



Arise & Shine

for your light has come....

Isaiah 60:1

Monday, November 10, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of St. Andrew's

We recently turned the clocks back an hour and now it gets darker earlier and it will stay this way until we get well into next February - but if there's one thing that 2020 doesn't need, it's more darkness! It has been 9 months since COVID19 changed much of how our world - and lives - functions and exiled us from our sanctuary, and from each other. This has been a period of frustration, loneliness, and deep sadness, as we have been forced to be socially distanced from friends and loved ones - even at the most important and grief-filled moments. But God promises that this darkness will not be forever - in fact God promised that He will send a light to shine into and overcome this darkness. And these are the promises that we will focus on as we enter into the season of Advent and celebrate Christmas.

This Advent - in our "Arise & Shine" series, based on the Isaiah proclamation; "Arise, shine, for your light has come." (Isaiah 60:1) - we will prepare to welcome "the light of the world," (John 8:12), the Christ-child, the "light of all people; the light that shines in the darkness." (John 1:4-5) Given the **Session's decision to push back the reopening of in-person/in-Church worship until January 3rd, 2021, all of our Advent and Christmas services will be online - live on Facebook and reposted on our website. Advent starts on Sunday November 29th with Communion - so be prepared to take part at home. This year's Blue Christmas service will be on Wednesday, December 16th at 7:30pm, and we will only have one Christmas Eve service at 7:30pm: A calendar of our Advent & Christmas services can be found on the back of this letter - and on our St. Andrew's website.**

Again, due to the COVID19 restrictions, the Session has decided that we will hold our **Annual Budget Meeting online via Zoom**. The meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 22nd at 11:40am** - right after the Facebook Live worship service. **The links for both the information needed to sign on for the Zoom meeting - as well as a link to a PDF version of the Proposed 2021 Budget - can also be found on the back of this letter.**

Lastly, but importantly, enclosed with this letter is an envelope for this year's **Christmas Offering. More so than ever, St. Andrew's depends upon your generosity! With the building closed we are not able to rely upon the weekly offering to sustain our expenses. Your donations have made it possible for us to keep going!** The Gospels tell us that the world responded to light of God's generosity that is Christ Jesus with gratitude and joy: I ask that you prayerfully consider giving a similar gift to the life, work, and ministry of St. Andrew's.

In closing, I pray that God may bless you and keep you safe; and may God bless us all with a year of "Jubilee" in 2021! May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 2021!

Yours in Christ,


Rev. Geoff Ross.

Zoom information for the Annual Budget Meeting on Sunday, Nov., 22nd at 11:40

Three ways to Join the St. Andrew's Annual Budget Meeting on Zoom

To join by computer, laptop, tablet click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3752656843?pwd=ZnJtb3VGZkcxZjNlWGQvaUVseDJpUT09>

Meeting ID: 375 265 6843 **Passcode:** 489011

To join by mobile telephone use the numbers below:

One tap mobile: +17789072071,, 3752656843#,,,,,0#,, 489011# Canada
+12042727920,,3752656843#,,,,,0#,,489011# Canada

To join the meeting by landline telephone:

Dial by your location: +1 778 907 2071; +1 204 272 7920; +1 438 809 7799 Canada
+1 587 328 1099; +1 647 374 4685; +1 647 558 0588 Canada

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3752656843?pwd=ZnJtb3VGZkcxZjNlWGQvaUVseDJpUT09>

For the Proposed 2021 Budget click this link to our website:

<https://standrewsbrampton.ca/files/2020/11/2021-Budget.pdf>

For the Minutes of the February 2020 Winter Annual Meeting, click here:

<https://standrewsbrampton.ca/files/2020/11/AGM-Minutes-Mar-8-2020.pdf>

For more information on all worship service details and times and congregational news – please go to the St. Andrew's webpage: <https://standrewsbrampton.ca>

"Arise & Shine" – AN ADVENT SERIES OF HOPE

Sunday, November 29th: 1st Sunday of Advent & Communion

"Arise & Shine: A Rising Light."

Sunday, December 6th: 2nd Sunday of Advent

"Arise & Shine: Reflected Light."

Sunday, December 13th: 3rd Sunday of Advent

"Arise & Shine: Healing Light."

Wednesday, December 16th: Blue Christmas Service

"Arise & Shine: A People in Darkness."

Sunday, December 20th: 4th Sunday of Advent

"Arise & Shine: Eternal Light."

Thurs., December 24th: Christmas Eve Services

7:30pm: Traditional Christmas Eve

"Arise & Shine: A Glorious Light."