5 2021**

**Minister:** Rev. Tim Bowman

**Music Director:** Deborah Handley

**Musician:** Jacob Greenan

**Church Administrator:** Angela Darychuk

We look forward to seeing you all *in person* this Sunday! Worship is at 11:30.

Please join us for coffee time between 10:30 and start of our service. Enjoy coffee, goodies and a chat with folks from All Saints as well as St. Andrews!

We are checking COVID vaccination status and please remember that masks will be mandatory for everyone over the age of 12. There will be a sign in sheet for everyone to sign. There are no exceptions aside from choir members, music leaders and readers / presiders while speaking or singing and physically distanced



### Church office hours:

**Gladwin Heights'** office is open 9:30am - 2:30pm, Tuesday

**St. Andrews'** office is open 9:30am - 2:30 pm, Wednesday

Remote office hours for both Gladwin Heights and St Andrews' are Monday and Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

### Reverend Tim's office hours:

Tim can be reached from 10am - 4pm Monday and Wednesday at St Andrew's office, 10am to 4pm Tuesday at Gladwin's office.

Please check for availability.

Tim's contact is: 778-791-3545, or [bowmantimothy@gmail.com](mailto:bowmantimothy@gmail.com)



### Readings for December 5 2021

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1: 68-79 [VU 901]

Luke 3: 1-6

### Hymns and Music for December 5 2021

Hymn - "Peace Shall Come in the Morning"

VU28 - "Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness"

MV 115 - "Behold, I Make All Things New"

Hymn - "Prepare the Way With Quietness"

VU 606 - "In Christ There is No East or West"

VU 431 - "Sing Amen"

## **December Events**

### **Romeo (Retired Old Men Eating Out) December 10, 2021**

All men from all congregations are invited to this breakfast meeting every other Friday at 8:00 am. The next meeting is on Friday, December 10 2021 Why not join and have some great breakfast company? The breakfast is held at JoJo's Bana Restaurant in Abbotsford

### **Legacy Grant Presentation December 12 2021**

Meet and find out about our Legacy recipients at our Sunday service.

### **Joint Service Christmas Pageant December 19 2021**

Our joint service will take place at Gladwin Heights United Church at 9:30 am

### **Christmas Eve Service December 24 2021**

Join our Christmas eve service

Gladwin Heights United Church 7:00 pm

St Andrews United Church 9:00 pm

### **Lessons and Carols Service December 26 2021**

Join in on Carols and Scriptures at 11:30 am

## **Minister's Message**

"And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." - Luke 1:76-79

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you,

God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham." - Luke 3:7-8

Siblings in Christ,

Do you remember the most recent baptism you witnessed? Do you remember the presider? I'm going to assume that they were smiling; that they spoke softly; that they were happy to see people coming for baptism.

John...does not seem happy. Nor especially peaceful. "You brood of vipers! Bear fruits worthy of repentance!" What does this mean? We are told that John "appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." Repentance is something that you do after you confess your sins, to demonstrate your remorse and make amends. So, John is not refusing to baptize these people; he does not require them to earn their baptism; he's not demanding their Repentance Passports. He's haranguing them as and after he's baptizing them! John doesn't seem to believe that their repentance is genuine, but he baptizes them anyway.

Friends, I believe that God takes the initiative for our salvation; that we are saved in and with the rest of God's world; and that God acts in and through human beings. It gets a little theologically tricky when what we need to be saved from is the consequences of our crimes against God's world: COVID and floods are likely the consequence of our global patterns of food production, land management and energy consumption.

Baptism is not a magic seal of protection against evil; it is a ritual act inviting and celebrating the work of God in our lives before, during, and after the act of baptism. In Baptism we are plunged beneath the waters; we rise, gasping, with new life and new perspective.

As our houses, farms and vehicles are plunged beneath the waters of the resurgent Sumas Lake, we are called to bear fruit worthy of repentance: not to sink into despair, but to be radicalized into action; for this is the way of peace, and the way of the Lord who is surely coming to us.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

## **Our Prayer List**

***The result of Prayer is Life. Prayer irrigates the Earth and Heart. Author Unknown***

Please hold these people and families in your heart and prayers:

Chico • Shay, • Greta and family • Bernice • Sally and family  
• Annie • Devon and family • Paulette and family • Loa •  
Eileen and family • Barb • Roy • Aroon

Blessings Linda B.

## **Lectionary for December 2021**

### **December 5 Second Sunday of Advent**

Baruch 5:1–9  
or Malachi 3:1–4  
Luke 1:68–79  
Philippians 1:3–11  
Luke 3:1–6

### **December 12 B2143 Third Sunday of Advent**

Zephaniah 3:14–20  
Isaiah 12:2–6  
Philippians 4:4–7  
Luke 3:7–18

### **December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:2–5a  
Luke 1:46b–55  
or Psalm 80:1–7  
Hebrews 10:5–10  
Luke 1:39–45, (46–55)

### **December 24/25 Christmas Eve/Day**

Isaiah 9:2–7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11–14  
Luke 2:1–14, (15–20)

### **December 26 First Sunday after Christmas**

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12–17  
Luke 2:41–52

## **St Andrews United Church**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Chair – Judith Ray  
Vice-Chairperson – Beate Pothmann  
Secretary – Cherie Dobson  
Treasurer – Dennis Larson

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Trustees - Myrna McGregor  
M & P – Cherie Dobson  
Pastoral Care – Linda Bouchir  
Cluster Rep – Myrna McGregor  
Property – Lyle Treleaven

### **AFFIRMING MINISTRY**

Linda Bouchir  
Darian and Tyler Komaszczuk  
Deborah Handley  
Cathy Waller  
Candace White

### **MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEES**

#### **WITH GLADWIN HEIGHTS**

Joint Board: Judith Ray, Beate Pothmann,  
Myrna McGregor  
Joint M & P: Cherie Dobson, Lyle Treleaven  
Joint Worship: Linda Bouchir, Beate Pothmann, Deborah  
Handley

