

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 2, 2018
10:00 AM



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

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

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella* Paul Laubengayer

†CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

In hope, Israel dreamed of a Messiah so many years ago.

In hope, Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem praying for hospitality.

In hope, the wise men followed a star believing that God would guide them along the way. Alpha and Omega, integrity and holiness

Like Israel, we sing, "Come, oh come, Emmanuel."

Like Mary and Joseph, we pray for a world that acts like we belong to one another.

Like the wise men, we travel to this space trusting that God draws near to us— guiding us along the way.

This Sunday, we light the candle of hope because we could not be Advent people without it.

*Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.*

May this candle remind us that God's light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

May this light serve as an invitation to draw near to God—for in the light of this candle we can feel God's warmth, we can see more clearly, and together, we can hope for a better day. Amen.

†HYMN 100 *Canticle of the Turning* STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

CONFESSING OUR SIN

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

†JOYFUL RESPONSE *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

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.

CANTICLE OF THE TURNING

This powerful Advent hymn is a paraphrase of the *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55) and incorporates many other images from scripture. The first three stanzas are addressed to God and the fourth is addressed to other people within the faith.

TIME OF SILENCE

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

†SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Grounded in grace, let us share the peace we have received from Christ with one another and with the world.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to greet one another with a handshake, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carol Gordon

PSALTER

Psalm 25:1-10

Pew Bible, page 475(OT)

MUSICAL OFFERING

Sounds of Advent

Arranged by Lee Dengler

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-36

Pew Bible, page 80(NT)

CHILDREN’S LESSON

SERMON

There Will Be Signs

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

†HYMN 357

The Days Are Surely Coming

LLANGLOFFAN

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

Savior of the Nations, Come

J. S. Bach

†Offertory Response *What Can I Give Him!*

CRANHAM

**What Can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would so my part;
Yet what can I give him: give my heart.**

†Prayer of Dedication

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

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.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

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

COMMUNION

In the act of remembering that is the Lord’s Supper, we receive and trust the love of Christ present to us and to the world. Through it, we are renewed and empowered to be the church, the body of Christ, in the world.

The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is not just for Presbyterians or church members. All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and cup in order to be assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

Communion of the People

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

†HYMN 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

†INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

†BENEDICTION IN WORDS

†BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Canticle of the Turning* STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the **God of my heart is great,**
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blessed. Could the world be about to turn?
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

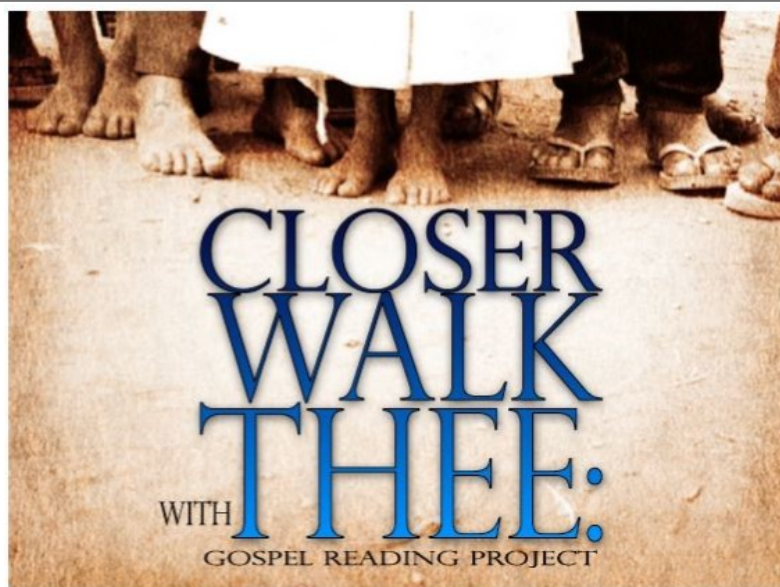
People, Look East!

Kristina Langlois

All are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction today. Congregants proceed via the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is available at the center station), which they then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

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
Ann McKinney, Director, St. Andrews School
Gretchen Perkins, Administrative Assistant



The Gospel Reading Project aims to get people reading their Bibles and to build friendships among our congregation's members. One way we hope to reach these goals is through reading groups. These groups will meet weekly for no more than 1 hour, be self-directed, and have a host to help convene the group. The reading project begins today. Resource materials are available in the narthex, church office, and electronically. To receive daily reminders from St. Andrews, simply text @readgospel (put this in as the message) to 81010 (put this in for the phone number.)

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 2nd

9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship
4:00 PM Chancel Bells
5:50 PM Youth Christmas Party

Monday, December 3rd

12:00 PM 39ers- Folks Restaurant
6:30 PM Chrismon Making, Library
8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Tuesday, December 4th

Wednesday, December 5th

5:45 PM Big Table
7:30 PM Chancel Choir
8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Thursday, December 6th

Friday, December 7th

9:00 AM Church at Prayer
7:00 PM Bridge Club, Library
8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Saturday, December 8th

Sunday, December 9th

9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship
11:30 AM Joint Session/Diaconate Meeting
4:00 PM Chancel Bells
5:00 PM Youth Choir
6:00 PM Youth Group/Dinner

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.

The family of Martha Robertson

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

Sharon Shenkman-North Decatur HRC, **Evelyn Wallace**-at home, **Clyde & Jane Wentz**-The Phoenix at Tucker, **Sue & Bona Puckett**-The Phoenix at Tucker **Orin & Barbara Mattheis**-Regency House, **Linda Weaver** at home

WELCOME

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

Please note your presence in the registry of friendship so that members of our church family may welcome you.

Your presence is a joy for us.

Nursery Care is available in the Education Building, Room 107.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chrismon Making All ladies are invited to help in making Chrismons for this year. It is a St. Andrews tradition that each family that attends Christmas Eve services at SAPC receives a Chrismon ornament to take home. Please join us on Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 PM in the church library.

39ers The 39ers will meet on Monday, December 3rd for lunch at Folks Restaurant and everyone is welcome to join in the fun. (4286 Lavista Rd, Tucker) Contact Charles Mills, 678-654-6828 with any questions.

Youth News Join us for the Youth Christmas Party at Westminster Presbyterian at 5:50 PM today. Meet on the parking lot by the buses. Bring a wrapped white elephant gift for the exchange— no need to buy anything, just wrap up something from around the house. Bring a friend and get ready to have a blast. We'll return to the church by 8:45 PM. Save the dates of February 1-3 for our annual ski trip.

Lessons and Carols Join us Sunday, December 16th at 6:30 PM for a family candlelight Worship service of Scripture and music preparing for the celebration of our Lord's birth with carols for choirs, instruments, handbells and the congregation. A Christmas Cookie reception will follow the service in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your friends and neighbors and share the good news of Christ's coming. Childcare Provided.

Christmas cookies are needed by the dozens and dozens for the reception following Lessons and Carols on December 16. Contact Paige Kubik at paigemk@gmail.com or 404-895-4210 with any questions.

Christmas on Main has been moved to December 8th. To sign up to help at St Andrews' booth, or to change your sign up, contact Paige Kubik or go to the website: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b44aead2ba46-advent>

Christmas Tree Lot Boy Scout Troop 129 is selling trees and wreaths at St. Andrews again this year. The troop travels to select and cut the trees each year and this is the major fund-raiser for their troop. They will be open 9am-9pm on weekends, and 5pm-9pm on weekdays until December 20th, or until they sell out.

Please Welcome Anna Price as our guest organist morning. Please greet her following this morning's worship with thanks for sharing her talents to God's glory. Ed Weaver is in Annapolis, Maryland as harpsichordist for the performances of Handel's Messiah at the United States Naval Academy.

Longest Night Worship Service The service will be Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30 PM. Preceded by dinner with Big Table in the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 PM. Through visual art, poetry, prayer, song and candle-lighting ~ as we approach the longest night of the year, we will pause from the hustle and bustle of the season to honor those who struggle and to witness to the light that has come, and is coming into the world. This service will create a safe and sacred space for those who are struggling to feel the joy and light of the holiday season due to loss of any kind. All are welcome.

CONNECT AT ST. ANDREWS

Facebook- [facebook.com/sapctucker/](https://www.facebook.com/sapctucker/) Like and follow us – for photos and announcements.

Website- sapctucker.org Church Calendar, Sunday School Page, Youth News, Sermon Archive

Instagram- [st.andrewspresbyteriantucker](https://www.instagram.com/standrewspresbyteriantucker/) Follow us- pictures and updates

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