

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 28, 2021
10:00 AM



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying* Johan Sebastian Bach

INTROIT *For You O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits* MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

MANY: *O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,
your radiance shines in all who look to you;
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.*

ONE: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
truly my hope is in you.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Can one be homesick for something you've never known?

*We are homesick for a just world,
for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.*

Yes, we are homesick—

*for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors,
and for hospitals that run empty.*

We are homesick for the world God promises.

We are homesick, but we are on our way.

God is here. God is still creating.

Let us worship Holy God.

†HYMN 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Sung Response

As We Light the Candle

PICARDY

As we light the candle of hope,
We await the Christ yet to come
Hoping for a world of shalom,
One where we are closely known.
Christ come to us, upon our earth do dwell,
May we carry hope close to home.

WELCOME

The service begins with the first note of the Opening Voluntary.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

† When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit, as able.

ADVENT THEME AND PRAYERS

This Advent season we are following the theme, "Close to Home" from A Sanctified Art, LLC. A Sanctified Art believes God speaks to us through many mediums and that creativity is an integral part of worship. They create curriculum and worship resources, including the Advent Devotionals found in the Narthex. The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Candle Lighting Liturgy are by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed of A Sanctified Art.

FIRST HYMN AND BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

The text for both of these was authored by Charles Wesley, an English leader of the Methodist movement, most widely known for writing the words for over 6,500 hymns.

CONFESSING OUR SIN

*Gracious God, We find ourselves with two options every day—
to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.
Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?
Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?
Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our
homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world.
Kindle in us a hope that won't let go. Gratefully we pray...
Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession.*

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

*There is room for us in God's house, and nothing can separate us from
that love. We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed home.
Thanks be to God! Amen.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Margaret Williams

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

MUSICAL OFFERING

Wake, Awake

John Horman

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:25-36

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

Homesick

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 340 *This is My Song*

FINLANDIA

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY & WORLD

SILENCE

The time of silence allows you to speak or listen to God as you best need this morning.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

After each scripture reading the reader will say, "The Word of the Lord." All are invited to respond, "Thanks be to God."

MUSICAL OFFERING

The melody references the hymn from the Opening Voluntary, hence its title. The setting of this melody is by John D. Horman who served Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Kensington, Maryland for forty-three years as Organist and Director of Music.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory *Variation on HYFRYDOL* Charles Callahan

†**Offertory Response** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* TALLIS' CANON
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

†**Prayer of Dedication**

GOING TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

†**HYMN 104** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

The peace of O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace
in love, all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.

You come, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill,
to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation we live for that great day
when your renewed creation your glory shall display.

†**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

†**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

†**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENNI EMMANUEL
*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* Raymond Haan

OFFERTORY

The offertory is from a set of variations on the hymn tune HYFRYDOL by Charles Callahan (b. 1951) is well-known as an award-winning composer, organist, choral conductor, pianist, and teacher. It was composed as an homage to J. S. Bach.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Because we have been forgiven in Christ, we can forgive one another. We demonstrate this by sharing Christ's peace with one another.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

This piece is based on the other hymn tune for "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus." Raymond Haan is the Director of Music for the Cutlerville East Christian Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, and has had this position since 1960. He is the composer of hundreds of pieces for organ, voice, choir, handbells, piano, and other instruments.

As one part of the church of Jesus Christ, we are inspired and guided by Christ's vision of God's realm – one that includes all who seek to love God and neighbor.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church welcomes all people, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic situation, family status, mental or physical abilities to become part of the membership and ministry of the church. We welcome all of each of you.

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 28th

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Worship

Monday, November 29th

Tuesday, November 30th

Wednesday, December 1st

12:30 PM Lunch and Learn

Thursday, December 2nd

Friday, December 3rd

9:00 AM Church at Prayer

8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Saturday, December 4th

Sunday, December 5th

9:00 AM Sunday School (Zoom)

10:00 AM Worship

PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

If you have a prayer concern, please complete a Prayer Request Card, and place it in the offering plate. Please update the office about any changes in the condition of your loved ones.

Paul Ellingson

John Artley

Lynn Kozlosky

The family of Loretta Parker

*In the Nursing Home, Home Care,
or Assisted Living:*

Peggy Benedict at home

Elinor Bryan - Westminster Village

Del Rey Humphreys-Sunrise

Sue Puckett-Camelia Place

Evelyn Wallace-at home

Ron Weber at home, *Betty Weber*
Camelia Place

WELCOME

Welcome to St Andrews. Your presence is a joy for us.

We invite you to join St Andrews, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), in ministry and in worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Devotionals that follow out theme, "Close to Home," are available in the narthex and in the breezeway by the office. These devotionals include prayers, journal prompts, reflections, original art, and coloring pages all inspired by our scripture texts for the season. There is also a family advent calendar available.

Skivvies and Shower Shoes for Clifton Sanctuaries Our congregation will collect donations of underwear, undershirts and shower shoes (flip-flops) in support of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries. There are 2 ways to give:

1. Purchase new men's t-shirts, underwear, and shower shoes and drop them off at church, unwrapped, from Sunday, November 28-December 24. There will be collection bins in the narthex and in the breezeway by the office.
2. Make a donation to St. Andrews on-line, or by check. Please put Skivvies & Shower Shoes in the memo line of your check. Online, please choose Mission and fill in Skivvies & Shower Shoes.

Contributions needed: white short-sleeve tee shirts and underwear (many prefer briefs; in sizes M, especially L and XL, and XXL); adult briefs/diapers are also appreciated (in sizes M, especially L and XL, and XXL).

NETWorks Christmas Shop As in 2020, NETWorks is distributing gift cards to the visitors to their pantry in lieu of their annual Christmas Shoppe. You can donate online here, and NETWorks will purchase gift cards for families, or you can drop off gift cards at NETWorks W/F/Sa from 10am-1pm. They are asking for gift cards for \$15 from Kroger and Publix and for \$25 from Walmart and Target. Please bring donations to NETWorks, or donate online by December 1st. They will take donations after this date, but it will help with distribution, if donations are received early in December.

Christmas Tree Lot Boy Scout Troop 129 is selling trees and wreaths at St. Andrews again this year. They will be open 9am-9pm on weekends, and 5pm-9pm on weekdays until December 20th, or until they sell out.

Alternative Gift Market Saturday, December 4th, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM. N. Decatur Presbyterian Church will hold their annual holiday alternative gift market.

CONNECT AT ST. ANDREWS

Facebook- facebook.com/sapctucker/ *Follow us for photos and announcements*

Website- sapctucker.org *Church Calendar, Youth News, Sermon Archive*

Instagram- st.andrewspresbyteriantucker *Follow us- pictures and updates*

Weekly Email and Monthly Newsletter- *email the office to be added to our list*

Contact Us- 770-938-2833, office@sapctucker.org

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Camille LeBron Powell, Pastor
John McCrosky, Director of Children and Youth Ministries
David Lukens, Director of Music
Edward Weaver, Associate Director of Music and Organist
Pat Baker, Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries
Lonneta Bruce, Director, St. Andrews School
Gretchen Perkins, Office Manager
Debbie Hutto, Financial Administrator
Brittney Daniel, Seminary Intern