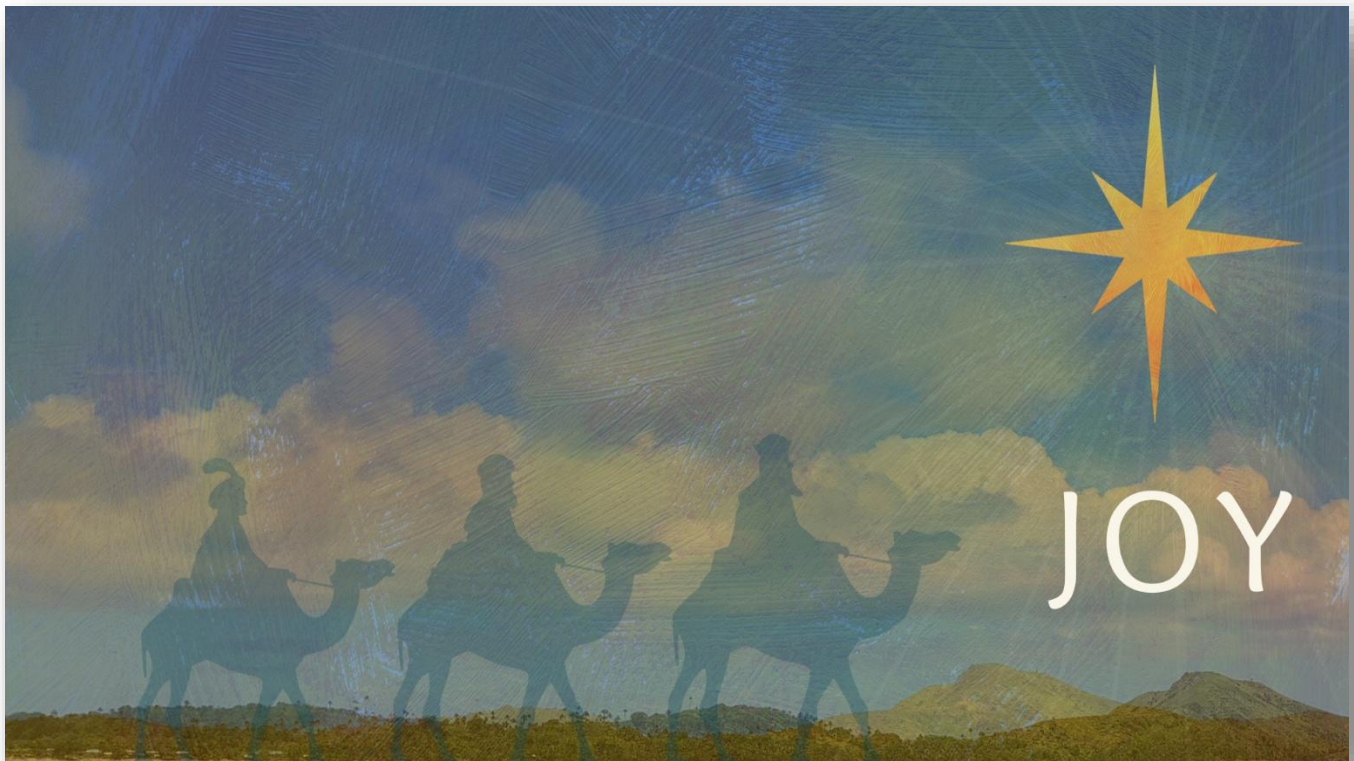


# *Service of Lessons and Carols*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December 14, 2025      10:00 a.m.*



## ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Feeding the Hungry + Welcoming the Stranger + Being Transformed by God

## **Welcome to this Morning's Lessons & Carols Service!**

*Advent is a season of spiritual preparation that holds together quiet reflection and joyful expectation. Today's Lessons and Carols Service consists of scripture readings interspersed with choral presentations and hymns, all of which recall our human longing for liberation from sin and death as well as our hope and expectation for the coming of Christ the Lord. The liturgy of this service embodies the sense of Advent movement—through the choir's processions and in the increasingly powerful prophecies and promises of Holy Scripture. May these words and this music draw you toward the true joy of Christmas.*

**History of the Lessons & Carols Service:** *In the Anglican tradition, the Lessons & Carols service began in 1878 and was formalized as a Christmas service in 1880 by the Bishop of Truro, later Archbishop of Canterbury, Edward Benson. An Advent version of the service developed slightly later at King's College in England and is now celebrated around the world.*



*If you would like to learn more about St. Andrew's, please fill out a visitor's card so we can warmly welcome you. Nursery care is available down the stairs at the back of the church, and children are invited to Children's Ministry Time after the Advent Bidding Prayer. We also have activity bags at the back of the church to keep little hearts and hands engaged.*

## Prelude

*Savior of the Nations Come*

*Divinum Mysterium*

*Pastorale from Christmas Concerto, Op. 6 No. 8*

Charles Perry

Raymond H. Haan

Arcangelo Corelli

Carol Rauch, harp; Jane York, violin

## Introit

*My soul doth magnify the Lord*

Michael Praetorius, Interludes by Roland E. Martin

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. My soul doth magnify the Lord,<br>In God, my Savior shall rejoice;<br>He raises me from low estate,<br>And gives a hundred blessings voice.  | 3. His arm is strong to all who fear,<br>The proud he scatters in their greed;<br>He casts the mighty from their thrones,<br>And lifts the lowly from their need. | 5. Remembering His mercy sure,<br>His servants, Israel, embrace;<br>As prophesied in days of old,<br>To Abraham and all his race. |
| 2. All generations call me blest,<br>Yes, God has done great things for me;<br>And Holy is his righteous name,<br>To those who know is majesty. | 4. He fills the hungry with good things,<br>The rich he sends away in shame;<br>The humble he has lifted high,<br>To magnify his Holy Name.                       | 6. All Glory to the Father God,<br>And to the Son, whom we adore;<br>The Holy Spirit, three in one,<br>Forever, and forever more. |

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

*Rejoice! rejoice, believers*

Hymnal 68

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

Laura and Jacob Slaughter

*Reader* We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way to salvation.

*All* O come, O come, Emmanuel.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel (vv. 5–6, sung by all)*

Hymnal 56

## Advent Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in our city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying,

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

### **The Children's Procession**

*Children in preschool through fifth grade are invited to Children's Ministry time. They will process out of the church together, following the cross, and go to the classroom hall for Godly Play (pre-K–2nd) and Kids of the Kingdom (3rd–5th), returning for the announcements.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! (3 times) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine! (3 times) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

### **Lesson I Isaiah 11:1–9**

Don Mackey

*The spirit will rest upon the Holy One*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      *Thanks be to God.*

### **Congregational Hymn**

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Hymnal 81

### **Choral Anthem**

*There is No Rose of Such Virtue*

Daniel Burton

*There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia.*

*And by that Rose we may well see  
There be one God in Persons three,  
Pares forma. (Of the same form)*

*For in this Rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space;  
Res miranda. (A wonderful thing)*

*The angels sang, the shepherds too,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice)*

*Now leave we all this worldly mirth  
And follow we this joyful birth.  
Transeamus. (Let us go)*

Carol Rauch, harp

*The prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

### **Congregational Hymn**

*Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Hymnal 67

### **Choral Anthem**

*Every Valley Shall Be Exalted* (from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel

Sean Toso, tenor

### **Lesson III** Isaiah 7:10–15

The Rev. Pamela Haynes

*God promises that a child shall be conceived*

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

### **Congregational Hymn**

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Hymnal 66

### **Choral Anthem**

*O magnum mysterium*

T.L. de Victoria

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,  
iacentrum in praeseptio.

O beata Virgo, cuius viscera meruerunt portare  
Dominum Jesum Christum.

Alleluia!

*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament  
That animals should see the Lord born  
Lying in a manger.*

*O Blessed Virgin, who was worthy to carry  
the Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Alleluia!*

Jeff Chowning, Catherine Clifton Hardman, Ashley Ellin, Sean Toso

*The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

**Choral Anthem***The Angel Gabriel*

Paul W. Loman

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:  
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,  
Most highly favored lady." Gloria.*

*"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honor thee;  
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
Most highly favored lady." Gloria.*

*Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."  
Most highly favored lady." Gloria.*

*Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:  
Most highly favored lady." Gloria.*

Carol Rauch, harp

**Lesson V** Matthew 1:18–23

Cindy Shane

*Matthew tells of the coming birth of the Savior*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

**Congregational Hymn***O day of peace that dimly shines*

Hymnal 597

## Choral Anthem

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*

William P. Rowan, arr. David M. Cherwien

*Light dawns on a weary world  
when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.  
Light dawns on a weary world:  
the promised day of justice comes.*

*Love grows in a weary world  
when hungry hearts find bread and children's dreams are fed.  
Love grows in a weary world:  
the promised feast of plenty comes. (Refrain)*

**Refrain:** *The trees shall clap their hands;  
the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be left forth in peace,  
as all the world in wonder, echoes shalom.*

*Hope blooms in a weary world  
when creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.  
Hope blooms in a weary world:  
the promised green of Eden comes. (Refrain)*

Jane York, violin

## Lesson VI Mark 1:1–15

Craig Taylor

*Jesus is baptized by John and proclaims the coming of the Kingdom of God*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

## Congregational Hymn

*Prepare the way, O Zion*

Hymnal 65

## Choral Anthem

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!*

*Then cleansed be ev'ry heart from sin;  
Make straight the way of God within,  
And let each heart prepare a home  
Where such a mighty guest may come.*

*All praise the Son eternally,  
Whose advent sets his people free;  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Spirit blest for evermore.*

Jane York, violin

## Announcements

### Offertory Anthem

*What Sweeter Music*

Eleanor Daley

*What sweeter music can we bring  
Than a carol for to sing  
The birth of this our heav'nly king?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string:*

*Dark and dull night fly hence away,  
And give the honour to this day,  
That sees December turn to May,  
If we may ask the reason say:*

*The darling of the world is come,  
And fit it is we find a room  
To welcome him, the nobler part  
Of all the house here is the heart.*

*Which we will give him and bequeath  
This holly and this ivy wreath,  
To do him honour who's our king,  
And Lord of all this reveling.*

*We see him come, and know him ours,  
Who with his sunshine and his showers,  
Turns all the patient ground to flowers,  
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.*

Catherine Clifton Hardman, Ashley Ellin, Olivia Toso, soloists; Carol Rauch, harp

### Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

### Advent Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

### Closing Hymn

*Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes*

Hymnal 72

### The Dismissal

*Deacon* Alleluia. Let us go forth, raising our voices in song to Jesus.

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

### Postlude

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***Ushers:*** Mitzi Bond, Charles Kappauf, Laurinda Stokes, Craig Taylor. ***Greeters & Newcomer Hosts:*** Anne Jones, Charles Kelshaw, Stephen Martin. ***Verger:*** George Hanna. ***Altar Guild Members:*** Pat Baker, Beth Berger, Nancy Bishop, Susan Brannan, Mary V. Compton, Carolyn Hackett, Anne Jones, Nancy Kimbrough, Barbara Lawless, Sandy O'Briant, Laurinda Stokes, Linda Van Ormer, Gail Walters. ***Livestream Team:*** Don Mackey, David Messelink.

*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by Ann Doyle,  
in honor of our adult choir who give of their time and talent to enrich our worship.*

*Music used with permission under OneLicense.net #A-717747.*



## We Pray For

### **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

*In the last half-century or so, the liturgical renewal movement transformed worship throughout the world. The movement actually had its beginnings in the 19<sup>th</sup> century when French Benedictines, at the abbey at Solesmes, initiated liturgical scholarship. They drew upon new discoveries of ancient manuscripts, and when Pope Pius X called a conference in Belgium in 1909 to examine liturgy in light of these developments, some say the liturgical movement “officially” began. As the 20<sup>th</sup> century progressed, the movement became more ecumenical, and as colonialism ended, people sought liturgy that was more in harmony with their culture and tradition. All of this gave rise to the array of prayer books that emerged in the Anglican Communion. No longer did Anglicans worship only in accord with the Church of England’s 1662 Book of Common Prayer. Our Book of Common Prayer in 1979 is testimony to that.*

*From time to time this church year we will share prayers and collects from Anglican prayer books around the world. We begin today with an Advent collect from the Anglican Church of Southern Africa’s 1989 An Anglican Prayer Book. (It is also in use in our companion Diocese of Botswana.)*

Almighty and eternal God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again in glory, he may find in us a home prepared for himself; who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Diocese of North Carolina

**Those on our parish prayer list:** Norma Bullock, Traci and Erik, Jeff Cummer, Betty Atwell, Mack Baker, Lauren, Martha and Jim Kaley, Nancy O'Donnell, Tina Sink Gangi, Heather, Victoria, Pauline Tatum, Jim Tatum, Pia, Katelyn Flowers, Jeannie Phillips, James, Madeline Colavito, Hilary Towle, Sarah Sellers, Sue Keith, Myra Stephens, Derek, E. MacKenzie, Carolyn Ritchie, Glenna Ohaver, Susan Seaton, Karl Towle, Heidi Dohmeier, Donnie Robertson, Barbara Van Cleve, Nancy Antrim, Bert and Bev, Mary Lou Strohl, Frank Tatem, Faye Thompson, Ethan Shoffner, Paul, Karen, Sabrina, John Bald, Keats, Alicia, Gloria, Jo, Julie Dameron, Lynn Hayworth, Gayle Aiken, Denise, Vicky, Barbara Cole, Patrick Miller, Terese Southern, Jordan, Laura Shinn, Anne Collins, Bill Hill, Carl and Angie Smith, James R. Smith, Lauren Vasquez and family, Clare, Maggie

**Seminarian:** Ryan Waide

**Special concerns:** The people of Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, and Sudan; Jamaica and all those impacted by recent storms

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

**Those expecting:** Martin and Samantha Kappauf, due January 2026; Sean and Olivia Toso, due March 2026

**Birthdays:** Josephine Barbour, Chris Berger, Van DeLoreto, Cathy Jordan, Len Lucas, Janet Owens, Janice Cox Pollard, Ruby Revell, Bonnie Root, Barbara Van Cleve

**Anniversaries:** Leung and Nancy Chan, Pam and Sean Hollern

*Prayer requests can be sent to Susan Frye, Parish Administrator, at [parish@standrewsgso.org](mailto:parish@standrewsgso.org) or 336-275-1651, ext. 1. Names remain on our parish prayer list for six weeks. If you would like a name to remain on the list, please let Susan know. Please also email Susan with birthdays or anniversaries for the bulletin.*

## Today—Third Sunday of Advent

### **Our St. Andrew’s Sprouts are Helping to Spread Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love this Advent Season**

*This Advent our preschool through fifth graders are spending their Children’s Ministry time on a series of outreach projects to help those experiencing homelessness and hunger in our community. Last week, we packed blessing bags to hand out to neighbors in need, and today we are collecting items for the IRC\* Holiday Supply Drive and making Christmas cards for their guests. Next week, we’ll collect nonperishable goods for St. Andrew’s Burgundy Bag Ministry. When you see little people walking up with the ushers during the Offertory these weeks, they are bringing up our children’s offerings of love, hope, and joy to be blessed along with the offering plates. (\* The IRC is Greensboro’s Interactive Resource Center.)*

### **Youth Activity Today!**

- **Dec. 14, 3:00–4:30 p.m.**—6th–8th Graders, our next Middle School Meetup is here! We'll meet for a volunteer shift at Barnabas Network. Afterward, we'll join up with all Greensboro area EYC-ers. (See next item.)
- **Dec. 14, 5:00–6:30 p.m.**—It's our annual wonder walk through Sunset Hills' famous light balls! Middle and high schoolers will stroll with our EYC neighbors and enjoy a parking lot party complete with s'mores and marshmallows.
- **And Save the Date: Next Sunday, December 21, 9:45 a.m.–12:15 pm.**—Our EYC time on this day will be helping with our Nativity Pageant before and during 10 a.m. worship, followed by a Birthday Party for Jesus after worship.

### **Last Call! Submit Your Christmas Flower Gifts and Tributes—Due Today**

Each Advent, Christmas Flower envelopes are placed in the pews for honorary and memorial donations expressly for the Altar Guild, to help cover costs of special services and day-to-day altar needs. Donors and tributes will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. To give, place cash or check to St. Andrew's, with "Altar Guild Christmas Flowers" on the memo line, in the envelope and put in the offering plate. Or submit the online flower form in our eNews. If submitting by mail, print, "This donation for Altar Guild Christmas Flowers is given by \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of / in honor of \_\_\_\_\_." **All donations and tributes must be received in the office today.**



### **Announcements**

#### **Thank You for a Most Successful Deck the Halls 2025**

Our incredibly hard working and spirit-filled community at St. Andrew's once again came together to make Deck the Halls a lively, colorful, warm, and welcoming witness to Greensboro, demonstrating that we are a church engaged with our community and committed to mission. **We welcomed many visitors and brought in over \$18,275!** With gratitude, we celebrate all of the parishioners who gave so generously of themselves—from planning to clean-up—to carry on the tradition, to Share the Love. Thank you also to all who came to support and enjoy the event and its offerings. **Please Return Your Yard Signs:** If you helped us by displaying a yard sign, please return it outside the office door across from the Chapel. We will use them again next year. **If you would like to join in for Deck the Halls 2026, please contact [seamanmarion@gmail.com](mailto:seamanmarion@gmail.com)**

#### **You're Invited to Breakfast at Green Valley Grill—December 19 at 8:30 a.m.**

Join St. Andrew's friends for our next Green Valley Grill gathering, this Friday at 8:30 for breakfast. RSVP to Charles ([drgandolf2003@yahoo.com](mailto:drgandolf2003@yahoo.com), 336-279-4556) by December 16.

#### **Year-End is Coming!**

We are grateful for your continued gifts that sustain the mission and ministry of St. Andrew's. If you have questions about your giving this year, setting up or changing a recurring draft, or making gifts of stock or other funds, please email Ray Marsh at [bookkeeper@standrewsgso.org](mailto:bookkeeper@standrewsgso.org) or call him at 336-275-1651, ext. 3. Ray is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To make new or pledged gift online, visit [abundant.co/standrewsepisopalch/give](http://abundant.co/standrewsepisopalch/give) or scan the QR code at right. Checks may be mailed to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Bookkeeper, 2105 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403. To make a pledge for 2026, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/WalkInLove2026> or request a pledge packet from Ray.



#### **It's Chilly. Buy Chili.**

The St. Andrew's chili cooks made enough to continue sales of frozen quarts after Deck the Halls. You may buy chili during coffee hour on Sundays until Christmas for \$15 / quart, payable by check, cash, or major credit or debit card. Of course, all proceeds go to Mission and Outreach. And did you notice? Our chili now comes in biodegradable containers!

#### **Save the Dates! Our Annual Meeting is February 1, 2026—Leader Reports are Due January 11**

Our Annual All-Parish Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, February 1, 2026. Leaders are asked to submit reports (and photos) to Susan Frye at [parish@standrewsgso.org](mailto:parish@standrewsgso.org) by January 11, 2026. Early reports are welcomed.



## Look for the Light this Advent & Christmas Season!

### *St. Andrew's Advent and Christmas Calendar*

- Dec. 21, Sun. Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
Contemplative Eucharist, 8:30 a.m. (Chapel)  
Worship with Children's Nativity Pageant, 10 a.m.  
Birthday Party for Jesus, after church
- Dec. 24, Wed. Christmas Eve**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Festive Eucharist, 6 p.m.  
Prelude music begins at 5:45 p.m.

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

***Our Christmas Pageant Will Be on Sunday, December 21 at 10 a.m. (But arrive a little early.)***

We invite all children to be part of a special service on the fourth Sunday of Advent, including a "pop-up" nativity pageant. Everyone is welcome to participate, with no rehearsals necessary. Just arrive at church a few minutes early, pick a costume, and you'll be ready to help make the story of Christmas come to life. After worship we will have a birthday party for Jesus. Join us in the Parish Hall!

### Christmas Eve

***Join Us for Christmas Eve Worship at 6 p.m.!—Arrive at 5:45 p.m. for Prelude Music***

Our Christmas Eve service will be a Festive Eucharist with prelude and service music from our choir and guest brass musicians. We look forward to singing Silent Night by candlelight. Please note that **Nursery and Children's Ministry will not be offered on Christmas Eve.** All children are invited to join us for worship in the sanctuary.

### **Advent Resources**

*We are happy to offer resources for study and reflection throughout Advent.*

- ***Living Well Through Advent 2025: Practicing Generosity with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind, from Living Compass***  
*Printed copies of this booklet are available at church, and you can also download the booklet or sign up to receive devotions as daily emails at [livingcompass.org/advent](https://livingcompass.org/advent).*
- ***AdventWord Daily Meditations Series, from Forward Movement***  
*This inspirational online Advent calendar features daily prompt words from the Sunday Lectionary readings. Visit [adventword.org](https://adventword.org) to subscribe or read devotions online.*
- ***Advent Reflections, by Kate Bowler***  
*Kate Bowler is committed to seeing the world the way it really is and practicing hope in the midst of our struggles. In Advent, this looks like pushing back the darkness one light at a time. To receive her Advent devotionals, sign up for her Substack at <https://katebowler.com/advent/>.*

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## 2025 Vestry

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Jonathan Stephens,  
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Mark Courtright  
Kathryn Crowe

Tim Fleming  
Barbara Lawless  
AmyRuth McGraw  
David Messelink  
Spencer Musick

Janice Cox Pollard  
Joe Stultz  
Celeste Williams  
Eric Revell, *Treasurer*  
Lee Eanes, *Clerk*



**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church ✠ The Rev. Ginny Bain Inman, Rector**

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