



A Celebration of Creation and Holy Eucharist Rite II

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 2024



Feeding the Hungry + Welcoming the Stranger
Being Transformed by God

Welcome to this morning's worship!

Thank you for joining us. If you are new to our service, please take a moment to fill out our visitor's card so we can get to know you. Please use this bulletin, the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and the blue Hymnal to follow along in worship. Nursery care is available down the stairs at the back of the church. Activity bags are available at the back of the church to keep little hearts and hands engaged.

Prelude

Introit

Ego sum vitis vera

Mickey McGroarty
John 15:5, Psalm 80:1

Qui pascis Israel intende
Qui deducis velut ovem Joseph
Ego sum vitis vera et vos palmites,
Qui manet in me, et ego in eo,
Hic fert fructum multum, Alleluia.

*Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel
Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep
I am the true vine you and you are the branches,
Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
Will bear much fruit, Alleluia.*

Opening Hymn *(Please stand as you are able.)*

All creatures of our God and King (vv. 1, 4, 5, 7)

Hymnal 400

The Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Hymn of Praise

For the beauty of the earth (vv. 1-2, 6)

Hymnal 416

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious and loving Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Children's Procession

Children in grades K–5 are invited to a children's ministry time. They will process out of the church together for Godly Play (K–2) and Kids of the Kingdom (3–5) on the classroom hall, returning for the announcements.

Jesus loves you (sung by all)

*Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves you. Yes, Jesus loves you.
Yes, Jesus loves you; the Bible tells us so.*

The Word of God

The First Reading

Romans 8:18–25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Psalm

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; *

God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.
It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.
“Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.”
The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Gradual Hymn (*Please stand as you are able.*)

Sing praise to God who reigns above (vv. 1–2)

Hymnal 408

The Holy Gospel (*standing*)

John1:1–5

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gradual Hymn

Sing praise to God who reigns above (v. 3)

Hymnal 408

The Sermon (*seated*)

The Rev. Ginny Bain Inman

The Prayers of the People: Honoring God in Creation (*standing or kneeling*)

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always:

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth around us, and pour your blessing upon the people and organizations working everywhere for the good of the planet. God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being. God, Giver of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Light and source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*
Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all its inhabitants, and lend us the wisdom and will to conserve them. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Wise Creator whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your generosity, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died. God, Giver of life, *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant continues

Eternal God, the light of all who know you, come and fill our hearts with your love. Help us speak when many keep silent, help us stand for what is right when many sit in indifference. Increase our faith and charity, until your kingdom comes and heaven and earth rejoice in everlasting glory; through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The offering today will be for the Diocese of Western North Carolina hurricane relief.

Offertory Anthem

Christ Hath a Garden

Gerald Near

Text by Robert Bridges

*Christ hath a garden walled around,
A paradise of fruitful ground,
Chosen by love and fenced by grace
From out the world's wide wilderness.*

*Like trees of spice his servants stand,
There planted by his mighty hand;
By Eden's gracious streams, that flow
To feed their beauty where they grow.*

*Awake, O wind of heav'n, and bear
Their sweetest perfume through the air:
Stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom,
Till the beloved Master come:*

*That he may come, and linger yet
Among the trees that he hath set;
That he may evermore be seen
To walk a mid the springing green.*

At the Presentation

The Doxology

Hymnal 380, v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn.

Sanctus

Hymnal S-130

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of our Matriarchs: Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

We are offering Communion in both kinds. If you do not want to receive Communion but would like to come forward for a blessing, come to either side of the altar rail and place your arms across your chest in the form of an "X" or cross.

Communion Hymns

A Rose Touched by the Sun's Warm Rays (sung by choir)

Jean Berger

Text by Maria Brubache, tr. Berger

Ein Blümlein wenn's die Sonne spüret
Sich öffnet stille, sanft und froh;
Wann Gottes Gnade dich berührt,
Lass auch dein Herz bewirken so.

*A rose touched by the sun's warm rays
All its petals gently does unfold;
So you, when touched by God's great mercy,
Let joy and gladness win your soul.*

Morning has broken (sung by all)

Hymnal 8

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

1. There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee;
 2. Sun, moon and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 3. Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;

1. Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not,
 2. Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness,
 3. Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

1. As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 2. To thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 3. Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed,

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!

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Postcommunion Prayer

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O, God, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

All things bright and beautiful

Hymnal 405

The Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Deacon Let us go forth together sharing the love of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Acolytes: Sam Inman, Lindy Taylor, Holden Troutman. **Reader:** Anne Thornton, Tommy Webb. **Chalicians:** Stephen Inman, Anne Webb. **Verger:** Debbie Dowd. **Ushers:** Lee Eanes, Joe Graves, Nancy Kimbrough, Roger Kimbrough, Sandy Shelton. **Greeter & Newcomer Host:** Jon Anderson. **Altar Guild Team:** Nancy Bishop, Mary V. Compton, Nancy Kimbrough, Barbara Lawless, Sandy O'Briant.

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by the Martinelli family in loving memory of Robert Martinelli, and by Jankoba Sambola in honor of Amelia Menston-Sambola on their wedding anniversary October 5th.

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We Pray For

Those impacted by Hurricane Helene:

A Prayer for Those Working to Rebuild

Compassionate God, source of all comfort, we pray for the people whose lives have been devastated this hurricane season.

Bring them comfort, we pray.

Protect the vulnerable.

Strengthen the weak.

Keep at bay the spread of disease.

Have mercy on all those working to rebuild.

*And may our response to their suffering
be generous and bring you praise.*

We ask this in Jesus' name.

— Adapted from Christian Aid, UK

Pray - Episcopal Relief & Development

Responding to Hurricane Helene—News & Guidance from Our Diocese

As the storm has passed, and the damage done by Hurricane Helene becomes increasingly clear, we understand the depth of desire to help. We share that feeling with you. There are a multitude of ways both individuals and churches can help.

What's most helpful is to respond to the needs as requested by those on the ground in affected areas, and to use the distribution channels being organized or already in place. Do not self-deploy. This is a request we are hearing from every organization with whom we have spoken this week.

The Diocese of North Carolina has created a page we are updating (<https://www.episdionc.org/blog/ways-to-help-with-hurricane-helene-relief-efforts/>) as needs and relief opportunities develop. **Please visit this page often for the latest updates, links, volunteer opportunities, and more.**

The greatest needs at this time are prayer and financial support. If you are in a position to give, we offer these for consideration:

- Diocese of Western NC
(Select "Partners in Mission" from the dropdown menu; add "Hurricane Helene" in the memo box.)
- Episcopal Relief & Development
- American Red Cross

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Province of Papua New Guinea

Britain took control over Papua New Guinea (which is the eastern half of the island of New Guinea) in 1888, and within a year Anglicans in Australia concluded that its proximity to New Guinea imposed upon it an obligation to evangelize the territory. By 1901 there were eleven mission stations along the coast. During the Japanese occupation of the island during World War II, some 330 church workers from various denominations were killed. Among them, eight Anglican missionaries and two Papuans were martyred in 1942, and these Martyrs of New Guinea are remembered on our Episcopal Church calendar on September 2nd. After the war, in 1951, the volcano Lamington erupted, destroying the Anglicans' main mission center and their Martyrs' School, further limiting the Church's postwar recovery. The country is overwhelmingly Christian, but Anglicans form only a small percentage. While the Anglican Church of Australia remains supportive, the Papuans are making efforts toward self-reliance.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Mark's, St. Timothy's, and La Iglesia de la Guadalupana, all of Wilson

Those on our parish prayer list: Mary Stalter; Norma Bullock; Moira Ermentrout; Maria Wilmoth; Jimmie Olivey; Patrick and Margaret Miller; Ed Morea; Julie Dameron; Traci and Erik; Barbara Cernansky; Ella Janssen; Gabriel; Charles Claunch; Libby Eberhard; Gwen Snead; Barbara Van Cleve; David Heflin; Jeff Cummer; Charles Kelshaw; David McGraw; Maureen Morea; Carolyn Ritchie; Betty Atwell; Eva Harris; Judy Gecinger; Liz Wert; Carol Phillips; Ed Phelps; Mack Baker; Lauren; Downs Brown, Jr.; Martha and Jim Kaley; Nancy O'Donnell; Tina Sink Gangi; Florine; Vickie; Heather; Victoria; Dean Barrett; Johnetta Shablack; Doug Baker; Erik Flak; Elizabeth Nevius; Frank Tatem; Pauline Tatum; Jim Tatum; Pia; Henry, Christine, and Emily Davis-Potter; Linda Heller; Katelyn Flowers; Amelia Menston-Sambola; Rafael Morales and family; Jeannie Phillips; James; Jim and Sue Ligon; Madeline Colavito; Bob Emmaus; Hilary Towle; Cory and Jasper; Elisabeth; Renee Maness; Kayla Alford; Charlotte Lloyd; Walker Sanecki

Those serving in our military: Tom Stauffer, Paul Zeigler, Stephen Johnson, Benjamin Phillips, Kenneth Gearhart, Alex Reyes, Michael McNeil, Jordan Payne, Catharyn Nosek

Birthdays: Faye Brown, Debbie Dowd, Elisa Gearhart, Bonnie Holland, Vivian James, Shelley Kappauf, Kailey Ramirez, Leon Spencer

Anniversaries: Jai and Cathy Jordan, Rob and Marcia Moore

Prayer requests can be sent to Susan Frye, Parish Administrator, at parish@standrewsgso.org or 336-275-1651, ext. 1. Please also contact Susan with birthdays and anniversaries for the bulletin.

Welcome to Celebration of Creation Sunday!

*Join Us for a Conversation with Peacehaven Community Farm, Right after Worship (Parish Hall)
& Our Annual Blessing of the Animals at 3:00 p.m. (Church Lawn)*

Today we celebrate Creation Sunday in our worship with special liturgy and music. After worship, all are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee and our first Community Conversation of the program year. Phelps Sprinkle, CEO of Peacehaven Community Farm, along with Peacehaven core members, will share about the farm's history and current phase of growth. "Let's Be Different Together" is Peacehaven's motto, and their vision is one of abundant resources for learning, growth, and connectivity: "This abundance is for people of all abilities. We do not own it and are called to give it away." (*Learn more at peacehavenfarm.org.*)

At 3:00 this afternoon, you are invited to return with your well-behaved pet(s) for our annual Blessing of the Animals. We will gather on the front lawn to share God's love with the creatures who love us through life's ups and downs. *Attire for pets: leash or carrier.*

All are welcome! Bring your neighbors and friends.

Today at 11:15 a.m. (Cloister): Brief Adult Confirmands Meeting

Our Bishop's Visitation is November 10. Come meet with the clergy right after worship today if you are interested in being confirmed, received, or reaffirmed on that date.

Youth Confirmation Class—Come to the Peacehaven Community Conversation Today

Our Youth Confirmation class will join the Peacehaven Community Conversation right after worship today. Come to the Parish Hall, grab your lemonade, and prepare to learn more about God's love at work in our community with your church family! Please email Martha Chaires with any Confirmation class questions at martha@standrewsgso.org. Our classes run through October 27.

Parents' Living Compass Class—Come Meet Our Peacehaven Guests Today

We will resume our ongoing Living Compass Class for Parents next Sunday, October 13, right after worship. Today we invite all to join in welcoming our guests from Peacehaven Community Farm. The Living Compass is a model that invites us to attend to our mind, heart, strength, and soul. In a small group setting, we are invited to create a space of rest, contemplation, deep conversation, and compassion, while learning to better care for ourselves as we care for our kids. We meet in the Library through October 27, concurrently with the *Confirmation for Youth* course, and childcare is available. Facilitated by Anna Taylor and Rev. Ginny Inman.

EYC Creation Care Glow-Up (Workday) & Pizza! Tonight at 5—Bring Work Gloves

Our church campus is looking a little under the weather lately because of all the... weather. The playground is covered in sticks and limbs, the garden needs some TLC, and lots of other spots around our wonderful church grounds need a little loving—so let's give it to them! This is a great opportunity for those who are earning Service Learning Hours, and also for anyone who loves pizza, because we'll be feasting on that for dinner. Come wearing clothes that can get dirty, and if you have work gloves please bring them (we will have a couple of pairs to spare, if needed). See you from 5-6:30 tonight!

TOGETHER: Our Giving Pledge Campaign Begins October 13

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5–6

Our annual Giving Campaign for 2025 kicks off next Sunday, October 13. This year's stewardship theme, "Together," invites us to reflect on our connection with one another as the Body of Christ, a movement of people following Jesus.

St. Andrew's has a long history of coming together in times of difficulty and hardship and times of joy and celebration. For over 130 years, the Holy Spirit has woven thousands of lives together in this faith community as we have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and been transformed by God. During our *Together* campaign, all are encouraged to reflect on how we can give of our time, talent, and treasure to celebrate and share God's love together as a community of faith and followers of Christ.

Pledge commitment packets will be available to be picked up **before and after worship next Sunday**. Packets that are not picked up will be mailed the following week. **Our ingathering will be October 27, when we will celebrate after worship with a festive reception.**

May we give generously and joyfully together so that St. Andrew's can continue to grow in Christ's love and make that love visible in this church, this community, and this world.

Announcements

Join Us for Lunch at Green Valley Grill—October 11

All are invited to an informal lunch gathering at Green Valley Grill on October 11 at 12 p.m. We look forward to sharing food and fellowship with friends of St. Andrew's. Please RSVP—by noon the day before—to Jonathan Stephens at 615-480-3804 or stephens.jonathan.r@gmail.com.

Episcopal 101: An Introduction (or Refresher!) to the Episcopal Church

October 13–27 at 11:15 a.m. (Cloister)

Are you new or new-ish to the Episcopal Church? Or maybe you've been here a while but still have questions or are looking for a way to deepen your faith? Join us for *Episcopal 101*, a class on the basics of the Episcopal Church. All are welcome—no matter how long or short a time you've called the Episcopal Church home—or if you aren't sure yet if it feels like home. We will explore the faith, beliefs, history, structure, and practices of the Episcopal Church, with plenty of space to ask questions! Led by Spencer Musick, Rev. Ginny Inman, and others.

EYC is Heading to Costa Rica for Our Summer Mission Trip—Signup & Deposit Due October 15

Next summer St. Andrew's EYC will be heading south to serve our neighbors in Limon, Costa Rica, **June 17–24, 2025**. Signup and initial deposits of \$500 are due **October 15**. Financial assistance is available. All interested youth and chaperones are asked to ensure that their passports are current or get them renewed ASAP if need be. *You can find more information about this trip at <https://bit.ly/2025CRMissionFacts>. Email martha@standrewsgso.org with any questions.*

Women of St. Andrew's, Sign Up for Connect in Community—October 17 at 7 p.m.

At our women's retreat earlier this year, one of the collective hopes was for more intentional time together. In response, Connect in Community will be a quarterly gathering for *all* women in our parish, a time for deepening our relationships with one another and our faith. Sarah Chowning will help shape our first gathering on Thursday, October 17, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We'll talk in small groups with time for prayer and song. Please sign up at <https://bit.ly/2024-STA-CONNECT> and, if you'd like to, sign up to bring a dessert to share. We are so excited to be together!

Deck the Halls Next Steps—Trim Our Giving Tree with Gift Cards

There are so many ways to help with Deck the Halls between now and the actual event on December 7! In addition to donations of wine, ladies' accessories, and candies, the Giving Tree needs your help. Deck the Halls shoppers will pay \$20 to select an envelope number from the tree, with the promise that the matching envelope will contain a gift card or cards worth at least \$25. You can reach out to any business with a request for a gift certificate or card in any amount. *(Please encourage extravagant generosity!)* Make your list of prospects now, and Carolyn Hackett can supply tax exemption letters and colorful flyers explaining the event for them. If you're a little uncertain about how to make a request, she will gladly coach you. Carolyn can be reached at 336-706-1583 or carolyn322@gmail.com.

Help Feed Our Growing Youth Community! Cooks and Sponsors Needed for Two Sundays

Our EYC is growling—oh wait, that's just their stomachs! But St. Andrew's youth community is also growing, and we need the help of our parish family to feed them! One of the best parts of our regular Sunday evening meetings is having the chance for youth and advisors to sit down and share a meal. It gives us all a chance to slow down, connect, and have great conversations and build new friendships at the end of busy meetings full of service, learning, team building, and more. We have **two Sunday dinners** this fall that haven't been planned yet, and we would love your help. *If you are interested in sponsoring or preparing a meal for our youth, please email martha@standrewsgso.org.*

Sign Up for Coffee Hour—We Have Openings Next Sunday & Beyond

Please visit the refreshments signup sheet in the Parish Hall. There are many open dates awaiting a generous sponsor like you. All snacks are appreciated.

Christians' Responsibilities in Elections—Please Visit the Advocacy Table in the Parish Hall
"It is a Christian obligation to vote, and more than that it is the church's responsibility to help get souls to the polls." - Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

As we approach Election Day, we will all have opportunities to persuade others to go to the polls. We may encounter obstacles to success, of which the most talked about these days is feelings that elections are not secure, are vulnerable to manipulation, or are "rigged." **The Advocacy Table** in the Parish Hall has a display of highly reliable information about election security in North Carolina, including some fact sheets that you may take with you. Please visit the table to arm yourself with persuasive facts.

Who is on your ballot this November 5th?—Early Voting Begins October 17

Before you head for the polls you will want to learn more about all of the candidates on your ballot. Often, we aren't familiar with down-ballot candidates for North Carolina and local offices and judgeships or what they stand for. These positions greatly affect our day-to-day lives on issues such as education, reproductive rights, health care and gun violence / public safety. To see a sample ballot for your precinct, go to the State Board of Elections at <https://vt.ncsbe.gov>, click on "voter search," and enter your information. You can then search for their web pages to make sure they will support the issues you care about.

Affordable Housing Advocates Needed

Affordable housing is growing in Greensboro. We have an active meeting schedule for housing in Guilford County and Greensboro. St. Andrew's has been involved in advocating for livable, viable, and affordable housing for families with children, houseless people, and senior citizens. We are looking for those of you who are passionate about helping with this cause and who can meet bi-monthly on Tuesday afternoons as we follow up on what is shared in the various housing meetings. If you are interested in this work, please see Deacon Pam or Virginia Haskett for more details.

Thank You for the Support that Sustains Us

Thank you for your generous gifts to St. Andrew's. If you have questions about your giving, please email Ray Marsh at bookkeeper@standrewsgso.org or leave him a message at 336-265-1651, ext. 3. Ray is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. To make a new gift, scan the code at right, visit abundant.co/standrewsepiscopalch/give, or mail a check to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Bookkeeper, 2105 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403.



Have an Announcement to Share? Please Send it by Friday!

Announcements for our *Weekly eNews* and the Sunday bulletin can be emailed to Susan Frye, Parish Administrator, at parish@standrewsgso.org. Please submit news items by Friday the week before requested publication.

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2024 Vestry

Craig Taylor, *Senior Warden*

Nick Klett, *Co-Junior Warden*

Dirk Siegmund, *Co-Junior Warden*

Mark Courtright

Kathryn Crowe

Lisa Garrett

Barbara Lawless

AmyRuth McGraw

David Messelink

Betty Self

Jonathan Stephens

Joe Stultz

Eric Revell, *Treasurer*

Lee Eanes, *Clerk*