



## Sunday Worship Booklet

December 28, 2025 - 10:30am

1 Christmas

## Are You New?

We are <u>**SO**</u> glad you are here!

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

Prelude

Carol Medley

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



Hymnal #100

Joy To the World

### **Opening Acclamation**

The Greek word in the new testament for church means

"assembly." One of the reasons we start our service with a procession is to mark people coming together for this holy time.

Diving Deeper

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.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

The people are seated for the lessons.

#### The First Lesson: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

#### Psalm 147

Psalm is read/prayed in unison.

1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! \* how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \* he gathers the exiles of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted \* and binds up their wounds.

4 He counts the number of the stars \* and calls them all by their names.

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \* there is no limit to his wisdom.

6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \* but casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \* make music to our God upon the harp.

8 He covers the heavens with clouds \* and prepares rain for the earth;

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \* and green plants to serve mankind.

10 He provides food for flocks and herds \* and for the young ravens when they cry.

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \* he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \* in those who await his gracious favor.]

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \* praise your God, O Zion;

#### The Second Lesson: Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

A Reading from Galatians

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.

**Hymn 115** 

Please stand as able What Child is This?



The Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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.

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;

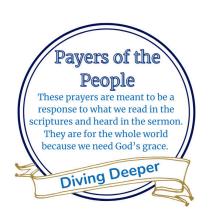
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

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

Silence

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.



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** 

\*Lyrics on the next page

Who Would Send a Baby



Who would send a baby to heal the world in pain?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is crying for the Promised One,

Who would send His only Son?

Who would send a baby to light a world with love?

When the world is hoping for the Promised One?

Who would send His only Son?

Who would choose a manager to cradle a King?

Who would send angels to sing?

Who would hang a star in the sky above to shine

on the gift of His infinite love?

Who would send a baby to bless a world with peace?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is yearning for the Promised One?

Who would send a baby? Who would send a baby?

Who would send His only begotten Son?

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:

# The Hymnal 1982

#### 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.

### **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 #98

Go Tell It on the Mountain

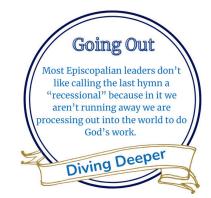
#### **Dismissal**

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Postlude

In Thee is Gladness







## 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
- 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 todays 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.



#### 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 Involed**

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:

Catherine Phyllis Lisa Alva Jeff **Chris** Marvena Dana Caroline Marissa Jinx Dan Wavland Pat <u>Teresa</u> Ben

Jan Zanetta George Barbara Pris Joan

For those serving in our **Armed Forces:** 

Sean **Fletcher** James Veronica Will **Thomas** Rodney Austin Jericca Matt Jonathan Landon M. Eric Adam

**All Veterans** 

For the Deceased:

## On for Next Sunday? (check it out here)

8 AM

10:30 AM

**LAY:** Virgil Evans **LAY:** Paul Stone **LEM:** Brian Westcott **LEM:** Lisa Stone Sarah Dial

**Food Pantry** 

Lynn Ives

Terry Noble Martha Lamm **Acolytes:** Walker Wells and Jack Lea

**Ushers:** Dan Melnyk and Don Mucci Vestry Greeters: Nancy Knapp

**TBD** 



## **Altar Greenery today**

are given to the Glory of God by Martha and Marshall Gallop In thanksgiving for their children and grandchildren



#### 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 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Parish Hall
Breakfast provided by the Men's Club

## Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Supper Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 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





# Church Office Closed Dec 24-January 4th.

Office will reopen on Monday, Jan. 5th.

## "Wings of Love" Ministry

On Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> bags will go out in support of My Sister's House. Bags will return on Jan. 18th.



## RISE Against Hunger Saturday, Feb 7th 10am-12pm Church of the Good Shepherd

Join us in packaging over 15,000 meals to support nutrition, education, and health for children and families facing hunger right now around the world. Register online or on the app.

252-443-2070 standrewsrmt.org

## Healing Service Canceled on 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.



301 South Circle Drive, Rocky Mount, NC 27804



1 Christmas 12.28.25





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

"Word"

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