

# ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please note that all text in **bold** is spoken in unison.*

*† Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.*

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

10:30AM

**WELCOME!** What a delight that you are here! We hope you will experience the love of Jesus and the joy of community in this time of worship. If we can be of help to you, please let us know. We would love to assist you in finding ways to get involved and grow in your faith.

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION** (*You are invited to pray this prayer in silence.*)

God of Hope, give us ears to hear and hearts to trust the promises You offer to us in this season of Advent. Amen.

**PRELUDE**

*O magnum mysterium*

by Morten Lauridsen

**LIFE AT ST. ANDREW'S**

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Philippians 4:4-5

One: Rejoice in the Lord always.

**Many: We will say it again: rejoice!**

One: The Lord is near.

**Many: We rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming.**

***All: Let's embrace God's work among us as we worship!***

**† HYMN 462**

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

RATISBON

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
Till they inward light impart, Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, radiance divine; Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

† INVITATION TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Light, in this season of sales, shopping, and stress, we admit how easy it is to stray from Your path. We can become so focused on having a good time that we forget to do good for Your people. We slip easily into Santa suits but find Jesus Christ an awkward fit for our lives. We are strangely jealous of the gifts others receive, yet struggle to accept Your gifts of peace and serenity, which You give so freely. Forgive us. By Your mercy, help us to notice the signs of Your grace and hope present in our lives.

† ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† HYMN 579

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Bob & Tobey Cleek

ADVENT SONG

*With Empty Hearts, We Wait*

Frombach and Dengler

With empty hearts the world awaits the Promised One from heav'n above. O come! O come!  
The One who floods our empty hearts with endless peace and lasting love. O come! O come!  
**Come, O come, Immanuel into this broken world.**  
**Come free us as God once did, His captive people, Israel.**  
**For we are captive to our sins and long to be set free.**  
**Come, O come, Immanuel. Live in our hearts eternally.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 22:16-17

Pew Bible p. 1077  
Large Print p. 1893

SERMON

When Christmas Isn't Christmas

ANTHEM

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

arr. Chad Fothergill

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, comes full homage to demand.  
King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.  
Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way;  
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
Comes the power of hell to vanquish, as the darkness clears away.  
At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

[GIVE ONLINE](#)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## † PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## 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.

## † HYMN 309

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

## DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

O ye heights of heaven adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

## † BENEDICTION

## † SENDING SONG

*Prepare the Way*

## BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the way, O Zion, Your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley A level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, Foretold in sacred story.  
O blest is Christ that came, In God's most holy name.

*You are encouraged to sit and enjoy the postlude after the sending song.*

## POSTLUDE

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

## VENI EMMANUEL

The chancel flowers today were given to the glory of God and in celebration of Doreen Jameson's 100th birthday.

We thank Jacob Furlow, Martha Giarratano, Valera Messer, and Dorothy Moorefield  
for sharing their gift of music in worship today.

Please use the **CONNECT** cards in the pews to let us know about prayer requests or areas of interest. If you are a visitor, please also include your contact information and help us get to know you better! You can place completed cards in the offering baskets. The **NURSERY** is located near the sanctuary and is available for children ages 0-4. Children's activity bulletins and **LARGE PRINT** bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals are available on the sanctuary tables.

Join us for **DOREEN JAMESON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY** celebration TODAY in the parlor immediately following worship.

St. Andrew's **ANGEL TREES** sponsor gifts for children through Some Other Place and for residents of Harmony Care. Wrapped gifts should be returned TODAY.

If you would like to order Christmas flowers in honor or memory of loved ones, **POINSETTIA ORDER** forms can be found in the church office and online. The deadline for orders is December 11. Flowers are \$15 each.

The **GOLDEN TRIANGLE HANDBELL ENSEMBLE** Winter Concert will be on December 14, at 7PM, in the sanctuary.

We will collect the **CHRISTMAS JOY** special offering on Sunday, December 21. This offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and also goes to the Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.

## St. Andrew's Prayer List

**MEMBERS:** Bill Yoes, John Pember, Pat Richard, Suzy Buehrle, Linda Sparkman, Bobbie Weid, Bob Fisher, Barbara Abel, Dalton Abel

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Elizabeth Bickford, Suzanne, Knox, Bruce Williams, Jean and Ron Williamson, Quinn Long, David Fertitta, George Busceme, Charlie Monaghan, Judy Monaghan, Shirley Owens, Florence Brandshaw, Rachel Edwards, Haywood Walker, Pamela Humphrey, Janet Dexter, Alison Berry Low, Tenisha Humphrey, Jacob Walton, Madeline Johnson, Mary Kennedy, Jack Dillard, Erin Lenhart, Janie N. Verderame

## St. Andrew's Calendar

### Sunday, December 7, 2025

9:15AM Sunday School  
10:30AM Worship  
11:30AM Doreen's 100th  
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal  
1:30PM Worship Staff  
3:00PM Boy Scouts  
4:30PM Youth Group

### Monday, December 8, 2025

12:00PM Rainbow Room  
5:00PM Day School Board  
5:30PM Strings After School  
6:00PM GT Square Dancers

### Tuesday, December 9, 2025

5:30PM Strings After School  
5:30PM Finance & Property Team  
6:00PM GTHE Rehearsal

### Wednesday, December 10, 2025

9:30AM Day School Chapel  
5:30PM AA Group Meeting  
5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal  
6:30PM Worship Team

### Thursday, December 11, 2025

8:30AM MOW Cooks  
10:00AM MOW Delivers  
6:00PM GTHE Rehearsal

### Saturday, December 13, 2024

8:30AM SETX Food Bank

### Sunday, December 14, 2025

9:15AM Sunday School  
10:30AM Worship  
11:30AM Christmas Luncheon  
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal  
3:00PM Boy Scouts  
4:30PM Youth Christmas Party  
7:00PM GTHE Concert

### CHURCH STAFF

Tara Thompson, Pastor  
Thomas Furlow, Music Director  
Tori Armstrong, Day School Director  
Rachel Stiles, Organist  
Joyce Stillwell, Admin Assistant  
Katrina Strong, Custodian  
Patricia Williamson, Accompanist

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30AM - 4:30PM  
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