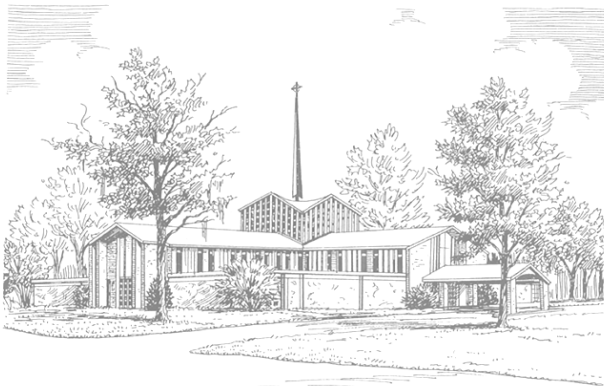


ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



December 19, 2021

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.

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

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

† Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.

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

Almighty God, grant us the wisdom that comes from waiting, and teach us the patience that leads to godliness as our Savior draws near. Amen.

PRELUDE

LIFE AT ST. ANDREW'S

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Michael, Ashley, Annabella, Julianna,
Georgiana, and Michaela Dockens

ADVENT SONG

1. Kin - dle this flame of hope. May it burn bright and true.
Light - ing the way that is of God, the jour - ney we pur - sue.

WORDS: Gary L. Lake Dillensnyder, 2009

MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1988

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TRENTHAM
SM

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: May the Lord make His holy face to shine upon us in this time of Advent worship.

All: With preparation and in expectation, let us worship the Lord.

O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright?
 Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight!
 O kindle, Lord most holy, A lamp within my breast,
 To do in spirit lowly, All that may please You best.

Love caused Your incarnation, Love brought You down to me;
 Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.
 O love beyond all telling, That led You to embrace
 In love, all loves excelling Our lost and fallen race.

A glorious crown You give me, A treasure safe on high,
 That will not fail nor leave me As earthly riches fly.
 My heart shall bloom forever For You with praises new,
 And from Your name shall never Withhold the honor due.

† INVITATION TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Light, in this season of sales, shopping, and stress, we confess how easy it is to slip off Your paths. We can become so focused on having good times, we forget to take the time to do good for Your people. We slip easily into Santa suits but find Jesus Christ an uncomfortable fit for our lives. We find ourselves strangely jealous over the gifts others receive, yet have trouble accepting the gifts of love and peace You hand out so freely. Forgive us, and by Your mercy, keep us watchful for the signs of Your grace and hope in our midst. May our lives be marked by faith active in love as we watch and wait for Your breaking into our world once more.

† ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Glory be to God!

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

TIME FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM READING

Psalm 96

This is the Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Breath of Heaven

GRANT

I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside.
 And I wonder what I've done, Holy Father You have come, And chosen me now to carry Your Son.

I am waiting in a silent prayer, I am frightened by the load I bear
 In a world as cold as stone must I walk this path alone? Be with me now.

Breath of heaven, hold me together, Be forever near me breath of heaven.
 Lighten my darkness, pour over me Your holiness,
 For You are holy, breath of heaven.

Do You wonder as You watch my face, if a wiser one should have had my place,
 But I offer all I am, for the mercy of Your plan. Help me be strong.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 3:10-14

Pew Bible OT Pg. 188-189

SERMON

Forgotten Tree

Rev. Tara R. Thompson

† HYMN INSERT

At The Cross

HUDSON

Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned upon the tree?
 Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Refrain:

At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light, And the burden of my heart rolled away.
 It was there by faith I received my sight, and now I am happy all the day!

Thus might I hide my blushing face While Calv'ry's cross appears,
 Dissolve my heart in thankfulness And melt mine eyes to tears. [Refrain]

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe.
 Here, Lord, I give myself away 'tis all that I can do. [Refrain] [Refrain]

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

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 INSERT

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

ENGLISH CAROL

God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray.

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name. [Refrain]

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour, Of a pure Virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him From Satan's power and might." [Refrain]

Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface. [Refrain]

† BENEDICTION

† SENDING SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, o come, Thou Dayspring come, and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee O Israel.

POSTLUDE

We thank our soloist, Sarah Scott, for sharing her gift of music with us today.

The Session believes the best approach to assuring everyone's continued well-being is to encourage face masks on entering, exiting, and moving about. The middle transept is open seating, yet the north and south transepts are still roped to allow for physical distancing if preferred. ***Thanks to each of you for your cooperation.***

The following are our current safety guidelines for group gatherings:

- During the Passing of the Peace, remain in place and greet those around you.
- Kitchen: 6 to 8 people at a time. Masks and gloves to be worn. Disinfect all surfaces before leaving. Use disposable cups, plates, and utensils.
- Fellowship Hall: Maximum 12 tables with 6 chairs. Servers to wear gloves. Stage area 3 tables with 6 chairs if needed. Overflow in the breezeway areas.
- Parlor: Maximum 4 tables with 6 chairs.
- Outside food and drink: No buffet or family style. Individual servings or served by gloved volunteers.
- Overall: Hand sanitizer must be provided for all gatherings.

Please use the **C O N N E C T** cards in the pews to communicate with us about areas of interest, prayer requests, and volunteer opportunities. If you are a **VISITOR**, please include your address, telephone number, email address and other information that will help us to get to know you better. Completed cards can be placed in the offering baskets.

The **CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Nelson Jones by Barbara & Michael Warren.

TODAY we are collecting the **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**, one of four special offerings of the PCUSA.

There will be a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS** party and dinner on TONIGHT at 5pm in the fellowship hall for children, youth, and families.

We offer **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** for all ages at 9:15am.

Discovery Class for adults meets in the Library. They are studying *While We Wait*.

Pew Sisters is for adult women. They meet in room 2 and are studying *While We Wait*.

Fellowship Class is for adults. They meet in room 3 and are studying *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*.

Grace & Men's Class is for adults. They meet in the Study and are studying *The Present Word*.

Youth Class is for 6th-12th grades. They meet in the Youth Center and are studying *Echo the Story*.

Children's Class is for PreK-5th grades. They meet in Journey Room 304 and are studying *Dig In: Bible in One Year*.

MONDAY MORNING GROUP is studying the Book of Acts. Join us tomorrow at 10am in the Parlor.



Members: Bobbie Wied, Joyce Head, Sara Hope Burnside, Julie Odle, Betty Haisten, Susie Champion, Susie Feagin, Esmee Foster, Ruth Jurik, Bill McIlrath, Murray Anderson, Kay Sutton, Barbara & Dalton Abel, Bob Fisher, Mackia & Katrina.

Friends and Family: Gordon Pate, Mary Ellen Myers, Chris Leblanc, Logan Hoy, Jack Tarpy, Sterling Smith, Jerry Linn, Bernice Plunkett, Carol Vasil, Thomas Fisher, June Helderbran, Melony Roffler, Darrell Lowe, Della & Mark Phillips, Karen Butler, Gary Dry, George Brown, Erin Lenhart, Mary Kennedy, Billie & Brett Taylor, Rev. Wayne Rhodes, Janie Verderame, Rachel Lawrence, Jill Botkin, Cindy Woodland.



We extend our love, sympathy, and prayers to the family of Bob Gazaway, who was called home to the Church Triumphant on December 13, 2021.

St. Andrew's Calendar

Sunday, Dec 19, 2021

- 9:15AM Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship
- 3:00PM Choir Rehearsal
- 3:00PM Boy Scouts Troop 221
- 5:00PM Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Monday, Dec 20, 2021

- 10:00AM Monday Morning Group
- 6:30PM There's A Solution/AA
- 6:30PM La Hacienda Alumni

Thursday, Dec 23, 2021

- 8:30AM MOW Cooks
- 10:00AM MOW Delivers
- 10:00AM Prayer Team
- 12:30PM Office Closes
- 5:00PM Christmas Eve Rehearsal

Friday, Dec 24, 2021

- OFFICE CLOSED
- 6:30PM Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, Dec 26, 2021

- 9:15AM Sunday School
- 10:30AM Worship



**ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
1350 N. 23rd Street ☆ Beaumont, TX 77706
Ph: (409) 892-8611 ☆ www.saintandy.org

Senior Pastor.....Tara R. Thompson
Office Administrator.....Melissa Hoyt
Office Hours are Monday - Thursday

Day School Director.....Deanna Weitzel
Music Director.....Thomas Furlow
Accompanist/Pianist.....Rachel Clark
8:30AM to 4:30PM