

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 22, 2019
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 *Pastorale on GLORIA* Setting by Michael Helman

†CALL TO WORSHIP

What can't wait?

Hope for a better day.

What can't wait?

Peace and repentance, among and within us.

What can't wait?

Joy and delight! Our cup runs over.

What can't wait?

Love for self, love for neighbor, love for Creator, and love for creation.

We are courageous when we are vulnerable. We are courageous when we are honest with ourselves. We are courageous when we invite others to sit with us. We are courageous when we proclaim the love of God to a broken world.

So let us be courageous – let us worship Holy God.

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

CONFESSING OUR SIN AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

...I will wait for a lot of things, but I will not wait for joy.

The world needs love. We need love.

Confident in God's love and forgiveness, let us confess, before God and one another, the ways we have failed to be courageous.

Gracious God,

We long to be as courageous as Joseph—To be brave enough to trust your call, and strong enough to hold onto one another. There are so many places in the world that could use our courage. You know them, but we do too... So when fear takes over, forgive us. When our knees shake and our words fail, forgive us. When self-hatred is easier than self-love, forgive us. When walls are more convenient than peace, forgive us. When pessimism is more convenient than hope, forgive us. When our comfort is more important than our neighbor, forgive us.

You invite us to be courageous. Forgive us.

Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession.

†CHORAL PETITION 92 *While We are Waiting, Come* WAITING
**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

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.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

GLORIA is a traditional French carol dating from the early 18th century. Michael Helman is the current Director of Music/Organist at Faith Presbyterian Church in Cape Coral, Florida.

ADVENT THEME AND PRAYERS

This Advent season we are following the theme, "What Can't Wait" 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 adapted from prayers written by Sarah Are of A Sanctified Art.

SILENCE

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

Today we light the candle of love to remind us to spread love wherever we go.

May we be courageous enough to love our neighbors as ourselves.

†SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

God sent us God's son, to overcome death and give us a model for living courageously. So now, let us practice that courage by sharing the Peace of Christ with one another and with the world. The peace of the one born Emmanuel be with you all.

And also with you.

You are invited to greet one another with a sign of peace, saying "The peace of Christ be with you."

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lily Powell

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 7:10-16

Pew Bible, page 598(OT)

MUSICAL OFFERING *And the Glory of the Lord*

G. F. Handel

GOSPEL READING Matthew 1:18-25

Pew Bible, page 1(NT)

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON *Courage Can't Wait*

Kristen Sommerfeld

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN 99

Song of Mary

MORNING SONG

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory *O Little Town of Bethlehem* *(Forest Green)*

Dale Wood

†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

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

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 up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to lift up thanks and praise.

... We pray all this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together, saying:

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."

OFFERTORY

FOREST GREEN is the traditional tune to which *O Little Town of Bethlehem* is sung in England. It is based on an English folk melody arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1903.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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. With the knowledge that we can never earn the grace we receive

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

Communion of the People

Communion Song *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* O-SO-SO

Come now, and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
Come, O Lord Je - sus; rec - on - cile all peo - ple.

Prayer after Communion

GOING TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

†**HYMN 127** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT

†**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

†**BENEDICTION IN WORDS**

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC *Fugue on the Magnificat* Johann Pachelbel

through Christ, we believe that anyone with the desire to come to the table demonstrates a desire to know Christ, and is welcome. 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.

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.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING
This adaptation of a well-known Christmas Hymn leans on the traditions of African-American Gospel music. The upbeat, cantering feel makes this a motivating sending hymn, embodying the joyous call to life in Christ.

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
Bonnie Gladden, Director, St. Andrews School
Gretchen Perkins, Office Manager
Debbie Hutto, Financial Administrator
Kristen Sommerfeld, Seminary Intern

Join us in Worship & Fellowship
WHAT CAN'T WAIT
Advent 2019
WWW.SAPCTUCKER.ORG

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 22nd

9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship
6:30 PM Lessons and Carols
Reception

Monday, December 23rd

8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Tuesday, December 24th

5:00 PM Worship
10:30 PM Organ Prelude
11:00 PM Worship

Wednesday, December 25th

Thursday, December 26th

Friday, December 27th

8:00 PM AA/ALAnon

Saturday, December 28th

Sunday, December 29th

9:00 AM Sunday School
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.

Lisa Bunce

The family of Bona Puckett

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

Sharon Shenkman-North Decatur
HRC, **Evelyn Wallace**-at home
Clyde Wentz-The Phoenix at Tucker
Sue Puckett-Camellia Place **Barbara
Mattheis**-Regency House **Ron and
Betty Weber** 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.

Our youngest worshipers are invited to our Prayground, a worship area in the front of the sanctuary where they are able to engage in quiet activities while learning the rituals of worship. On Sundays with communion, the children will return to their families after the sermon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Services

Candlelight Family Service, 5:00 PM Come sing carols and hear the Christmas story told by our children and youth.

Organ Prelude, 10:30 PM Candlelight organ prelude of carols, telling the Christmas Story.

Communion Celebrating Christ's Coming 11:00 PM Celebrate with Word, the Lord's Supper, and Candlelight.

A Socks and Skivvies Tree to support Clifton Sanctuary Ministries is in the Narthex through Dec 29. Contributions needed include: socks (white crew and dark dress socks of sizes 10-13); white short-sleeve tee shirts and underwear (many prefer briefs; in sizes M, especially L and XL, and XXL). Please do not wrap as Christmas presents, gifts maybe placed in the donation box by the tree, and will be delivered to Clifton in early January. Questions: contact Joshua Price, 770-921-1231.

Lessons and Carols Join us this evening at 6:30 PM for a candlelight worship service, for all ages, 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 celebration will follow the service in Heffner Hall. Bring your friends and neighbors and share the good news of Christ's coming. Nursery Provided.

Lessons and Carols Cookie Reception Christmas cookies are needed by the dozens and dozens for the reception following Lessons and Carols on December 22. All of the remaining cookies will be festively wrapped and delivered to various shelters and ministries in the area. Donated cookie tins are also welcome for the repackaging! Contact Heather Morse 770-395-6531 to sign up.

Holiday Office Hours The office will be closed December 24th-27th and January 1st-3rd.

Year-End Contributions Any pledges or contributions you wish to apply to 2019 must be in the offering by Sunday, Dec. 29th, in the drop slot in the office by December 31st or post-marked by December 31st. Please contact our finance administrator, Debbie Hutto, with any questions: 770-938-2833 ex. 104 or finance@sapctucker.org.

Church at Prayer will not meet this Friday, December 27th.

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.andrewspresbyterianatucker](https://www.instagram.com/st.andrewspresbyterianatucker/) Follow us- pictures and updates

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

Contact Us- Office Hours are M-F from 9:00AM-1:00PM, 770-938-2833, office@sapctucker.org