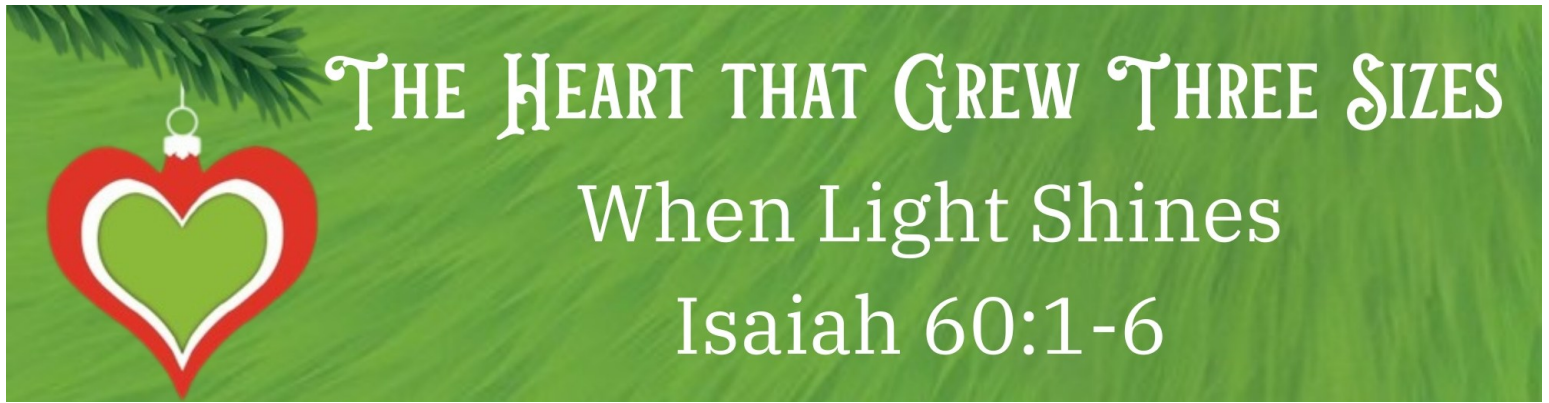


ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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

† Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.

December 14, 2025

Third 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.*)

Holy God, as we gather today, confirm our resolve to worship You and strengthen our hands to serve Your people, through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Noëls, Op.32

by Marcel Tournier

LIFE AT ST. ANDREW'S

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Isaiah 60:1-6

One: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

Many: Darkness has been banished!

One: God's light of hope floods the earth.

Many: God's light comes to us all.

All: Let us prepare our hearts to receive this Light.

† **HYMN INSERT**

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

REJOICE, REJOICE

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.

Sing out your joy, for soon He is born, behold!

The Child of our longing, Come as a baby weak and poor,

To bring all hearts together, He opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever.

To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes asinging;
His humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing;
Music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving kindness.
The thunder of His anthems rolls to shatter all hatred and violence.

In darkest night His coming shall be, when all the world is despairing,
As morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.

Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder,
The weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night. Though dark the winder and cheerless,
The rising sun shall crown you with light; be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story;
May God fill every day we share and bring us at last into glory.

† INVITATION TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that sometimes it's easier to stay in the shadows, where things can stay hidden, where people can't see our cracks and flaws. We confess that we have at times brought darkness into the world through our anger, selfishness, and violence. We confess that we are sometimes skeptical of light and find it easier to trust its absence. Cast Your light on our darkness and forgive us, God of love.

† 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

James and Georgia Wright

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

Children are invited to meet at the courtyard doors for Children's Church in Room 304.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Magnificat, III. Quia Respexit

by J.S. BACH

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae,
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

Translation:

For He has regarded the lowliness of His maidservant;
For behold, from henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible p. 640
Large Print p. 1120

† HYMN INSERT

Blessed Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free, who visits and redeems us, And grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Now for the house of David a child of grace is given; a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before Him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
To guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

[GIVE ONLINE](#)

† HYMN 592

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

† HYMN 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI 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!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer, Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's day shadows put to fight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind, All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel!

† 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.

POSTLUDE

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

The chancel flowers today were given to the glory of God and in memory of her mother, Joel Martin, by Martha Pate.

We thank Lauren Sanchez and Mason Hendrix 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.

The **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON** is TODAY following worship. Join us for chicken enchilada soup, tamales, chips and dips. After the luncheon, we will celebrate Jesus' birthday with games and cupcake decorating.

The **YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY** is TODAY, from 4:30-6PM. Join us for food, games, and fellowship! Wear your ugly sweater and bring a \$10 gift to exchange.

The **GOLDEN TRIANGLE HANDBELL ENSEMBLE** Winter Concert is TONIGHT, at 7PM, in the sanctuary.

Join us for **WORSHIP** on December 21. The children of the church and day school will lead the anthem.

The **CHURCH OFFICE WILL CLOSE** at 12:30PM on December 24 and be **CLOSED** on Thursday, December 25.

Join us on **CHRISTMAS EVE** at 6:30PM for a candlelight service, as we celebrate Christ's birth with choir, orchestra, and a special time for children.

St. Andrew's Prayer List

MEMBERS: Julie Odle, Karen Spivey, Pat Richard, Suzy Buehrle, Bobbie Weid, Bob Fisher, Barbara and Dalton Abel

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

St. Andrew's Calendar

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

Monday, December 15, 2025

- 5:30PM Strings After School
- 6:00PM GT Square Dancers

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

- 5:30PM Strings After School
- 6:30PM Session Meeting

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

- 9:30AM Day School Chapel
- 5:30PM AA Group Meeting
- 5:30PM Trustees
- 6:30PM Personnel Meeting

Thursday, December 18, 2025

- 8:30AM MOW Cooks
- 10:00AM MOW Delivers
- 11:00AM Day School Christmas
- 5:30PM AA Group Meeting

Friday, December 19, 2025

OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, December 21, 2025

- 9:15AM Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship
- 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal
- 12:00PM Deacons Meeting
- 3:00PM Choir Rehearsal
- 3:00PM Boy Scouts

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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 409.892.8611 ✖ www.saintandy.org