

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

Sunday Worship Booklet

January 4, 2026 - 10:30am

2 Christmas

Are You New?

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.

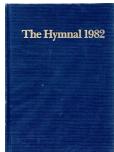


The Word of God

Prelude

Morning has Broken

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



Hymnal #154

All Glory Laud and Honor v. 1-3

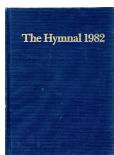
Opening Acclamation

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

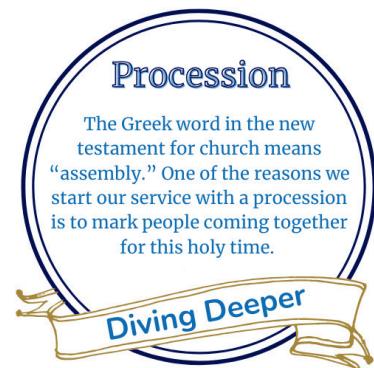
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated for the lessons.



The First Lesson: Jeremiah 37:7-14

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 84

Psalm is read/prayed in unison.

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

[9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!]

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:3-6

A Reading from Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

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;

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.

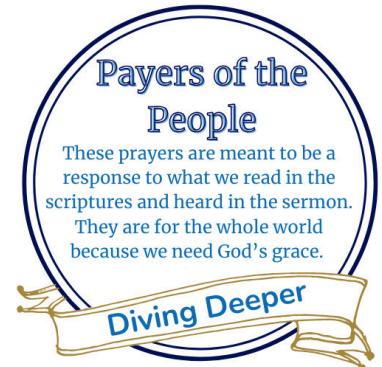
Silence

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.



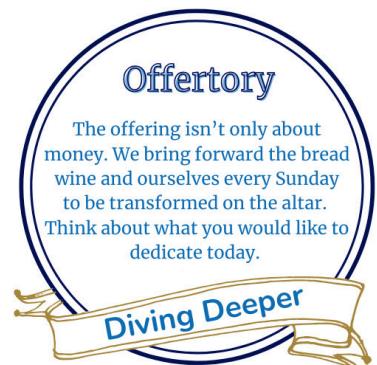
The Word of God

Offertory Music

Offertory Music

*Lyrics on the next page

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

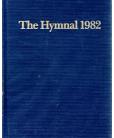


Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now you hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest forever more.
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 is 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!

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.

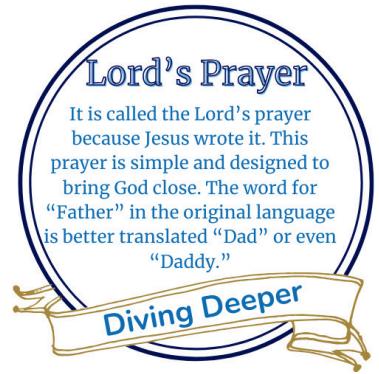
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.

Post Communion Prayer

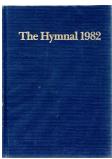
The people kneel as able

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 #94

While Shepherds Watched Their Flock by Night v. 1-3

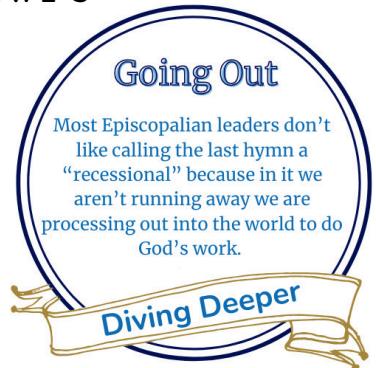
Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Postlude

Christmas Postlude





**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



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:

Catherine Phyllis Dan
Lisa Jeff Alva
Chris Marvena Dana
Jinx Caroline Marissa
Wayland Dan Pat
Teresa Ben
Zanetta Jan
George Barbara
Pris Joan

For those serving in our Armed Forces:

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

For the Deceased:

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

8 AM

LAY: Tim Knapp
LEM: Ramona Orzell

LAY: Terry Shackleford
LEM: Brad Earle
Elizabeth Pope

Food Pantry

Lynn Ives
Terry Noble
Martha Lamm

Acolytes: Lauren and Megan Renck
Ushers: Jan Arnold and John Lea
Vestry Greeters: Nancy Knapp
TBD

10:30 AM



Altar Greenery today

are given to the Glory of God
by Martha and Wooten Lamm
Wishing everyone in the church a Happy and
Healthy New Year!



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

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Church Office Closed
Dec 24-January 4th.

Office will reopen on Monday, Jan. 5th.

“Wings of Love” Ministry
On Jan. 11th 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.

Healing Service Canceled on
January 3rd.

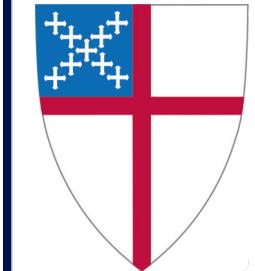
Discipleship: A Conversation with the Diocese.

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.



St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

2 Christmas
1.04.26



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

“Out of Egypt”

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

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standrewsrm.org



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Rocky Mount, NC 27804