



DRAWN to the CROSS

“When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.” Luke 9:51

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Dear Members and Friends of St. Andrew's:

Just over one third of the way into the Gospel of Luke, the focus of both Jesus and Luke's Gospel turns toward Jerusalem - and the Cross. The above quote indicates that not only did Jesus have a plan, but that He knew how it would end. The phrase *“set his face”* is used twice in three verses to emphasize Jesus' determination and resolve to face what was coming - and what He came to be-with us to do. In our Good Friday reading, Jesus tells Pilot that *“for this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.”* (John 18:37) This Lent - our third Lent in COVID! - we will follow Jesus' journey toward Jerusalem as He is drawn to the Cross. Along the way - as we too are drawn to the Cross - we will examine how Jesus' testimony to God's *“truth”* calls us to be faithful and to place our lives in God's hands. A very welcomed reminder as we slowly emerge from the difficulties of the past two years!

As I write this, the Session has voted to resume our In-Person/In-Church worship services! This will happen on Sunday, February 13th and we invite you - as you are comfortable - to join us for worship. This is a timely announcement as the season of Lent starts with a return of our **Pre-Lent All Ages Event on Wednesday, March 2nd at 6:30pm**. This year's event - **Drawn to the Cross** - will include our annual Ash Wednesday service at 7:30pm. **The first Sunday of Lent will be on Sunday, March 6th - this will be Communion Sunday (please have your Communion elements ready before the service).** The next event of note will be the **Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 27th**. This meeting will be **both In-Person/In-Church and via Zoom at 11:45am**. (The Zoom information can be found on the back of this letter.) Not to be forgotten is our annual **Lenten Bible Study** which begins on March 1st; **this year's focus is on the Places of the Passion**. For more information about our upcoming services and events, and for our **Eventbrite Registration page** - on which you can **register for all In-Person/In-Church worship services and other events** - go to our St. Andrew's website by using this link: <https://standrewsbrampton.ca/>. We hope to see you in Church and in person!

Once again, with this letter you will also find an **Easter 2022 Offering envelope and a stamped Return envelope**. This year the Session is dedicating the **Easter Offering** toward the much-needed replacing of the outdoor parking lot lights. Beyond this, though, St. Andrew's depends upon your generosity! **With our “return to Church” your weekly offerings will enable us to resume our services, programs, and ministries. As they have over the past two years, your donations will make it possible for us to keep going!** To help make it easier for you to support St. Andrew's, several options on how to give have been set up; you can read about them on the back of this letter.

In closing, I pray that God will keep you safe as we are Drawn to the Cross this Lent.

Yours in Christ,


Rev. Geoffrey Ross

