



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

January 4, 2026

Welcome to this morning's worship! Thank you for joining us today. If you are new to our service, please take a moment to fill out our Welcome 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, and we offer activity bags at the back of the church to keep little hearts and hands engaged.

Prelude

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

Praise to the living God!

Hymnal 372

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.***

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Word of God

The Hebrew Bible Reading

Jeremiah 31:7–14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.” See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm (*read responsively by whole verse*)

Psalms 84:1–8

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house

*and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; **

by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *

hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God; *

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–6, 15–19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Gradual Hymn (*standing, sung by all*)

Unto us a boy is born! (vv. 1–3)

Hymnal 98

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gradual Hymn

Unto us a boy is born! (vv. 4–5)

Hymnal 98

The Sermon (*seated*)

Spencer Musick

The Nicene Creed (*standing*)

BCP p. 358

The Prayers of the People * (*standing or kneeling*)

Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you—that we might be the Church and the people who you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer.***

As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives. Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer.***

As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and kings to the brightness of his rising; draw our nation, our president, and all in authority, to His brightness. Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer.***

As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; bring us your peace, and bring an end to terror and strife. Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer.***

As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

As your Son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them. Lord, in your mercy, *Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, for those who are sick, for those who are serving in our armed forces, and for those who have died.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory

At the Presentation

The Doxology

Hymnal 380, v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

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.*

Sanctus

Hymnal S-130

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 (sung by all)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night (vv. 1-3, 6)

Hymnal 94

What star is this, with beams so bright

Hymnal 124

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light

Hymnal 91

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 365

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Joy to the world! the Lord is come

Hymnal 100

The Dismissal

BCP p. 366

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

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

Postlude

We welcome Spencer Musick as preacher and The Rev. Barbara Cooke as celebrant today.

** Today's Prayers of the People are from Prayers of the People for all Christmastide, by Rick Morley.*

Readers: Clay Journey, Liz Wert. ***Chalicians:*** Buster Lewis, Anne Webb. ***Verger:*** Debbie Dowd.

Ushers: Lee Eanes, Joe Graves, Nancy Kimbrough, Roger Kimbrough, Sandy Shelton. ***Greeter & Newcomer Host:*** Jon Anderson. ***Altar Guild Members:*** Sherry Chappell, Lisa Garrett, Virginia Haskett, Margaret Ann Horne, Pat Marsh, Yvonne Michel, Johnetta Shablack, Cindy Shane, Barb Watkins. ***Livestream Team:*** Jorge Chaires, Joe Stultz.

The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God by Emmanuel Porte in honor of his beloved wife, Jebeh, who celebrates her birthday January 6th; and in memory of Amelia's mother, Aretha Baker-Cooper, whose heavenly birthday is January 4th.

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We Pray For

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Ascension at Fork, Advance; Christ Church, Albemarle; Good Shepherd, Asheboro

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, Ken Sisk, Ken

Seminarian: Ryan Waide

Special concerns: The people of Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, and Sudan; 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: Megan Chowning, Alice DeLoreto, Michael Frahm, Rafael Morales, Claude Ragan, Katie Van Lennep

Anniversaries: Anne Geggie and Barb Watkins

Announcements

Parish Office Schedule

The office will resume normal hours this week. If you need pastoral assistance before then, please contact the Rev. Pam Haynes at 336-309-6265 or deacon@standrewsgso.org. For urgent building-related concerns, contact Cindy Shane at facilities@standrewsgso.org, 336-403-1600 (daytime), or 336-992-9878 (evenings).

Thank You for Your Gifts and Pledges in 2026

We are grateful for your continued gifts that sustain the mission and ministry of St Andrew's. If you have questions about your giving, setting up or changing a recurring draft, or making gifts of stock or

other funds, please email Ray Marsh at 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/standrewsepiscopalch/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.



Our Annual Meeting is February 1, 2026—Leader Reports are Due January 12

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 by January 12, 2026.

Join Us for Epiphany Worship, Service, & Fellowship Walking in Love in the Season of Light

Our Epiphany Celebration is January 11—With Star Words & Chalking the Doors

Join us for 10 a.m. worship on January 11, when we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. This year we will again introduce Star Words in this service, distributing star-shaped cards, each with a word on one side. As we consider together what it means to Look for the Light, reflecting on these words can serve as a simple spiritual practice, inviting you to set your intention for the new year. We will share more information about Star Words and Chalking the Doors for Epiphany in the new year.

Let's Welcome the Season of Light with Children's Chapel on January 11

Our children are invited to celebrate the start of Epiphany with Children's Chapel during 10 a.m. worship on January 11. We'll have a story and special offering for our first gathering in 2026!

EYC: Shining a Light in Dark Times & Our Great Epiphany (Potluck) Feast—January 11

All middle and high schoolers are invited to start the new year together on Epiphany Sunday, January 11, 5:00–6:30 p.m., when we will share a potluck meal. Details to come in 2026!

Worship and Make a Difference Day of Service—Sunday, January 18

Make a Difference Day is an extension of the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. It is a time for giving back to your community. Join us in the Parish Hall after our worship on January 18 for an all-parish Make a Difference Day service project, as we fill and decorate "Comfort Bags" to be distributed later to members of Greensboro's houseless community.

Save the Date for a Women's Retreat—January 31

We are planning a special morning of reflection, conversation, and intention setting for the new year. Look for more details about our Women's (Mini) Retreat in the coming weeks, and save Saturday, January 31 (10 a.m.–1 p.m.), on your calendar.

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

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