

**This evening's Christmas offering will be donated to the Calvin Center in Hampton, Georgia.** For 60+ years Calvin Center, originally named Camp Calvin, has been a place where kids have come for the adventure of summer camp and horseback riding, while others have come to retreat and find rest and renewal surrounded by nature on the beautiful campus. Over the years St. Andrews youth have participated in service days and mission retreats here, while our adults have enjoyed numerous music and Presbyterian Women retreats as well. Of special note, SAPC member Paul Burns is currently the Facilities Director who lovingly tends to the 536-acre campus. Calvin Center offers a welcoming sanctuary for re-creation and Christian nurture.

**You are welcome at St. Andrews.** We have Sunday school for all ages and nursery care for babies and preschoolers Sundays at 9:00 AM. Worship is every week at 10:00 AM.

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### Staff

The Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell, Pastor  
LaVerne Byas-Smith, Coordinator of Congregational Vitality  
Pat Baker, Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries  
David Lukens, Director of Music  
Edward Weaver, Associate Director of Music and Organist



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

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**Weekly Email and Monthly Newsletter-** office@sapctucker.org *to be added to our list,*

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

**Worship Online-** https://www.youtube.com/@sapctucker

## St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

December 24<sup>th</sup> 2023

5:00 PM



### Welcome

We are glad that you are worshipping with us this Christmas Eve. No matter where you have been or where you are going, you are welcome here. If you seek communion with God and with neighbor, you will find it in this house. We invite you to participate with our congregation in worship, study, and service, as we seek to be faithful followers of Jesus. Please join us on the journey of faith.

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### Candle Lighting

During Silent Night, ushers will bring the flame from the Christ Candle to worshippers in the pews. Lit candles should always be held upright; allow the person seated beside you to light his/her candle, passing the light down the row. Please extinguish candles following the benediction, and place them in the boxes at the doors

## Order of Worship

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold** and singing the words printed under the carols.

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

**PRELUDE** Shepherd's Pipe Carol Dale Wood

### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### †CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

There is room for you here.

If you're weary and worn, or hopeful and patient.

**If you're tired and lost, or wrapped up in hope.**

If you're new to this place, or have been here before.

**Come in, come in. There is room for you here.**

The angels are singing,

**"Be not afraid."**

The angels are singing,

**"Good news and great joy!"**

So come in, come in!

**There is room for us here.**

As we turn to lighting the advent candle, I ask you:

How does a weary world hold onto hope, practice peace, spread joy, or know love?

**How does a weary world combat cruelty?**

How does a weary world shine a light into our bleakest night?

**We do all these things with God's help. For tonight, a child is born in Bethlehem.**

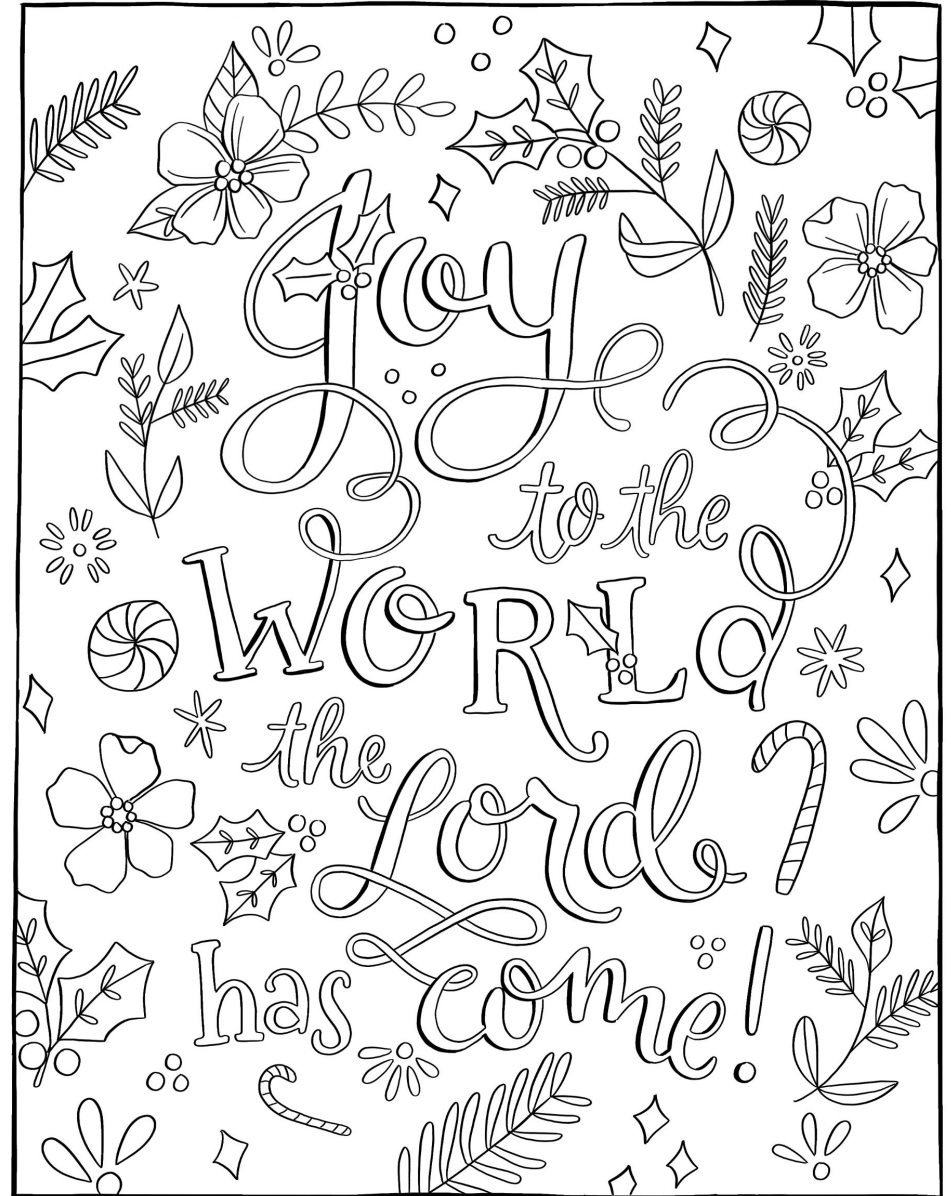
Tonight, Christ draws near.

**Tonight, we light the Christ Candle.**

Tonight, we are not alone.

**God is near. Love has drawn close. Rejoice!**

**For God loves this weary world. Amen.**



**†HYMN 134**

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!  
 Let earth receive her king;  
 Let every heart prepare him room,  
 and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
 and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
 Let all their songs employ,  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains;  
 repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
 repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
 nor thorns infest the ground;  
 He comes to make his blessings flow  
 Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
 Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
 and makes the nations prove  
 The glories of his righteousness  
 And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
 And wonders, wonders of his love.

**†BENEDICTION IN WORDS**

*Wishing you a truly blessed Christmas, and  
 God's joy and peace in the new year.*

**†HYMN 133**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTES FEDELIS

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
 O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
 Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

*Refrain:* O come, let us adore him;  
 O come, let us adore him;  
 O come, let us adore him,  
 Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,  
 Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
 Very God, begotten, not created! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
 Glory to God, all glory in the highest! *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

**PRAYER**

LaVerne Byas-Smith

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 2:1-7

Lily Powell

**HYMN 115**

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
 the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
 but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
 I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
 and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
 close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
 Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
 and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2:8-16

