

St. Andrew's

Episcopal Church



Christmas Worship Booklet

December 24, 2025 - 4:30pm

Are You New or Visiting?

We are SO glad you are here!

St. Andrew's is a warm community just waiting to love you. If you like, you will definitely find good friends here.

- This booklet is designed to help you fully join us in our worship experience. If it feels like a lot of words to follow, don't worry. Let go, and listen. It is perfectly OK to let us wash you with our prayers.
- Please fill out one of our **connection cards** (or use this QR Code) so we can let you know how happy we are to meet you.
- More info about the church and what we are up to can be found in the insert to this booklet.



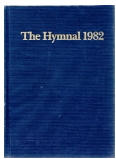
The Word of God

Please enter the church in silence.

Pre-Service Music/Prelude:

In thee is Gladness	Organ
Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem	Organ
Siciliana in Sonata No. 1 in G Minor, J.S. Bach	Violin, Chris Ellis
Who Would Send a Baby	Solo: Kennedy Miller
Sweet Little Jesus Boy	Solo: Kimla Brant
How Beautiful are the Feet (Messiah)	Solo: Kennedy Miller
The Birthday of the King	Duet: Hannah Reece and Kennedy Miller

Before the worship begins, the priest greets the people and introduces the first hymn. The people stand, as able, to sing.

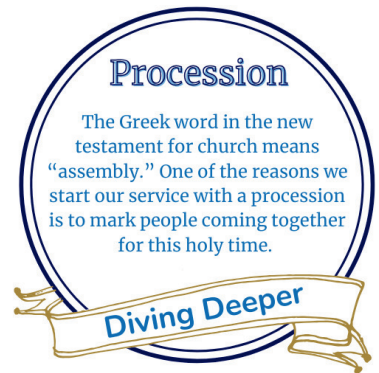


Hymnal #83

O Come all Ye Faithful

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.



Collect (Prayer) for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Hymnal S-236

The Collect (Prayer) of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The people are seated for the lessons.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 96

Psalm is read/prayed in unison.

1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *

proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

3 Declare his glory among the nations *

and his wonders among all peoples.

4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

he is more to be feared than all gods.

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *

but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.

9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

The Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

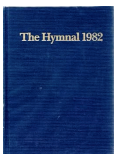
A Reading from Titus

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able

Hark the Herald Angels Sing



Hymn 87

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-14, 15-20

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Rev. Les Carpenter

Preacher prays then all sit

The Nicene Creed

All stand as able and say the creed in unison.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People Form IV

All kneel as able

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. (Especially our sick and suffering _____, and those who serve in the armed forces especially_____).

Silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died (Especially ____),
that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

(Deacon) We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Celebrant) Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

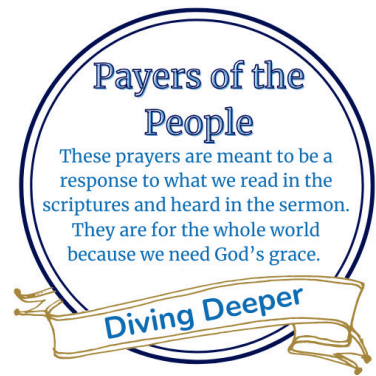
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The people greet one another and offer their blessings of peace.

Welcome and Announcements

The congregation sits as directed and announcements are shared. If you are new, this is a great time to fill out your Connection Card. There should be a paper one in your pew or you can use the QR code on the front page.

If you want to give electronically to our church the best way is to download the church's app (see last page) or you can make a one time gift through the QR code here.



The Word of God

Offertory Music

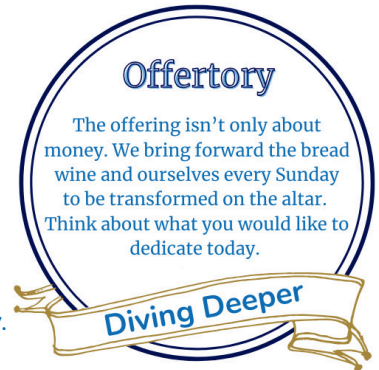
Offertory Music

The Shepherd's Creche

Handbell Ringers: Helen Galligan and Tim Knapp

Violin: Chris Ellis

Xylophone: Christopher Pons



After which the people stand and sing the Doxology.



Hymn 380 v 3

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 367)

All stand as able

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

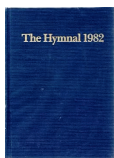
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Hymnal #S-128 "Sanctus"

The people kneel or stand

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Andrew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those

who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.



The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people sit

Ministers come forward to receive communion before sharing it. The congregation follows as directed by the
ushers.

Distribution of Communion Hymn:

O Holy Night

Quartet

Soloist: Marie Inscore

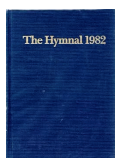
Soprano: Hannah Reece

Alto: Kennedy Miller

Tenor: Kimla Brandt

Lighting of the Candles

Kneeling Hymn 111 Silent Night



Post Communion Prayer

The people kneel as able

Let us pray,

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your
Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his
Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Hymnal #100

Joy to the World

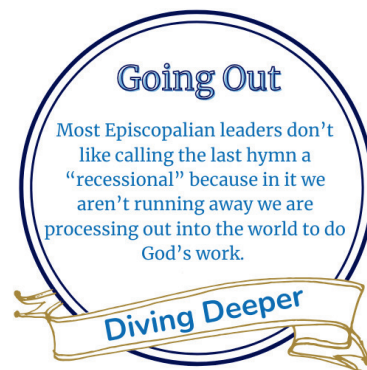
Dismissal

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Postlude

Good Christian Men Rejoice



We welcome the following musicians:

Chris Ellis, Violin

William Alston, Trumpet

Hellen Galligan and Tim Knapp, Handbells

Christopher Pons, Xylophone

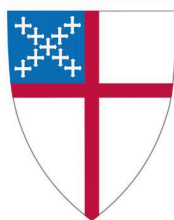
Special Participants:

Kimla Brandt

Kennedy Miller

Marie Inscore

Hannah Reece



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



Flowers are Given to the Glory of God in Honor and Memory Of:

Jennifer Ann Brumble

Kyle Bullock, Sr.

Gordon Coggins

Odell Coggins

Steve Coggins

Phillip Combs

John Dias

Mary Dias

Dutch Dunton

Jim Gardner

Marie Gardner

Addie Marie Howard

Richard C. Jewell

Margaret Knapp

Michael Knapp

Thomas Knapp

William R. Lewsnewski

Elizabeth Marsh

Dennis Modlin

Marlene Modlin

Ray Modlin

Sam Modlin

Henry Morriss

Mary Laura Morriss

Gladys Mucci

Lawrence Mucci

Mary F. Munsey

Delores J. Newcomb

Anne Marie Noble

Bob Noble

Anna Orzell

Stephen A. Orzell

Stephen J. Orzell

Mary Lib Pitt

Theo Pitt

MH Pridgen

Gwendolyn Reid

Irma Reid

Percy Reid

Jim Royal

Novell Royal

Virginia Royal

Charlotte Stockwell

Larry Stockwell

Richard Stockwell

Tyler Strandberg

Mary D.B. Tanner

Robert Walton

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.

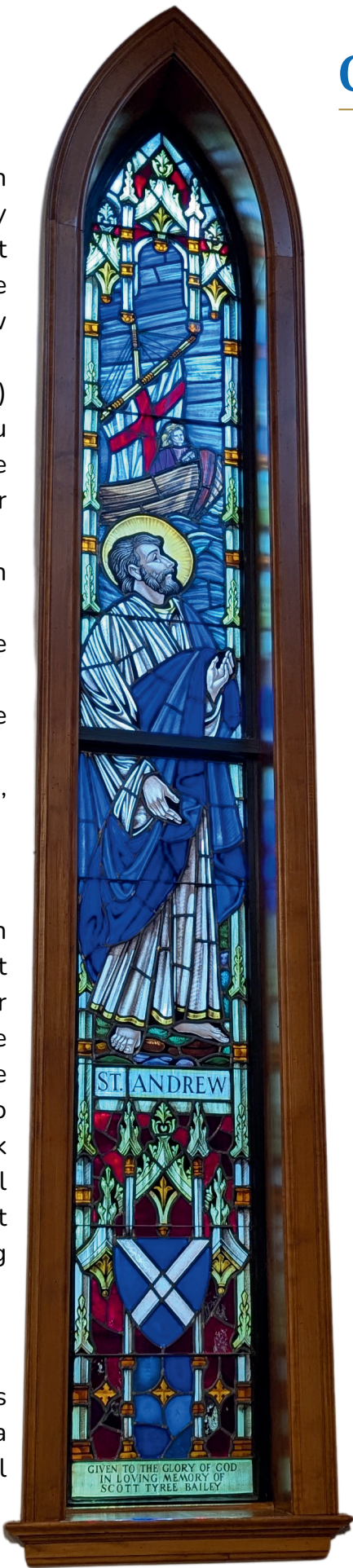
- All baptized people (regardless of Christian Tradition) are invited to receive Communion with us. If you prefer, you can come forward for a blessing. When the minister comes to you, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your preference
- If you don't want to come forward feel free to stay in 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	Pat	Eric	Adam	
Teresa	Ben		All Veterans		
Zanetta	Jan				
George	Barbara				
Pris	Joan				

For the Deceased:

On for Sunday? (check it out here)

8 AM

LAY: Dick Arnow

LEM: Ramona Orzell

10:30 AM

LAY: Terry Shackleford

LEM: Brad Earle

Lisa Stone

Food Pantry

Elizabeth Mosley

Tim and Kaye Dowd

Acolytes: Walker Wells and Jack Lea

Ushers: Billy Suggs and Steve Thurkill

Vestry Greeters: Lori Joyner

Leslie Hall



Altar Flowers today

are given to the Glory of God
by Patsy Ferebee

In Thanksgiving for her St. Andrew's Family



Announcements

Mark Your Calendars!

Epiphany Service

Jan 6, 2026 at 6:30pm

Church of the Good Shepherd

Come join our friends at Good Shepherd for an Epiphany Service. Rev. Les will be preaching.

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, Jan 11th at 9:00am in the Parish Hall

Breakfast provided by the Men's Club

Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Supper

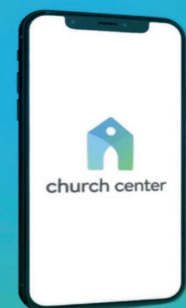
Feb 17th at 6pm in the Parish Hall

Our friends from Good Shepherd have been invited and it will be a fun party!

Ash Wednesday

Feb 18th

Services at 7am, 10:30am, and 7pm



Download the Church Center App!

The Church Center App is one of the main sources for getting connected at St. Andrew's.

- Up-to-the-minute Event Information
- Groups, Serving, and Connection
- Register for Events
- Give via the App
- Check-in your kids

Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google play



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.

Church Office Closed

Dec 24th-Jan 4th

Healing Service Canceled January 3rd.

Discipleship: A Conversation with the Diocese.

February 14 11:am-12:30pm

We will pray, share a meal, get to know one another and explore a question at the heart of our collective ministry: What is a disciple? Please register on the app.

Altar Guild Invitation

We are looking for new members. The Altar Guild prepares all things necessary for the celebration of the Eucharist and any other services of our church. Please join us by contacting the church office. Thank you, Sissy and Dotsy.

RISE Against Hunger

Saturday, Feb 7th

10am-12pm

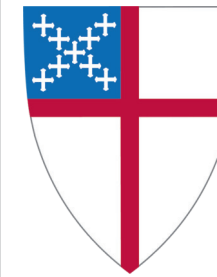
Church of the Good Shepherd

Join us in packaging over 15,000 meals. Register on the app.



252-443-2070
standrewsrmt.org

301 South Circle Drive,
Rocky Mount, NC 27804



St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

Christmas Eve
12.24.25



Believe
Become
Belong

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

"Merry Christmas"

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