

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**  
**November 7, 2021 – Remembering & Seeking Peace Sunday**

Welcome to Worship

Join us for a Zoom Virtual Coffee Time at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Email [sketchingalong4@gmail.com](mailto:sketchingalong4@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link.

**Prelude**

**Hymn: VU 457 As We Gather at Your Table, vv. 1 & 2**

1. As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

2. Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

**Welcome and Announcements**

Welcome to this space, whether you are joining this worship online or physically in the sanctuary – we all enter holy ground.

Those at home, if you are new here, note that our contact information is at the end of the video, and you might want to visit our website or Facebook page, or email our office manager so you can receive our weekly e-newsletter called the NEWS. We also have a Virtual Fellowship time tonight at 7:00. As always, you can get your Zoom link to join that time of connecting by sending an email to Diane, that email address will be part of the credits after this worship.

Let us worship – (silent moment)

**Nurturing Safe Space**

We seek Holy Spirit and Love to help us nurture safe space in this place where all can participate in worship and life regardless of age, ability, race, cultural background, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

**Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Long before settlers came to this land we call Canada, many nations of people already lived on the land, cared for it. We recognize them as the First Nations. Today, here at St Andrew's, we are worshipping on the traditional territories both of the Wahnapiitae First Nation and the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek. Whose traditional territory are you worshipping on today? We recognize the long history of our First Nations and Métis peoples in Ontario, we give thanks for their stewardship of the land throughout the ages. Let us, all of us, Treaty people, commit ourselves anew to the work of healing, justice and reconciliation.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

It is not rocket science!

**Peace is more than the absence of fighting.**

**Peace is justice and righteousness for all.**

When the language of peace is "all Greek to us,"

**may God teach us the language of hope and reconciliation.**

May the light of this candle remind us of the One who brought light from chaos and hope from despair.

**May it be so.** *[Dave lights candle]*

## Call to Worship

Peace,  
**when trouble seethes.**

Peace,  
**when views are rigid.**

Peace,  
**when pain persists.**

Peace,  
**when loss deadens.**

Peace,  
**when dreams are lost.**

Peace,  
**to counter injustice.**

The deep peace of God  
**that goes beyond human understanding.**

**Let us pray for peace as we worship today.**

## Opening Prayer

Let us pray: Remember the suffering of the world. Remember the sacrifice of the soldiers, civilians and peacemakers. Remember the Holy Spirit, who leads us into the ways of peace and light.

**We celebrate your presence, Holy One, and live for a world made holy. Amen.**

## We Remember, Seeking Peace (Betty McFarlane)

*In Flanders Fields* [Lt.-Col. John McCrae]

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

## Words of Remembrance (excerpt from "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon, September 1914)

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.

**Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.**

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

**We will remember them.**

## Laying of Wreath (Peter Penttila)

### Last Post

### 2 Minutes of Silence

### Rouse

## **Hymn: Let There Be Peace on Earth**

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, we are family;  
let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:  
to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

## **Scripture Reading (*Betty McFarlane*)**

### **Mark 12:41–44**

This is a paraphrase of the story of true generosity based on Mark's Gospel, chapter 12, verses 41 to 44, it is entitled "Love Shown by Giving".

One day Jesus was in the temple talking to his friends who had gathered around him. They were sitting opposite the thirteen wooden boxes that were used for collecting money. A label was put on each box to identify the type of donation it would hold: for the upkeep of the temple; for purchasing food for the people who worked in the temple; and for helping the poor.

These boxes were usually placed in a public place so that every contribution was accompanied by a loud clanking sound. Every person in the courtyard could hear the giver dropping in the coins, and often eyes would turn toward the sound. It was expected that everyone would give money to the temple and to the poor as part of their service to God.

A man dressed in fine robes walked up to one of the treasury boxes. He carried a large bag of coins that clattered loudly as they fell into the receptacle. He looked around at the people hoping someone noticed how much money he had put in.

Then another man proudly walked up and deposited a handful of gold coins. "Yes, I am a generous person," he thought. "God will be very pleased with me." And he, too, quickly glanced around and saw just how many people nodded their heads in approval at such a grand gift to God. All morning, people paraded past Jesus and his friends and headed towards the treasury boxes. And each person seemed to give more money than the last person. And each person made sure the sounds of the coins would be heard throughout the room.

Jesus sat quietly looking and listening.

Then along came a poor woman, a woman who didn't have any family. All she had were two tiny little coins – the smallest coins imaginable. When she thought nobody was looking, she shoved a hand into her tattered pocket and brought out the two coins, opened her palm and dropped both coins into a treasury box. The coins hardly made any noise at all. The woman stood for a while, said a silent prayer, and then turned and walked away. She hoped no one noticed her. Not so. Jesus noticed her. She had come so quietly that Jesus had to point her out to his friends.

"Look," Jesus said to his friends. "It may surprise you to hear that this woman has put more into the temple treasury than anyone else today." The friends looked at each other in astonishment. How could two small coins be worth more than all those coins?

"You see," explained Jesus, "the other people had enough money that they could afford to show off their generosity and still have money left in their pockets. This woman was very poor, yet she has put in everything she had. If you give only to show off, or if you give to God only what you consider to be left over from everything else, you have not given from the heart. This woman gave from her heart. She gave a gift of love – the biggest gift of all."

All heads turned to watch the woman as she left the temple. Again, Jesus had given everyone something to think about!

As we ponder the true meaning of these words from Scripture, may we

Let us pray: God of truth and grace, we give you thanks and praise for opportunities to give. Speak to us in this worship and in our living not only where our gifts may best be used, also how we might give wholly of ourselves to you and to others. Amen

### **Message**

Today we will mark Remembrance Day, a time to reflect on how precious our freedom is to speak, to learn, to feel safe. There has been profound sacrifice of lives, war has exacted a terrible cost in our history – war and the struggle for human rights still exacts a great cost today. So, we remember, but we also reflect on how each of us, perhaps we feel small, insignificant, but today's Scripture speaks to how Jesus sees a seemingly unimpressive widow with little money as a model for stewardship, even leadership. Today we are reminded that God can accomplish the seemingly impossible through insignificant things.

Consider the story of Rev. Harold Appleyard from Christ Church Anglican in Meaford, Ontario, to talk about how we process the destruction of war and what we choose to do about it. The Rev. Appleyard is an example of taking the destruction of war and turning it into a thing of beauty. His actions could be considered part of his own spiritual resiliency.

The Rev. Appleyard served as a military chaplain during the Second World War. He joined the Grey and Simcoe Foresters in 1941 as their unit chaplain. Almost as soon as he landed, the destruction in England struck him as appalling. He quickly began to collect shards of stained glass from the shattered windows of damaged churches and began to envision using them for a memorial window at his parish church. On volunteer fire duty one night in the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, he met an architect responsible for London's ancient churches, who referred him to the Cox and Barnard Stained Glass Works in Hove, Sussex. The firm offered to design and re-lead the glass into windows to fit Appleyard's Meaford church—free of charge in gratitude for the Canadian war effort.

The Rev. Appleyard retrieved glass from churches in France, Belgium, and Holland, and a year after the war ended, the church unveiled the windows as memorials to the parishioners and townspeople who had been killed or wounded during the years of fighting.

Source: [www.meafordhaven.ca/2012/02/25/meaford-church-windows-restore-beauty-from-the-rubble-of-war/](http://www.meafordhaven.ca/2012/02/25/meaford-church-windows-restore-beauty-from-the-rubble-of-war/)

For more about the windows and to see photos of them go to:  
[www.christchurchanglican.ca/memorial-windows-2/](http://www.christchurchanglican.ca/memorial-windows-2/)

### **Offering Moment**

There are opportunities to give every day, certainly through gifts of dollars and cents, but also through courageous action, faithful service, and loving devotion. Let us share of ourselves and of what God has so graciously given.

Thank you for all that you do to bless your world and the time and your treasure that you already dedicate to St Andrew's. If you haven't yet supported us, check out our website, Facebook page the addresses are at the end of this video. Consider subscribing to our weekly emailed newsletter by emailing Alison at [church@st-andrews.ca](mailto:church@st-andrews.ca).

### **Dedication Prayer**

Just as the poppies of Flanders' fields display life and beauty, may you, O God, bless what we offer back to you from our abundance today. In that blessing, O Christ, may what we scatter abroad in your name become sources of new life and of beauty for an aching world, rooted in your peace, which passes all understanding. Amen.

## Sacrament of Communion

God of Life, you shared your peace with us when you gathered and formed us from the dust of the ground and breathed the breath of life into us. But life with you was not enough for us. Even in our rebellion, you clothe us and provide a way in the world. We are thankful that you continue to seek us, even in our wandering ways.

Jesus, Prince of Peace, you separated us from our transgressions in a way we never could – in a way we never can. You were a vessel of peace in a world that did not welcome you. But you persevered in love in the face of hatred. You taught us that forgiveness is possible even in the midst of extreme suffering. We are thankful that you continue to love us, even in our unrepentant ways.

Holy Spirit, you hold peace within us despite our circumstances. You tend to the deepest parts of our inmost being, nurturing peace so that it may grow. You lead us in paths of righteousness, showing us the way to bear love to the world. When hatred speaks its convincing lies, you show us the truth. We are thankful that you continue to sanctify us, even in our careworn ways.

So that we may become instruments of peace, able to sow love so that hatred does not take root, we pray, Holy Spirit, that you would move in this place today. May our meager offering of bread and cup become our communion with the Triune God and one another. May peace and love abound in us and through us.

In the certain hope that love overcomes all, we join our voices to pray:

## Prayers of Community

Passionate God, we are ever grateful for your love for us, for your patience and trust. This day we are thankful for the joys of community. We see signs of love everywhere—from handshakes and hugs to conversations and praying for one another. We pray for our community, that you continue to be with us in our happiness and weariness, celebrations and struggles.

O God, hear our prayer,  
**and in your love answer.**

Merciful God, we pray for our world that faces so much violence. We pray especially for the people suffering war conditions and the threat of war. May leaders at every level learn to speak in favour of humanity and justice. We pray that all people can walk the path of peace, the path of forgiveness, the path of equality.

O God, hear our prayer,  
**and in your love answer.**

Embracing God, we pray for those who suffer in our community and throughout the world. We remember friends [all those] who face daily persecution and discrimination. Enfold them in your loving arms. Teach us the power of love and forgiveness, that our words may be ones of healing.

O God, hear our prayer,  
**and in your love answer.**

Almighty God, we offer prayers for those voices that have been silenced. We ask for your spirit of reconciliation to be near. We pray that there may be an end to bullying in schools, harassment in homes and workplaces, discriminatory laws and practices. May we learn the call to be bearers of peace and spread this vision through love and solidarity.

O God, hear our prayer,  
**and in your love answer.**

In silence now, we offer concerns and prayers of our hearts, knowing you are always there to listen even when we may not have the words....

O God, hear our prayer,  
**and in your love answer.**

Let us pray now, with the words Jesus taught us, saying...

### **The Prayer Jesus Taught**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Our Father....

In the face of betrayal and impending death, Jesus ate one final meal with his disciples. As he did so, he broke the bread, gave thanks for it, and then offered it to each one there, saying:

Take. Eat. This is my body broken for you.

Likewise, he took the cup and gave thanks for it. Then offering it to his disciples, he said: Take. Drink. This is my blood shed for you.

The bread broken, [Break]  
and the cup poured, [Pour]  
are a continuation of God's covenant of peace with us. They are also the signs of a new covenant – a covenant where love is the rule, and hatred can be overcome.

Every time we share this meal, we proclaim the triumph of peace and love until the day when hatred is gone forever.

All are welcome. All has been prepared.

Come and eat as we share in the peace of God.

### **Hymn: VU 478 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart, vv. 1 & 5**

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.  
Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

1. As when the shepherd calls the sheep, they know and heed that voice,  
so when you call your family, we follow and rejoice.

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.  
Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

5. In gracious love you give yourself; then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.  
Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

### **Prayer After Communion**

Holy God, the bread and the cup remind us how good you are. You nourish us in our journey of faith, reminding us that you are always with us.

As we journey from here, prepare us to hear your call.

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

As we receive your peace, may we see where we can share it with others.

Guide us in our words and actions.

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love.**

We give you thanks for who you are and the blessing of being called your people.

**Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn: VU 684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

1. Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;

where there is injury, your healing power,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

2. Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there's despair in life,  
let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, only light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O Spirit, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

3. Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

### **Blessing**

Let us go trusting in God's never-ending care.  
Let us go seeking to be God's people.  
Let us go enfolded in praise and prayer.  
Let us go to be people of peace, justice, and right relationships.  
Amen.

### **Blessing Hymn: MV 222 May the Peace of God Be Your Peace**

May the peace of God be your peace.  
May the love of God be the love you show.  
May the joy of God be the joy you know,  
and may the world that God would see be found in you.

### **Postlude**

---

**Lighting the Christ Candle** written by Beth W. Johnston. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, page 45. Used with permission.

**Call to Worship** written by David Sparks. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, page 46. Used with permission.

**Opening Prayer** written by Robin Wardlaw. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, page 46.

**In Flanders Fields** written by Lt.-Col. John McRae, May 3, 1915.

**Words of Remembrance** excerpt from "For the Fallen" by Laurence Binyon, September 1914.

**Dedication Prayer** written by Gord Dunbar. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, page 46. Used with permission.

**Sacrament of Communion** from Rev. Michelle Henrichs, [lifeinthelabyrinth.com](http://lifeinthelabyrinth.com)

**Prayers of the Community** from [re-worship.blogspot.com/](http://re-worship.blogspot.com/)

**Commissioning** written by Beth W. Johnston. *Gathering*, Pentecost 2, page 47. Used with permission.

---