



The Birth of Jesus

St. Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

In those days, a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region, there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made



The Christmas Pageant

10:30a.m.

Prelude

In Thee is Gladness

Processional Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

107

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath open'd heaven's door, and we are blessed for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all, To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Opening Sentences:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Response:

And blessed be his kingdom now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Purity and Bidding Prayer

Announcements:

Offertory Doxology

Love Came Down at Christmas

*Choir
Hymnal 380 v3*

Hymn

What Child Is This V. 3

Hymnal 115

The Pageant is the story of the Nativity.

St. Andrew
Brotherhood
Shepherd in
December
construction
space, kitchen
capital campaign
Center, Corner
added. The
worship space
the renovation



Reflection and Benediction

Recessional Hymn: 87

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heav'n adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord.
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the Incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with us to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain

Postlude:

Joy, Joy, Joy!



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“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn 79

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.

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

“Away in a Manger”

Hymn 101

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,



“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Hymn 83 vv 1-3, 6

(Please stand)

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
born the King of angels;

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

God from God, Light from Light
eternal, Lo! He abhors not
the Virgin’s womb;
Only begotten Son of the Father;
Refrain

Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above;
Glory to God glory in the highest;
Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus to thee be glory giv’n
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
Refrain



“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Congregation

We th
Bearin
Field and f
Fo

Congregation

Refrain: O
Star w
Westwar
Guide

Choir:

Born a K
Gold I
King
Over

Choir:

Frank
Ince

Prayer a
Worship h

Choir:

Myrrh

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us!

We have two different regular worship services on Sunday, both of which include Holy Communion. Holy Communion is a sacrament using bread and wine. It reminds us of Jesus, His teachings, His sacrifice on the Cross, and His continued presence in this church. A few more things about Holy Communion.

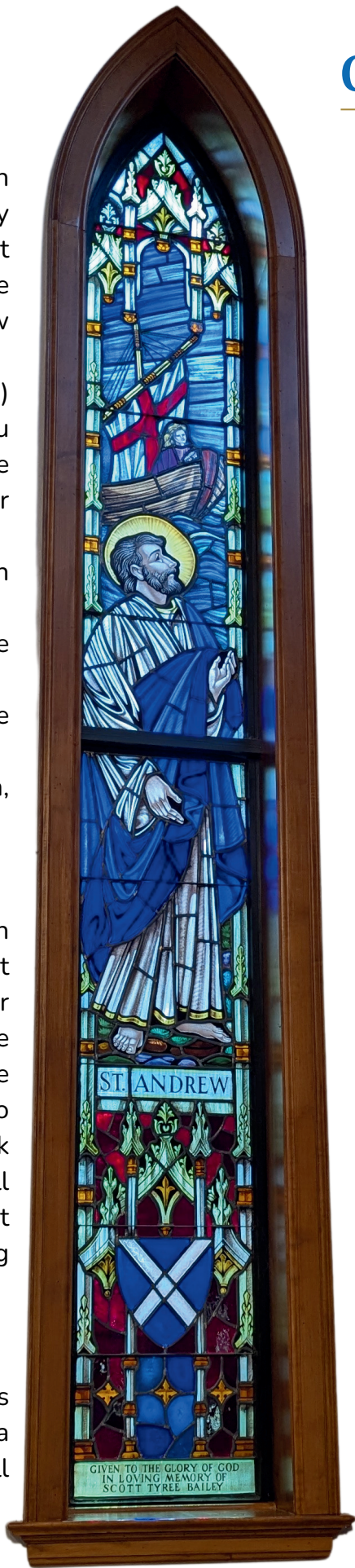
- All baptized people (regardless of Christian Tradition) are invited to receive Communion with us. If you prefer, you can come forward for a blessing. When the minister comes to you, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your preference
- If you don't want to come forward feel free to stay in your seat.
- If you have a gluten sensitivity, Gluten free wafers are available on request.
- If you have mobility concerns tell an usher and we would be happy to bring Communion to you.
- For more info on the basics of the Episcopal church, check out our "Priest Me" podcast on YouTube.

8 AM Rite I

Our 8 am service is smaller and more contemplative than our 10:30. Most Sundays, it is spoken (without music). It uses traditional (Old English) language throughout. For those new to this form of worship, it can take some getting used to, but it is also special to pray in the language of Shakespeare. For the service, you will need to use the *Book of Common Prayer*, which is the black book in your pews with the cross on the front. The priest will call out page numbers as we go. We also provide a sheet with today's readings, which will be helpful for praying the psalm and following today's teaching

10:30 AM Rite II

This is our principal (largest) service on Sunday. It includes music and singing in addition to prayer. We offer a "Sunday Booklet" to help you follow this service. You will also need the blue "1982 Hymnal" found in the pew.



Other Regular Offerings

Children's Chapel/Sunday School/Nursery

Children are always welcome in worship at St. Andrew's! To support our families, we do offer **nursery care** (0-PreK), and **Children's Chapel** (Elementary Age) during the 10:30 service. Ask an usher, and they will tell you where to drop off your kids prior to the service. Your children will join you for Communion.

Youth Ministries and Acolyting

We love to see our youth grow in service and fellowship with us. There is an active youth group. Indicate your interest on the Connection Card and we would love to reach out to you with more Info. Also, children and youth often participate in our Sunday Worship by serving as acolytes (Those in red robes with a white top). If you are interested in learning more ask Rev. Les or any member of the Vestry (church board)

Adult Sunday School

Meets at 9:15am in the Rector's Study. It is a lovely and informal Bible study. Join Us!

Healing Service Wednesdays 10:30 AM

Each Wednesday, we offer an additional prayer service. This includes the option of Unction (prayers with anointing of Healing Oil). This is an ancient and beautiful practice in Christianity.

Getting Involved

We have so many active ministries, it can be difficult to know where to start. If you want to get more involved here, but aren't sure how to start, fill out one of the **connection cards** in your pew. We will follow up and make sure that you find a meaningful way to start. The Connection card is a way to make sure we have your correct contact info and you are getting the news you want.

Prayers and Celebrations

Prayers Requested

For the Sick and Those in Need:			For those serving in our Armed Forces:		
Catherine	Phyllis	Dan	Sean	Fletcher	James
Lisa	Jeff	Alva	Veronica	Will	Thomas
Chris	Marvena	Dana	Jericca	Rodney	Austin
Jinx	Caroline	Marissa	Matt	Jonathan	Landon M.
Wayland	Dan		Eric	Adam	
Teresa	Ben		All Veterans		
Zanetta	Jan				
George	Barbara				
Pris	Joan				

For the Deceased: Barbara Love-Lisitza

On for Next Sunday? (check it out here)

8 AM

10:30 AM

LAY: George Earp

LAY: Pete Roy

LEM: Ramona Orzell

LEM: Forrest Mericle

Sandy Suggs

Food Pantry

Acolytes: The Mericles

Elizabeth Mosley

Ushers: Angela Reid and Tom Jenkins

Tim and Kaye Dowd

Vestry Greeters: Lori Joyner

Leslie Hall



Altar Greenery today
are given to the **Glory of God**
by **Ashley and Maria Newcomb**
in honor of **Landon's 16th birthday**



Announcements

Advent Schedule

December 14th

8am Rite I service

10:30am Christmas Pageant

December 21st

8am Rite I service

10:30am Lessons and Carols

December 24th

4:00pm Pre-Service Music

4:30pm Christmas Eve Service

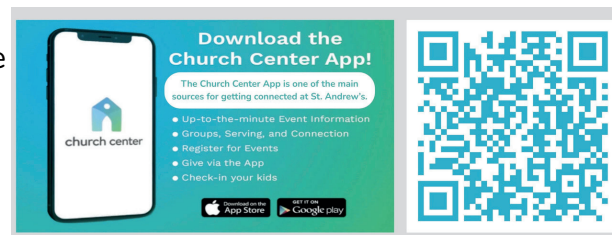
December 29th

8am Rite I service

10:30am Rite II service

*Christmas Eve Pre-Service Music

At 4 pm a preparation worship offering will begin through special music by soloist and instrumentalist for quiet reflection, and prayer. Entrance into the sanctuary is to be silent to hear God's voice for you personally and collectively, to celebrate in awe the coming of God's Only Son, Jesus, the Christ.



Liberation's Playbook: A workshop on the letter to the Romans

**Saturday, December 27th
9:30-11:30 am**

Do you ever find yourself confused or frustrated by the current times? Does the political news haunt you? Do you find yourself skipping immediately from headline to hate? Or are you baffled by the division in our country and community?

If any of these things is true, then you have a lot in common with the Christians of the first century.

Join Reverend Les as we explore the Bible's ancient and practical wisdom on how to be both a faithful Christian and an engaged citizen at the same time.

Please register in the church app.

Food Pantry Packing

Join us in the Parish hall after the Pageant to pack bags for our Food Pantry

Vestry and Convention Reps

Are you interested in running for our vestry or our Convention Representative to the diocese? Do you know someone else you would like to nominate? If so please contact Rev. Les before Christmas.

Lessons and Carols Readers

Dec. 14th at 10:30am

Please let the office know if you would like to read a lesson. We still need 5 readers.

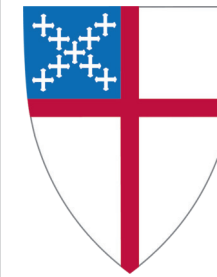
Christmas Flowers

Remember or honor a loved one with Christmas flowers to bring added beauty to our worship space this Christmas. We are asking a donation of \$25 for the flowers. Please email the office the name of your loved one(s) exactly how you would like it printed. **Last day to submit names will be Wed., December 17th.**



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standrewsrmt.org

301 South Circle Drive,
Rocky Mount, NC 27804



St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

3 Advent
12.14.25



**Believe
Become
Belong**

**Led by the Spirit, we
lovingly serve God through
worship, fellowship, spiritual
growth, and ministry.**

"Pageant"

Title for Today's Homily
Preacher: Rev. Les Carpenter