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March 18, 2018

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship ~ (Unison)

"Do not repay anyone evil for evil.

Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

-Romans 12 (selected verses)

Praise Time What A Saviour

At Calvary

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Prayer of Approach

Ministry of Music Choir

Children's Hymn We Are One In The Spirit

Time with Children **Children ages 3-Grade 5***

Hymn Wonderful Words of Life

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 5:38-48**

Series: *Mere Christianity* Revisited

Sermon: "Forgive Who?"

Prayer

Tithes and Offerings ~ **"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth**

– Matthew 6:19

Doxology Bind Us Together

Offertory Prayer

Hymn I Then Shall Live

Benediction

Commissioning Bless Be The Tie

Postlude

Welcome!

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today.

To Our Guests

We invite you to visit the Welcome Center in the atrium for more information. View our website at www.standrewsmoncton.net

Nursery

Caring nursery is provided for infants and toddlers.

After the Time with Children**

Young Children and Worship is for children age 3 to grade 2 where they will hear God's word in a multisensory format geared for their level. All are welcome including parents. Older Children and Worship is for children in grade 3 to grade 5. We follow the DWELL program which is a follow-up to Young Children and Worship.

For Your Comfort

We strive to be scent free and peanut free church.

Please remember to turn on your cell phone after the service.

For Your Convenience

Coat racks are available in the atrium.

Spiritual Care

If you would like to speak to someone about what it means to know Jesus Christ or you have any spiritual need or question, please speak to our pastor or use one of the prayer cards in the seat rack. Our church elders are also available to speak with you.

To greet you this Sunday: Gerriann Davidson

Distributing Bulletins this Sunday: Joan Robertson

Attending Elder: Oakley Allen **Coordinator:** Evelyn Carter

Your Annual Reports are in your mailbox for you to view for next Sunday's annual meeting after worship, also there is an Easter Pastoral Letter for you to pick up!

*Here at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church we believe
the quality and the significance of people's lives
are transformed by Jesus Christ.*

Contact Us

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Don't forget to check our website out...

www.standrewsmoncton.net

*You may want to join others in prayer before the service.
Please go to the Ministers' Meeting Room at 9:30am on Sunday mornings.*

"When you look around St. Andrew's,
do you see people you don't know?

Our last Photo Directory was in 2015 and since then
there have been many changes to the congregation.

We hope to update the Photo Directory this spring,
and will be making arrangements soon
to set up appointments."

- David Eagles.

Calendar for St. Andrew's Holy Week and Easter Sunday:

- March 25 - Palm Sunday, followed by light lunch and Annual Meeting
- March 29 - 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- March 30 - 10 am Joint Good Friday Service with Bethel Presbyterian and CCCM.
- April 1 - 10 am Easter Sunday – "He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!"

Please Note:

We are hosting the Good Friday service. Could everyone coming please bring something for the tea following the service This would be greatly appreciated. Jeanie Williston

Everyone's Welcome, Nobody's Perfect, and Anything's Possible!

Where Faith Comes to Life

“VISION STATEMENT ADOPTED !

Session recently approved the following Vision Statement for St. Andrew's, inspired by Psalm 78:4:

"We will pass the faith we have received from our ancestors to the NEXT generation so they can be enthusiastically engaged in Christ's mission."

N **Nurturing**

E **Engaged**

X **Christian (XP, the Greek letters Chi Rho stand for Christ)**

T **Transformation**

(Description of this NEXT acronym will be developed in due course).

New City Catechism ~~ (Ephesians 5:5-6)

Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry to go unpunished?

No, every sin is against the sovereignty, holiness, and goodness of God, and against his righteous law, and God is righteously angry with our sins and will punish them in his just judgment both in this life, and in the life to come.

We all come into this world the same way. We accumulate and possess – or at least we think we do. We all leave this world without a U-Haul behind the hearse.

Join us for
coffee &
conversation

If you feel that you can be a part of this important ministry, please let Alison Geldart know or sign up on the sheet at coffee and conversation. If you haven't participated before we can match you up with someone who is familiar with the kitchen.

Food Offering—March 25

The Last Sunday of every month we will be accepting offerings of *non-perishable food items*. This food supports our food bank. Offerings can be left outside the doors of the sanctuary by the Welcome Centre.

Anytime you can contribute please feel to do so!!



Know... Grow... Show... Christ

Introduction:

- Lex Talionis is a legal principle of retaliation where the punishment fits the crime in kind and degree. Jesus asserts it is not good enough as He is always raising the minimum standard.
- ‘Forgiveness is a great idea until you have something to forgive.’

Context:

- Jesus sets the bar very high – ‘love your enemies’ show generosity.

1) Love God

- Some make an idol of their hatred. Loving God entails bringing Him honour with every part of our lives.
- In face of certain death, would you profess your love of God?

2) Love Our Enemies

- We are to live by higher standards than the world expects. Loving our enemies enough to forgive them is not optional. (See Matt. 6:12, 14). We hurt ourselves by carrying a grudge.
- By recognizing humanity – made in the image of God – in your enemy, you are changed, as is your enemy.

3) Love Of Self

- Loving self doesn’t have to do with self-affection
- Hating the sin, loving the sinner was demonstrated by Jesus in several places. We should hate sin as we encounter it.
- We love who we are in Christ, the sanctified part; and hate the sinful part, which is yet to be sanctified.

Drilling down...

Series: *Mere Christianity Revisited*

Sermon: “Forgive Who?”

Matthew 5:38-48

1. Why would Christ’s teachings on forgiveness be unpopular? Consider: a) how hard it is to forgive grievances b) by accepting the forgiveness of another means recognizing your own culpability.
2. How could ‘loving to hate our enemies’ be problematic for the Christian? Do we love our hatred more than we love God? When does our hatred become an idol? What does that resident hatred do to our souls?
3. The concept of loving our enemies is foreign to this world. Jesus raises the bar from *Lex Talionis* – ‘tit for tat’ justice to something much higher. What does Jesus call on us to do? What does that mean for you personally? Who are the ‘top 10’ people in your life you need to forgive? Consider journaling about how you feel about forgiving them; then create a plan to start forgiving them.
4. Loving yourself as a child of God, made in His image, with the Spirit of Christ indwelling you is important. At the same time we hate those things we do we know are wrong, which do nothing to enhance the reputation of God within us. Identify those things – behaviours, demeanors, dispositions, and motives that do not bring glory to Christ. What is the Spirit telling you about these things?
5. How is forgiveness a central theme to the experience of eternal life?

... So the Word can be applied