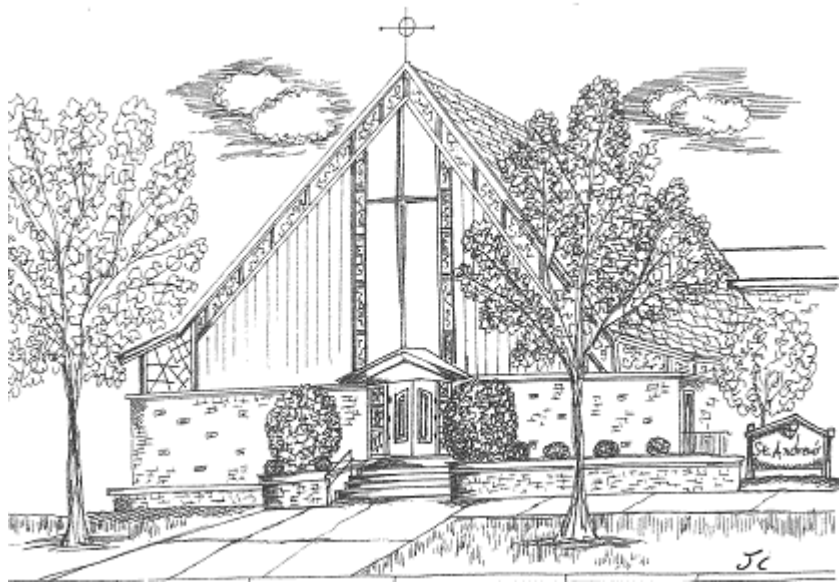


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Building God's Kingdom through Worship, Outreach, and Fellowship

Our Vision: Devoted to sharing the transforming power of God's love
in our lives, our communities, and our world.



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10:30 AM

December 21, 2025

45 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601

757-595-0371

www.standrews-episcopal.org

Welcome to St. Andrew's!

We are so glad that you have joined us for worship.

This bulletin is your guide to our service.

Hymns can be found in the blue hymnal in the rack in front of you.

BCP pages refer to the red *Book of Common Prayer*, also in the rack.

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prelude *Es ist ein Ros*, by J. Brahms

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: The prophet Isaiah said: A child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.

Three candles on the Advent wreath are already lit. As the fourth candle is being lit, the following is said:

Reader: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Peace.

After the candle has been lit, the following is said:

Reader: May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our love, our hope, our joy, and our peace.

The people respond: O come, O Come Emmanuel. Amen.

Processional Hymn	<i>O come, O come Emmanuel</i>	Hymnal 56
		v 1-2, 7-8

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

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

People: *And blessed be his 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.***

Kyrie

Hymnal S-96

Hymn numbers that begin with "S" can be found at the very front of the Hymnal.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals,

that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore 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. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

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 Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *The King shall come when
 morning dawns* Hymnal 73, v 1-2

The Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹⁸Now 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. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But 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. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Hymn *The King shall come when
 morning dawns* Hymnal 73, v 3-5

The Sermon The Rev. Anne R. Kirchmier

The Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

Leader: God of Israel, God of John the Baptist, God of Mary,
God of Joseph,

People: God of all of us,

Leader: you are present in our midst,

People: and we wait for you.

Isaiah described the coming One: The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might.

God of hope, we pray for that same spirit to be upon Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Susan, our bishop; Anne and Marc, our priests; Carol, John, Bernard, and Travis, our associate clergy; and Kathy, our deacon.

Jesus said, "Keep awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."

Awaken us, Lord, in this season of watching and waiting.

Isaiah promised that in days to come the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid.

We pray for the nations of this world,

for the wolves and for the lambs.

We pray for the leaders of this and every nation, especially Donald, our President, and Glenn, our Governor, that they may guide their people into the way of justice and peace.

God of peace, help us learn to beat our swords into plowshares.

We pray for the welfare of the world.

Strengthen the weak hands, O Lord, and make firm the feeble knees.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Congregational Development ministries. We pray for Bob Lord and Oliver Deller, celebrating birthdays this week. In our Staff Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Ann Turner, our office administrator.

On behalf of all peoples, we look forward to your fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy:

***The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom.***

O God of love, we pray for all who suffer or are in any kind of trouble, especially those whom we now name, silently or aloud....

We wait with eagerness and hope for the day of your coming,

***when the eyes of the blind shall be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;***

when the lame shall leap like a deer

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

We pray for hope, purpose, and meaning in the lives of all who serve in our nation's armed forces, especially Caulen, Sarah, Andrew, Alan, Matthew, Tyler, Roberto, Benjamin, and those whom we now name, silently or aloud....

We pray for our enemies,

for those who wish us harm and for those whom we have hurt.

Restore us, O Lord of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

We pray for all who mourn and for all who have died, especially Dr. & Mrs. Barnes Gillespie, Anne Gillespie, and Mr. and Mrs. Wythe Holt, in whose memory today's altar flowers are given, and those whom we now name, silently or aloud....

We trust in God's promise of new life in the world to come.
The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness;
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
The mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

God of Israel, God of John the Baptist, God of Mary, God of Joseph,
God of all of us,
you are present in our midst,
and we wait for you. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Scan to make your offering online

Scan the QR code to make a donation to St. Andrew's
using a debit or credit card.

Thank you for your support of our ministries!



The Holy Communion

Offertory *Annunciation and Magnificat*, by Marty Haugen
Lindsey Nicolai and Becky Fulcher, soloists

The Doxology

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

The Great Thanksgiving: Prayer B BCP p. 367

Sanctus Hymnal S-130

Hymn numbers that begin with "S" can be found at the very front of the Hymnal.

The Lord's Prayer BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Administration of Communion

A Word about Holy Communion

We invite all who wish to follow Jesus to be baptized, and we invite all baptized Christians to receive the gifts of Jesus' Body and Blood. All are welcome at the altar rail: the baptized for communion, everyone for a blessing.

- To receive the common cup or just the wafer, come to the lectern side of the altar rail.
- If you would rather not drink out of the common cup, come to the pulpit side of the altar, where the clergy person will dip your wafer in the wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available. Just let clergy know that you need one.

In lieu of communion, you may receive a blessing at any station.

Hymns for Choir and Congregation

Of the Father's love begotten Hymnal 82

Soon and Very Soon, by Andrae Crouch

1 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
2 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
3 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
4 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3-4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* Hymnal 436

Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God.

Voluntary *Of the Father's Love Begotten*, F. Peeters

If you choose to leave during the voluntary, please depart in reverent quiet.

*The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. Barnes Gillespie,
Anne Gillespie, and Mr. & Mr. Wythe W. Holt*

Service Participants

The Rev. Anne Kirchmier

The Rev. Marc Vance

The Rev. Carol Chamberlain

Ginny Chilton, *Minister of Music*

Advent Wreath:	Johnson Family
Lector:	Lindsey Nicolai
Prayers:	Cris Oman
Chalicers:	Lindsey Nicolai, Debi Nicolai
Acolytes:	James Maxwell, Olivia Goodwin, Leo Maxwell, Ralph Maxwell, Avery Peterson-Rose
Ushers:	Rick Donaldson, Chris Robinson, Bob Wharton
Greeters:	Helen Mitchell, Karen Wharton
Sound:	Doug Burgoyne
Camera:	Channing Guvernator
Children's Chapel:	Dawn Edquist, James Wilcox

This Week at St. Andrew's

Mon., Dec. 22	6:15 PM	Choir rehearsal
Wed., Dec. 24	2:15 PM	Cookies & Goodies
	3:00 PM	Christmas Eve Family Service & Pageant
	8:30 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Thur., Dec. 25	10:30 AM	Christmas Day Service

For families with children

Children are always welcome in worship at St. Andrew's! Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church. Please return them as you exit from worship. For those who would find it helpful, the nursery is available from 9:00 am to noon for children ages 0-3 and Children's Chapel is available from 10:15 to 11:00 AM for children ages 4 through 5th grade. Ask one of our ushers or clergy for directions.

Killebrew's 20th Annual Solstice Party today!

Bob and Pixie Killebrew invite you to join them at their 20th annual Solstice Party this evening (13 Hilton Terrace, Newport News). Come toast the end of the shortest day of the year and the start of longer days. Sunset and the salute cannon is at 4:53 p.m. Come a little early so you'll have a glass of wine to toast. Make it a quick stop or stay on; the party goes on as the days start to get longer! Please bring a can of food for THRIVE Peninsula.

Acolyte gifts!

Acolytes, please meet Mr. Bill in the choir pews after worship for a special gift!

Christmas Pageant costumes

We will have our no-fuss, no-rehearsal Christmas Pageant at the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve worship service. Children ages 12 and under who would like to participate are strongly encouraged to pick out your costume after today's service to make Christmas Eve more relaxed. When you pick a costume, clearly label it with your child's name and hang it back on the rack. All children are welcome!

Cookies 'n Goodies

On Christmas Eve, join us in the parish hall for Cookies 'n Goodies at 2:15 PM, prior to the service.

Christmas Eve Services

2:15 PM—Cookies and Goodies in the parish hall. Children who have not yet chosen a pageant costume can do so during cookie time or as you enter worship.

3:00 PM—Family Service and Pageant

8:30 PM—Festive Service

Christmas Day Service

There will be a service of Holy Eucharist on Christmas Day at 10:30 AM.

Lessons & Carols for Christmas on Dec. 28

On Sunday, December 29, our 10:30 service will be Lessons & Carols for Christmas and Holy Eucharist. Come and sing some of your favorite Christmas carols! There will be no 8 AM service that Sunday.

No Children's Chapel on Dec. 28

There will be no Children's Chapel on Sunday, Dec. 28. Children are happily welcomed in worship every Sunday, and Dec. 28 will be our annual Lessons & Carols for Christmas, with lots of favorite holiday carols. Also, there are activity bags in the back of the church and a selection of books to borrow.

Church office holiday closure

The church office will be closed December 25 through January 1. We will return to normal office hours on Monday, January 5 (office hours are 9 AM to noon Mon & Tue, 9 AM to 3 PM Wed & Thur).

Young Adult dinner on Dec. 27

Take a break from turkey and egg nog! Young adults are invited to join us for dinner at Si Senor Mexican Restaurant on Saturday, Dec. 27, at 6 PM. Dinner is free! Bring a friend! If you plan to join us, please RSVP to Anne (text 804-687-5396 or email rector@standrews-episcopal.org).

Blood Drive on Jan. 12—donors and volunteers needed!

Make your appointment now to give the gift of life! It takes so little time, usually no more than one hour, to make a real difference. We will host a Red Cross blood drive on Monday, January 12, from 1:00 to 6:00 PM. You can make your appointment by going to redcrossblood.org and entering the code HiltonAC. In addition to blood donors, we need volunteers to help with check in. If you'd like to help out, please contact Amine Morgan, 757-596-1371, or the church office.

Coming in January: Monday Game Day!

Possibly you've noticed that a lot of places are closed on Mondays...but not St. Andrew's! Beginning Monday, January 5, Game Day will return on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in the Village Room. The first three Mondays of each month will focus on a specific game with its own leader.

1st Mondays – Canasta or Hand & Foot led by Cris Oman (instructions given)

2nd Mondays – Mexican Train led by Jackie Legg (learn as you play)

3rd Mondays – UNO led by Bill Wilds (all levels)

4th Mondays – Group choice from weeks 1-3

5th Mondays – There are four of them in 2026: March, August, November, and December and they will feature a surprise event and location! All are welcome!

Bingo, hot dogs, and Mardi Gras!

We have scheduled a fun night of hot dogs and Bingo on Friday, January 23, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. This is one of two events to “let loose” before the quieter season of Lent, the other is our Mardi Gras celebration on Shrove Tuesday, February 17. Mark your calendar—more details coming soon!

Free screening of *Sugarcane* documentary

Please join us for a FREE screening of the film *Sugarcane* on Sunday, January 25, at 12:00 PM. This award-winning debut feature documentary from Julian Brave NoiseCat and Emily Kassie is a groundbreaking investigation into an Indian residential school, shedding light on years of forced separation, assimilation and abuse that Indigenous children experienced at the hands of Church and government. This urgent and timely film brings the hidden story of cultural genocide to audiences worldwide while celebrating the resilience of Native people as they work to overcome cycles of intergenerational trauma. The screening will be followed by a facilitated discussion. Film runs 1h 47m. Bring a bag lunch. **Go to standrews-episcopal.org to register to attend** (you need not present a ticket to enter the screening). **This film is recommended for ages 16+ only.** Childcare for younger children is available by reservation. Contact the church office **no later than Monday, Jan. 19** if you would like to use the childcare: parish.admin@standrews-episcopal.org or 757-595-0371.