

This Week At St. Andrew's

Parable of the Pastor

One day a traveler begged the Teacher for a word of wisdom that would guide the rest of the journey. The Teacher nodded affably and though it was the day of silence took a sheet of paper and wrote on it a single word, "Awareness." "Awareness?" the traveler said, perplexed. "That's far too brief. Couldn't you expand on that a bit?" So the Teacher took the paper back and wrote: "Awareness, awareness, awareness." "But what do these words mean?" the traveler insisted. Finally, the Teacher reached for the paper and wrote, clearly and firmly, "Awareness, awareness, awareness means... Awareness!"

We're a people who lack awareness. We're a world that has lost a sense of balance. We're a people for whom wholeness is a frayed and sorry notion. (Chittister, Joan. *Wisdom Distilled from the Daily* (pp. 68-69). HarperCollins. Kindle Edition.)

I am sensing the need to increase the silence in my life and as the Psalmist recommends, "Be still and know that I am God." Our silence reflects a treasured opportunity to hear God speak. The path to a deeper awareness of the presence of God is to talk less and listen more. Listen to God speaking in the falling leaves, the squirrels busily burying found treasures to eat later, and even in the quiet wind stirring the trees. Listen to God speak through the words of scripture and the time spent in silent prayer.

As Marjory Reitsma-Street, a member of the Vancouver Island Religious Society of Friends expressed in the Saturday edition of the *Times Columnist*, *"How do people do silence, and why? Although religious practices vary, rituals and sounds are minimal in silent worship and meditation. One tries to still the body and listen, to let go of the business and busyness of everyday life—to become open to what is not self but other. In silence, there may come a softness to the heart, a willingness to feel the presence of others. Or hints from the unconscious, nudges from the ineffable mystery that help one to see a way forward through the tangle of life."*

To hear the wisdom of Mother Teresa, **In the Heart of the World: Thoughts, Stories and Prayers** who wrote, "In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Then you will know that you are nothing. It is only when you realize your nothingness, your emptiness, that God can fill you with Himself. Souls of prayer are souls of great silence."

In peace. Pastor Mitch

Music Notes

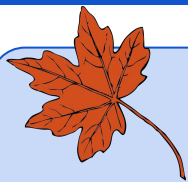
The postlude for this Sunday is Sigfrid Karg Elert's setting of "Now thank we all our God" by Sigfrid Karg-Elert. It is one of my favourite organ pieces and I play it almost every Thanksgiving.

Karg-Elert is a German composer of the early 20th century best known for his organ compositions. His setting of Now Thank we all our God uses the familiar hymn tune woven amongst big impressionistic chords. The piece is in ternary form so if you love the opening like I do, it comes back.

The choir anthem is "Look at the World" by the well known composer John Rutter. Born in England in 1945 John Rutter is best known for his choral music which is influenced by early 20th century English and French music as well as lighter music. The words are so lovely and perfect for our Thanksgiving service.

Lectionary Texts

- ☐ Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
- ☐ Psalm 66:1-12 2
- ☐ Timothy 2:8-15
- ☐ Luke 17:11-19



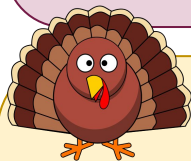
Readings for Canadian Thanksgiving

- ☐ Deuteronomy 26:1-11
- ☐ Psalm 100 Philippians 4:4-9
- ☐ John 6:25-35



Just Married

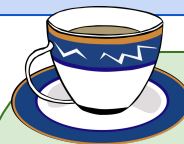
Join us on Sunday October 9th after the service for cake and coffee in the Kirk Hall to congratulate Jorge Eduardo Carrizales, choir scholar, and Amanda Steinemann, a new alto, on their recent marriage. Best wishes from all of us!



Food Drive

Did you know that the Mustard Seed provides food for 2000 families in Victoria every month?

You can help make a difference by donating by way of cash or cheque indicating Mustard Seed on your church envelope. You can also donate on the standrewsvictoria.ca website specifying Mustard Seed. Thank you!



Building Community Together

Have you heard? We're having a bazaar! Well, it's not really a bazaar. It is an event we're calling "Building Community Together" presented by St. Andrew's, with the help of Ballet Victoria, on November 19th.

It will have two sittings, reservations will be required and tickets will be \$15 each for a Luncheon/ Tea with entertainment by Ballet Victoria. Books, jams and jellies, and possibly more, will be for sale.

Mark your calendars, invite others and plan to attend. Reserve early as space is limited! Tickets will be available starting Sunday, October 16th.

Bulletin Board

Washrooms: Please be aware that the main floor washrooms in the Kirk Hall will be closed starting for renovations. The second floor washrooms will remain in service.

Broadway on Point: Ballet Victoria presents Broadway on Point at St. Andrew's Church throughout the month of October on the 6-9th, 14-16th, and 21-23rd. Shows are 7:30 pm on Fridays and Saturdays and at 2:00 pm on Sundays. Tickets at <https://www.balletvictoria.ca/broadway-on-pointe-and-other-works-2022/>

Connie Kaldor in Concert: Three time Juno award winner Connie Kaldor performs at St. Andrew's Church on October 15 at 7:30 pm. Tickets \$40 at <https://beaconridgeproductions.com/2022/05/connie-kaldor/>

Diabolus in Musica Concert: The Early Music Society presents Diabolus in Musica at St. Andrew's Church on October 29th at 7:30 pm. For tickets go to <https://earlymusicsocietyoftheislands.ca/tickets/>

Building Community Together Event: We're "Building Community Together" on November 19th. Volunteers are needed. To find out how - Call the Church Office at 778-587-1227, or speak to Sheelagh.

New Church Office Hours: Come say hello to Shannon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30-2:30pm.