



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

33077 Second Avenue Mission, BC V2V 1J7

Church Office: 604-826-8296 E-mail: mission.uc@shaw.ca

Website: www.saintandrewsunited.church



January 7, 2024

Welcome 2024

Minister: Tim Bowman

Music Director: Deborah Handley

Musician: Jacob Greenan

Church Administrator: Angela Darychuk

We look forward to seeing you all this Sunday!
Worship is at 11:30. Coffee Time is 10:45.

Broadcast Worship Service Gladwin Heights (our sister congregation) broadcasts their Service via Facebook Live, for those of you who can't make it in person. Go to the Gladwin Heights Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/Gladwin-Heights-United-Church-699893126828536>) and look for the Service by date. The live broadcast time will be 9:30 am. Note if you can't make it at 9:30 you can view it anytime on Facebook.

Happy Birthday

Darian White Komaszczuk	January 8
Evelyn Souster	January 13
Cathy Waller	January 28

Scriptures for January 7, 2024

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29 [VU 756]

Mark 1:4-11

Hymns for January 7, 2024

MV 39 - "Mother Earth, Our Mother Birthing"

"Come Build a Church"

VU 627 - "Now There Is No Male or Female"

VU 883 - "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

VU 541 - "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

"Go On Your Way With Joy"

Our Prayer List

Please hold these people and families in your heart and prayers

Bernice • Roy • John • Sherry • Mel & family • Steven •
Luke and family • Devon & family • Greta and family • Daryl

Blessings,
Pastoral Care Team

Note: Please contact Beate Pothmann to be included or removed from our prayer list.

Minister's Message

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

- Matthew 2:1-6

Siblings in Christ,

There is a lot of meaning packed into these few verses. Herod and the Jerusalem elite do not know that the Word of God in the Old Testament is about to be fulfilled anew in the birth of Jesus; the insights of learned foreigners must show them how to interpret the Scriptures in their time and place. Likewise, these magi can read the signs of the stars, but they need the assistance of Jewish scribes and Jewish scriptures to interpret their specifics. Finally, no human knowledge is sufficient on its own; divine revelation in the form of the star is necessary.

Part of our liturgy is the affirmation of faith: a statement of our faith in response to the revealed Word of God which is read and interpreted in worship. Typically our affirmation is in the form of a Creed: a historic statement from a specific time and place in the history of the Church. Some of these are older and make claims that no longer hold meaning for some of us. Other statements are very new.

I know that some of you have been uncomfortable with the older statements especially, and I thank you for your

patience. My hope is that, just as the truth about Jesus is revealed by many sources in Matthew, each of us will discover our own truth about Jesus in conversation with truths from many different sources. I hope that the experience of hearing and saying words that you may not agree with will help you to reflect on why you disagree, and to shape your own statement of faith. I hope, also, to encourage reflection on what it means to make a *collective* statement, and how differences are negotiated.

In the new year, perhaps during Lent, I hope we can have some conversations about what the process has been like, and what practices might speak to our own collective, evolving perspectives on our faith.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to minister and journey alongside you.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

Regional Prayer Cycle for January 2024

<https://www.prayercycles.ca/> Each Prayer Cycle invites Prayer each week for a Community of Faith in the Region. You are encouraged to name the community in your worship, to email a message indicating your prayer support, to pray for church personnel, and to include an ecumenical / interfaith focus.

Jan 7 [St. Andrew's North Vancouver](#)

Jan 14 [St. Andrew's United/St. Mary's](#)

Jan 21 [Oasis](#)

Jan 28 [Haisla](#)

Please Note

Annual Reports Attention all committee leaders: Annual reports are due **January 15th, 2024**.

2024 Offering Envelopes Our envelopes are available in the office.

Inclement Weather If we are experiencing inclement weather please check our website, Facebook page or contact our office for updated Event and Service information.

Upcoming Happenings

Epiphany Service

January 6, 2023, at 6:30pm We have created an interactive event, “**Where is the Light**”, which includes scripture, poetry, music, art, conversation, and a potluck meal. We are being joined by guest musicians, Tony Ivan O'Hara (guitar) and Miriam Kehler (Celtic harp), and a pop-up choir. Deborah is hoping that singers (and their friends) from across the cluster will join in the opportunity to sing together. The music will be a combination of familiar carols, new words, and some surprises.

Office Hours for the week of January 8-11

Our office hours are as follows for this week:

January 8 Remote office hours 8-3.

January 10 (Wednesday) St Andrew's office 9 am to 12.

January 10 (Wednesday) Gladwin Heights office 12:30 to 2:30.

January 11th Gladwin office is closed.

Meet and Eat lunch January 9, 2024, at Five Forks Restaurant. 11:30am. Contact Myrna for details.

Board Meeting January 31st at 1pm all are welcome.

Lectionary January 2024

Epiphany January 6

Isaiah 60:1–6
Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14
Ephesians 3:1–12
Matthew 2:1–12

Second after Epiphany January 14

1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20)
Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18
1 Corinthians 6:12–20
John 1:43–51

Fourth after Epiphany January 28

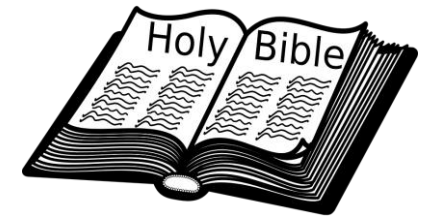
Deuteronomy 18:15–20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1–13
Mark 1:21–28

Baptism of Jesus, First after Epiphany January 7

Genesis 1:1–5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1–7
Mark 1:4–11

Third after Epiphany January 21

Jonah 3:1–5, 10
Psalm 62:5–12
1 Corinthians 7:29–31
Mark 1:14–20



Events of interest

Housing event A civic event to discuss solutions for homelessness will be held **January 17th** from 9 to 11 AM at the Sports Legacy Centre in Abbotsford.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024

Theme: "You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself."

Dear Friends in Christ, I am pleased to announce that St. Ann's will be hosting an ecumenical service on Tuesday, **January 23rd, 2024, at Noon**. The service will be followed by a hot lunch. All are invited. We will be preparing a poster & I will see that copies are distributed at your churches well in advance. We will be happy to have guest readers, choir members etc. The website for information for the Week of Prayer 2024 is: www.weekofprayer.ca . Located at 33333 Mayfair Avenue, Abbotsford.

Coming soon

Please let us know if you have contributions to include in our announcements.

Church office Hours:

St. Andrews' office is open 9:00am – **3:00** pm, Wednesday

Gladwin Heights' office is open 9:00am – **3:00** pm, Thursday

Remote office hours for both Gladwin Heights and St Andrew's are Monday and Tuesday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Reverend Tim's office hours:

Until January, Tim is working remotely on Mondays and on Thursday afternoons. He is in the Gladwin Heights office from 10 AM to 4 PM Tuesdays, and the Saint Andrew's office from 10 to 4 on Wednesdays. Some flexibility is possible; please call if you would like to schedule an appointment. To contact Tim, call 778-791-3545 or email bowmantimothy@gmail.com

St Andrew's 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 – Beate Pothmann
Cluster Rep – Judith Ray
Property – Lyle Treleaven
Worship – Cathy Waller

AFFIRMING MINISTRY

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:

Beate Pothmann
Deborah Handley