

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Boca Grande ☩ Florida

"Bringing God and people together in love through Jesus Christ"

Sunday Worship
Dec-April 8:00A.M. & 9:30A.M.
May - Nov. 9:30A.M.

Our Staff
Rev. Geoffrey Piper
Priest-in-Charge

Dr. Glen Olsen
Minister of Music

Robin Milona
Parish Administrator

Kim Kyle
Office Assistant

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 12:30pm

Telephone
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Boca Grande, FL 33921

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mail@standrewsbocagrande.org



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year B
November 29, 2026

ADVENT 1 MESSAGE

Happy New Year! Today represents the beginning of the new church year. It begins with the season of Advent (which means "coming" or "arrival") and marks a four week period where Christians are reminded of the coming the Messiah in four ways: 1) The announcement by the prophets that Messiah shall come to us; 2) the coming of Messiah as the baby, Jesus, in Bethlehem; 3) the coming of Christ to each of our hearts through his indwelling Spirit in this lifetime; 4) Christ's second coming at the end of the age. Our Sunday readings in Advent highlight these multiple arrivals of Emmanuel, i.e., God with us.

The Advent wreath is in the form of a circle. The circle reminds us of God Himself, eternal and endlessly merciful. The evergreens remind us of the hope of eternal life. The four colored candles represent the time of waiting and preparation for the Messiah during the four Sundays of Advent. The white candle, lit on Christmas Eve, is the Christ candle and reminds us that God has kept His promise to reconcile all of creation to Himself. The light of the candles reminds us of the Light of world, and the prophetic promise of His coming.

Good Morning ... Welcome!

We're glad you're worshipping with us today! St. Andrew's is a community rooted in God's love, where all are welcomed, accepted, and encouraged to grow in faith and fellowship. Whether you are visiting or returning, you belong here!

We invite visitors to complete a card found in the pews and place it in the offering plate at the back of the church or give it to an usher. We'd love to get to know you!

Restrooms are located next door in the Chapter House.

Altar Flowers

The flowers placed on the altar today are given to the Glory of God
by Geoffrey and Leslie Piper in thanksgiving for all our grandchildren:
Colin, Dylan, Emerson, Eleanor, Grace and
especially for our newborn grandson, Wesley Vaughn Shatzman.

Serving Today

Ushers	Jean Corey and Susan Spurgeon
Lector	Jim Griesemer
Chalice Bearer	Kim Lovo

Serving Next Sunday

Sunday, December 6

8:00 A.M.

Usher	Martha Durkin
Lector	Garland Pollard
Chalice Bearer	

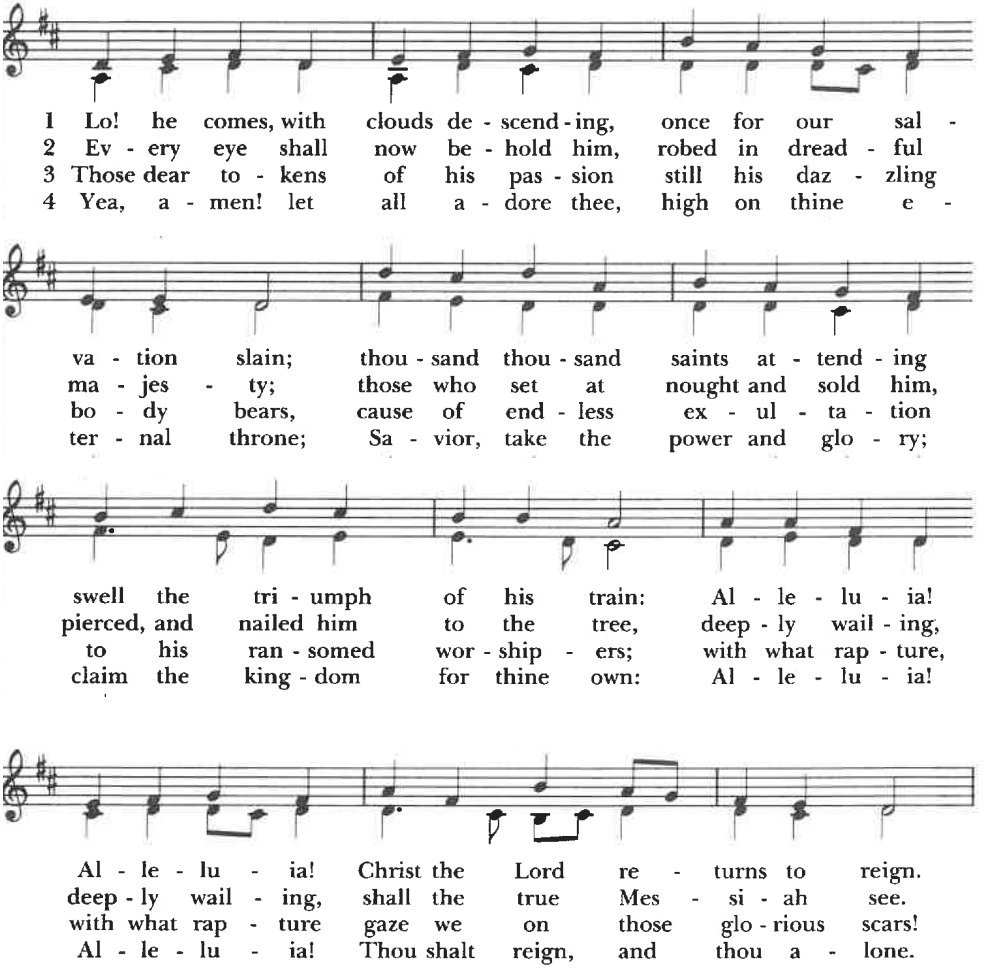
9:30 A.M.

Usher	
Lector	Joy McBride
Chalice Bearer	

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Word of God

THE PRELUDE *Holy Seasons:* I. *The Call of Advent* Dan Locklair

THE PROCESSIONAL *Lo! He comes, with clouds descending* Hymnal, 58



THE ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

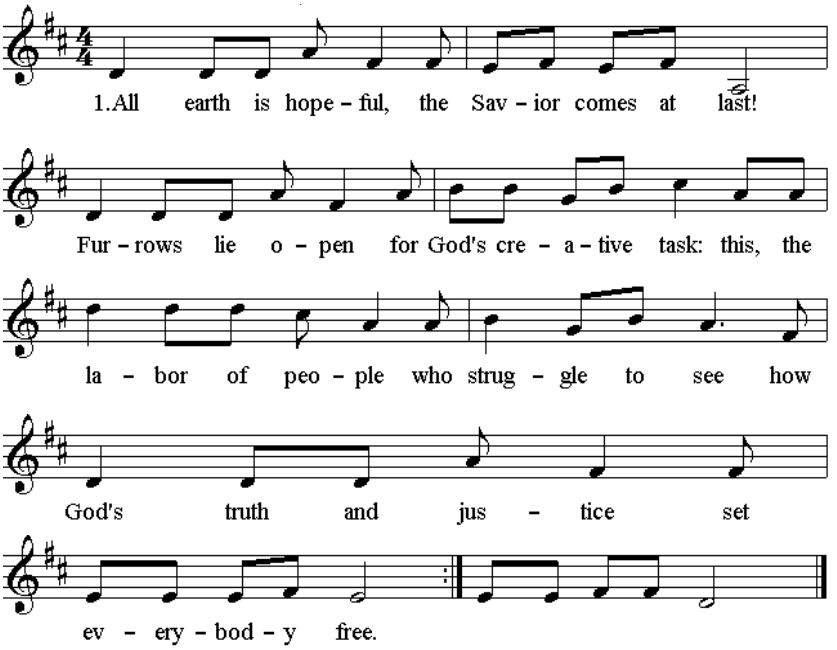
People **His mercy endures forever.**

Advent Wreath Prayer: Week 1

Our first candle stands for Hope — a light shining in the darkness. We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

All Earth Is Hopeful — Alberto Taulé



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson — Isaiah 64:11-9

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Lector The appointed reading today is a portion of Psalm 80.
Let us read responsively by half verse.

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

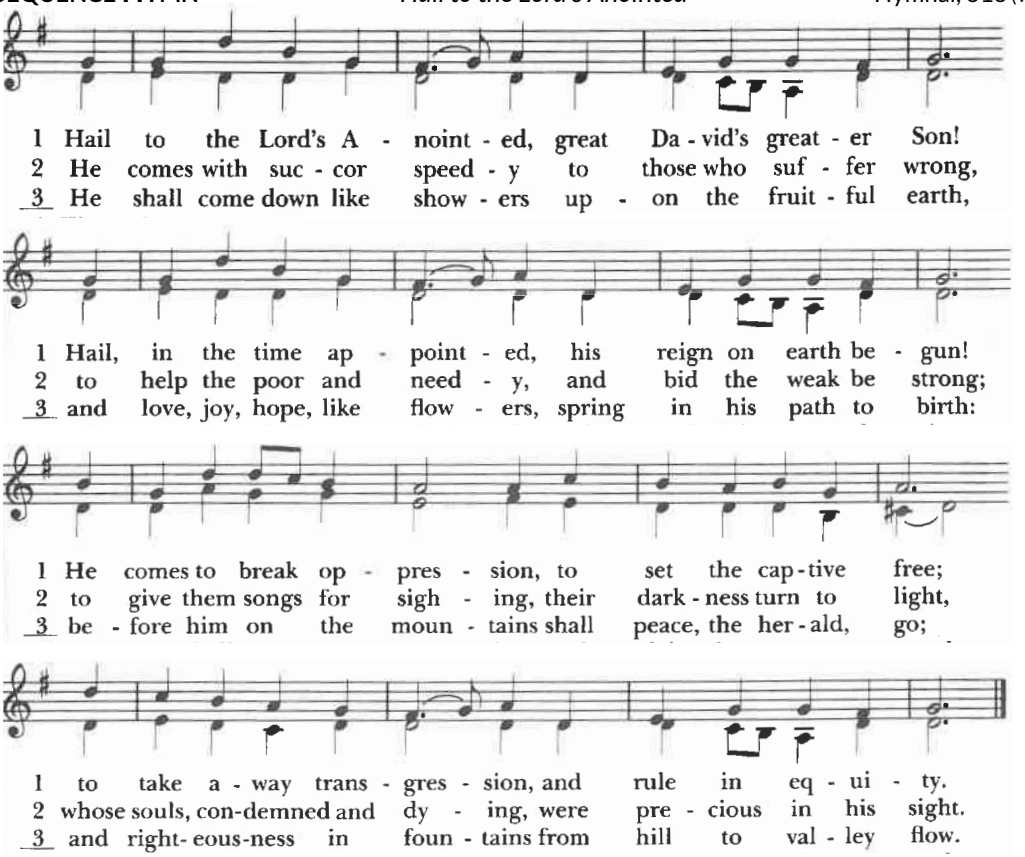
7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* Hymnal, 616 (v. 1-3)



THE GOSPEL **MARK 13:24-37**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

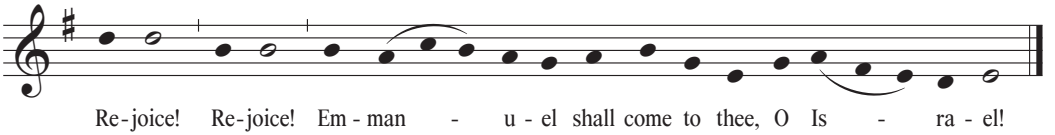
Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know

that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Gospel Response



The Sermon

Rev. Geoffrey Piper

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Please find your position of prayer, whether that is standing, kneeling, or sitting.

Lector Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered silently or aloud.)

Celebrant For all these things; for all we lift before you in the silence of our hearts; and for everything that you know we need, we pray in the name and power of our Lord Jesus Christ, and commend into your mighty and merciful hands. Amen.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant And now let us pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

(A moment of silence in observed so that we may make our silent confession before God).

People **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Offertory *Redeemer of the Nations; Come* Veni Redemptor Genitum

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, 380 (v. 3)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Holy Communion

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharist Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

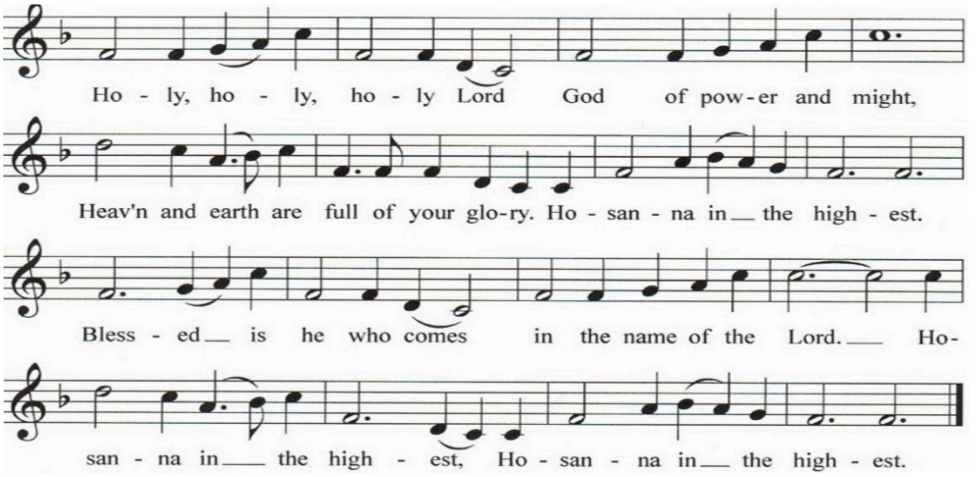
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS



Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Andrew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

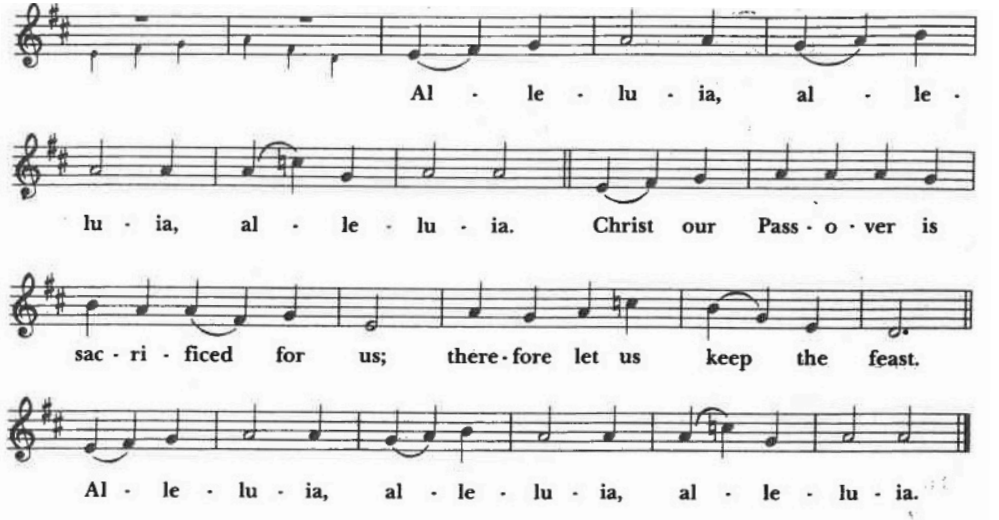
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Silence as the Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

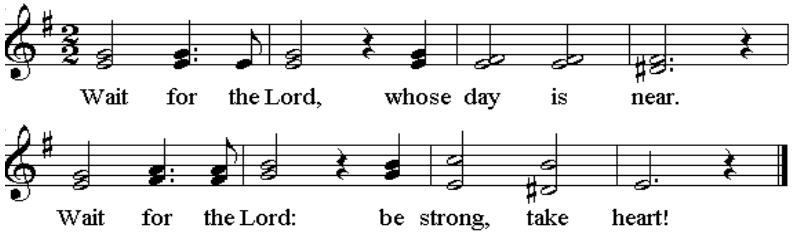
The Fraction Anthem



All baptized persons regardless of denominational affiliation are invited to receive Holy Communion. If it is not in your conscience to receive, please consider coming forward for a simple blessing.

Communion

Wait for the Lord Taizé



Prayer After Communion

Celebrant and People

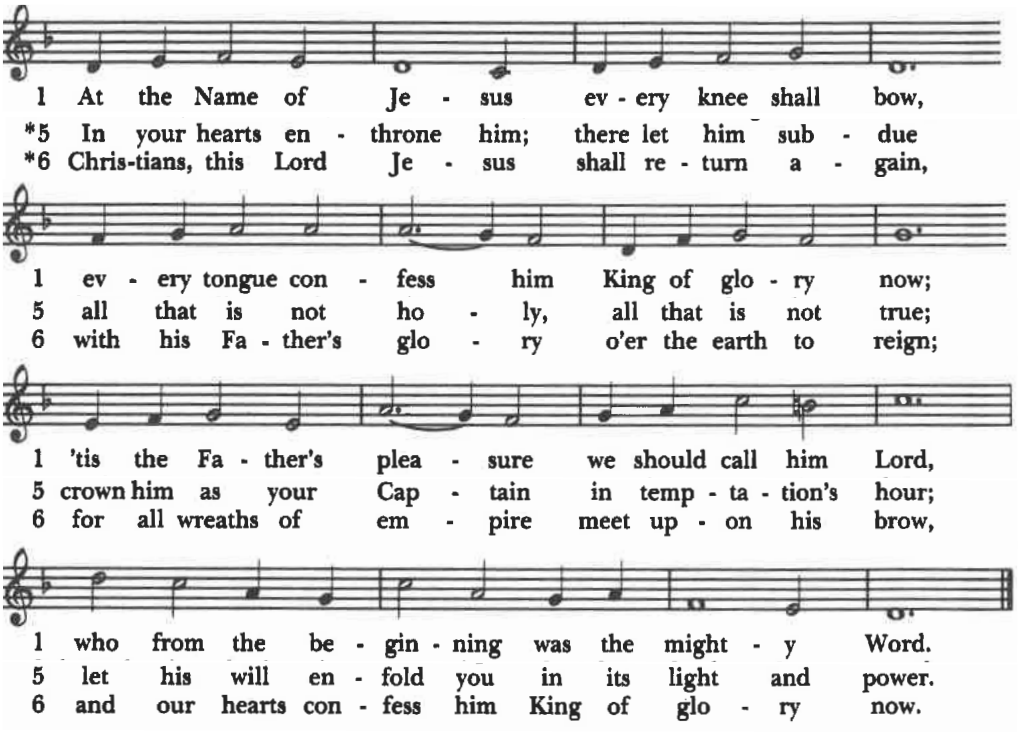
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant

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.**

THE PROCESSIONAL *At the Name of Jesus* Hymnal, 435 (v. 1, 5-6)



THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE *Prelude on NUN KOMM*, BWV 599 Johann Sebastian Bach

†

Two Sunday Services Return NEXT SUNDAY, December 6!

As our Sunday attendance continues to grow, we are delighted to announce that St. Andrew's will return to **two Sunday worship services beginning December 6!**

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
A simple, quiet service without music.

9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
Our traditional worship service with music.

Whether you prefer the peaceful simplicity of an early service or the familiar sounds of our 9:30 a.m. worship, we look forward to welcoming you!

Join us as we worship together at St. Andrew's!

Parish Prayer Lists

Pastoral Prayer List

Bobbie Allardyce
Dennis Berry
Shawn Peterson Cain
Elena Cameron
Vera Chelnokov
Emily Clegg
Bob Corl
Hadley Cox
John Farrar
Bob Fletcher
Jeffrey Fletcher
Tom & Bette Floyd
Edie Gardner
Kathy Gregg
Grace Haly
David Hatzung
Donna Hecker
Logan Hoffman
Mary Anne Hooker
Ted Hoopes
Terrilynn Hulmutch
Taylor Josey
Jenna Larson
Hillary Lupo
Jamie McAndrews
Sarah McDonald
Mary Mulvania
Mary Jean Meyer
Larry Pardee
Bobby Parker
Pat Ryan
Nancy Sellers & Family
Strazzulla Family
Peter Strong
Ed Vick
Donna Welsh

Military Prayer List

Blaise Bess
Ben Constantinides
John Life Ikenberry
Colin Jackson
Karl Jackson
Thais Jackson
Anthony Kopp
Alexander Lovo
Michael Manetti
Nikolas Milona
Jonathan Prince
Renier van Breen

A Glance Ahead

Monday, November 30

Men's AA	8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 1

Men's Bible Study	8:30 a.m.
AA - open to all	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 2

Morning Prayer	9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal	4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 3

Women's AA and Al Anon	9:00 a.m.

Friday, December 4

The Grande Chorus Rehearsal	9:30 a.m.
Women's Bible Study	10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 6 - Advent II

Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist	9:30 a.m.

A Peaceful Start to Your Wednesday

Join us for Morning Prayer, Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the church, followed by coffee and conversation. All are welcome!

Choir Rehearsal every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

Holiday Supper – A Festive Evening Awaits!

Thursday, December 10 • 5:30 p.m. • Chapter House

Our Holiday Supper is just around the corner! Join your friends for an evening of delicious food, warm fellowship, Christmas carols, and plenty of holiday cheer as we celebrate the season together.
Don't forget to RSVP! Sign up in the Narthex or use the RSVP option in our newsletter.
We look forward to celebrating with you!

We're Back Together in Person! Good Conversation, Good Company, and a Little Bible Study!

Our Men's and Women's Bible Studies are once again gathering in person! Come enjoy Scripture, meaningful conversation, and fellowship with friends. Prefer to join from home? Zoom is still available, too!

Newcomers are always welcome.

Men's Bible Study:
Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.
In Person: Chapter House

Women's Bible Study:
Fridays at 10:00 a.m.
In Person: Garden Cottage (Rectory)

Both studies are available on Zoom.

Red Bag Ministry:
Helping Our Neighbors

This month, we are collecting items to be distributed to individuals experiencing homelessness through

The CARE Center

in Port Charlotte.

Pick up a Red Bag in the narthex, you'll find a list of suggested items in the front pocket.
Please return filled bags by Sunday, November 29.

Volunteers Needed!

Join us Monday, November 30, at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapter House to help sort donations and assemble lunch bags.
All are welcome!

Questions? Contact Joan Farrar at 707-812-4768.

A Name Makes a Neighbor!

It's a whole new game
Once I learn your name;
For that little labor
Makes you my neighbor.

Help us put names to faces! Sign up for your St. Andrew's name badge in the narthex and help make our parish an even more welcoming place.

A Small Commitment Makes a Big Difference!

Help make Sunday worship welcoming by serving as an usher, lector or chalice bearer.

Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, your participation matters!

Sign up in the narthex!

2027 Stewardship — Our Gifts. God's Work.

Our 2027 Stewardship Campaign is underway! As we look toward another year of worship, fellowship, and service, we invite you to prayerfully consider how your gifts of time, talent, and treasure help make ministry possible at St. Andrew's.

Stewardship packets have been mailed, and pledges may be returned by mail, delivered to the church office, or submitted online by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for faithfully serving together at St. Andrew's!

[Scan to Make Your 2027 Pledge]

At St. Andrew's We Aspire …

- † *to be a welcoming, inviting and caring parish*
- † *to provide meaningful worship services*
- † *to provide pastoral care and guidance in times of need and celebration*
- † *to respond to human needs locally, nationally, and globally*
- † *to grow as Christians through education and discipleship*
- † *to be active in the community and ecumenical relationships*
- † *to be generous stewards of our time, talent, and treasure*

"Bringing God and people together in love through Jesus Christ"

St. Andrews' Vestry Members

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Mary Campbell	Bill Durkin*	Tanny Clark
Rick Granger	Roger Lewis	Kirsten Hosman
Renee Farnham	Melissa Loughlin	Alice Pollard **
Jay Spurgeon	Michael Courts	

* *Senior Warden* ** *Jr. Warden*

Rick Granger (Treasurer) Mary Campbell (Clerk)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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