



Christmas Eve

The faith community of St. Andrew's welcomes you to our service this holy season. The Christian tradition of gathering in the church on Christmas Eve for the celebration of the Feast of the Holy Nativity is an ancient one the world over. Our liturgical order of worship is designed for the active participation of all worshippers. We encourage you to sing and respond with the joy of the Angels and we invite all the baptized to receive the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to come forward for a priestly blessing.



Booklet Contents And Order of Worship

Story of Jesus' Birth.....	Page 3
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Feast of the Incarnation (Christmas Eve).....	Page 5-6
Prayers of the People (Christmas Eve).....	Page 7



Christmas Eve Prayers of the People

We rejoice in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our heart this Christmas night, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the believing community throughout the world, especially those in positions of leadership, that they might always work to give glory to God and bring peace to our earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the church gathered in this place, that we might always bear the good news of God's living presence in our world, towards deepening of Christmas faith and living that faith in love, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those lost in darkness of prejudice, hostility, and fear; for those burdened by the yoke of injustice, terrorism, hunger, and war; and for all our brothers and sisters who are in any need, that the light and life that is the Lord might touch their hearts this night, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the homeless, and for the children born in the midst of poverty and pain, that there be room at the inn for all God's people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and dying among us and for those who care for them...That the God whose love extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross might bless them this night with the gift of peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who have died...May they find eternal life in your loving presence. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make this threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, or to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God, make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The celebrant adds the concluding collect.

All loving and gracious God, we thank you for gracing us with the gift of your Son. Confident of your continuing love for us, we have placed our needs before you. Hear and answer our prayers, through that same Christ, newly born this night, our Lord and Savior, forever and ever. Amen.



Christmas Eve
Holy Eucharist Rite II 4:30pm

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

pg. 367

S-128 Sanctus

S-155 Fraction Anthem

Administration of the Blessed Sacraments

Anthem: Holy Child Blessed Jesus

Anthem: The Christ Child Lullaby

Lighting of Candles

111 Kneeling Hymn: Silent Night

Post Communion Prayer

pg. 366

The Final Blessing

100 Joy to the World

Please leave your candle in the baskets by the back doors.

We welcome the following musicians:

Carol Ludwig, Harp

Chris Ellis, Violin

Abby Whistler, Bells

Rob Whistler, Bells

MacKenzie Whistler, Flute

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive the blessed sacraments

All are welcome to come forward for a priestly blessing.



Govert Flinck
Angels Announcing the Birth of Christ to the Shepherds
1639

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!"

St. Luke 2: 1-14

Flowers given to the Glory of God in Honor of...

Leigh Atherton	Austyn Kele Dial	Shane Hogan
Niah Atherton	Jillian Victoria Dial	Meghan Olivia Johnson
Tracie Atherton	Joseph Cameron Dial	Kevin Richardo Johnson
Elizabeth Paige Barbare	Shannon Bailey Dial	David Kennedy
T. Michael Barbare	Maria Carmina Fiore	Julie Kennedy
William Joseph Barbare	Catherine Hogan	Evan Hogan Staffaroni
Heather Campbell	John Hogan	Sean Mason Staffaroni
Kenneth Campbell	Raegan Hogan	St. Andrew's Family and Friends
Roselee Campbell		



Flowers given to the Glory of God in Memory of...

Bobby Bobbitt	Robbie Hadaway	Morris Pridgen
Jennifer Brumble	W.H. Hadaway	Franklin Rollings
Robert C. Clark	Bob Houghtlin	Mary Lou Rollings
John Dias	John Houghtlin	Novell Royal
Mary Dias	Tod Houghtlin	Virginia Royal
Dutch Dunton	Ida Mae Joyner	Carlton Ruffin
Eddie Edwards	John Kennedy	Faye Ruffin
Alice Fesperman	Margaret Knapp	Betsy Strandberg
Buddy Fesperman	Michael Knapp	Tyler Strandberg
Norman Forgue	Thomas Knapp	Melbourne Sutton
Madeline Forgue	William Roger Lesniewski	John Sykes, Jr.
James Gardner	Ron Luba	Matthew Sykes
Sue Gardner	Anne Lump	Mary D.B. Tanner
Ann Greer	Jim Lump	Eunice Trask
George H. Greer, Sr.	Mary Munsey	Lloyd Trask
Sara Temple Greer	Jean Davenport Nelson	Arthur Tyler
W.H. Greer	James West Mathieson, Jr.	Elizabeth Tyler
Nancy Warren Gregory	Henry Morriss	Robert Walton
Sarah Ellis Gregory	Mary Laura Morriss	John Warren
Ruby Hall	Frances Pittman	Robert Woelfel
Mozell Hartley	Lucille Pridgen	Marge and Bill
Pearl Hartley		



Christmas Eve
Holy Eucharist Rite II 4:30pm

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude: I wonder as I wander John Jacob Niles and Sunita Staneslow
In Dulci Jubilo Bach
On Christmas Night Luke Wadding

Hymn Book of Common Prayer

83 *O Come All Ye Faithful*
Opening Sentences and Collect pg. 355

96 *Gloria: Angels we have heard on high*
First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Second Lesson Titus 2:11-14

87 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing V. 1-2*
Gospel Luke 2:1-20

87 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing V. 3*
The Homily The Rev. Phil Byrum
Harp: Conte de Noel Carol Ludwig
The Nicene Creed pg. 388
The Prayers of the People pg. 9
The Confession
The Peace pg. 360
The Offertory

Antem: Sing Noel
Doxology
"So bring him incense gold and myrrh, come peasant, king to won him:
The King of king salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Hast, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary."

Announcements

Mark your calendars:

Annual Parish Meeting will be
Sunday, January 14th at 9am.
Breakfast included!



Meeting Schedule:

Election of New Vestry Members
2023 Highlights Search Committee Report
Every Member Canvas Report
Budget Overview Committee Reports

All the steamed oysters and boiled shrimp you can eat
(Hamburgers will be provided for the non-seafood folks!)

Tickets are available from the Church Office and any Men's
Club Member. They must be purchased by

Tuesday, January 16th!



\$20.00 per person or \$40.00 per family

All profits go to the support the St. Andrew's Food Pantry

Financial Status as of December 18, 2023

Contrib. Rec'd this week	\$5,541
Avg. Wkly Contrib. Needed	\$6,327
Rec'd YTC	\$312,307
Spent YTD	\$248,625

If you have questions about your pledge or other contributions, call Rosemary Clark, our bookkeeper, at 443-2070 on Monday or Thursday afternoons.

St Andrew's Book Club will
meet on

Tuesday, January 9th at
10am. We're reading The
Braid: A Novel by



The Men's Club is meeting Saturday,
January 6th at 8am.

St. Elizabeth's Guild meets on Monday,
January 8th at 12:00pm.

Serving *next* Sunday, December 31

9:30am

Officiant: Leslie Hall

LAY: Ramona Orzell

LEM: George Earp

Acolyte: Walker Wells

Ushers: Angela Reid and Jim Royal

Greeters: Tommy Parker and Elizabeth Hunter

Pantry Volunteers: Terry Shackelford, Linda Hutcheson, and Dotsy and Jim Royal

Pantry Distributors: Patty Kennedy, Tommy Parker, Elizabeth Hunter

Welcome to St. Andrew's on this Christmas Eve.

If you are visiting this afternoon, please sign our *Guest Book* on the welcome table in the Commons. Also located there are Visitor's Packets and our parish newsletter, *The Call*.



*The greenery on the altar
are given to the Glory of God
by Patsy Ferebee
In thanksgiving for the birth of
Jesus Christ*

Going Deeper Into the Season of Advent

Advent is a time of preparation, of patience, of remembering what grounds and sustains us. The function of Advent is to remind us who God is and who we are meant to be. Advent is about the riches of emptiness. God coming as an infant without servants or riches is the metaphor of a humility that requires us to remember how really small we are in the universe. In our secular culture, a tone of wanting more, spending more, and accumulating riches on earth surround us.

As Christians, we long for our society to live up to God's vision, for the kingdom to come in its fullness outside of materialism. The cry of Advent, "Wake up! Be alert! Watch for his coming" is difficult with all the coming and going of the season. We can practice some simple, but not easy, disciplines. We can fast from the media in order to become more aware of God's still, small voice. We can focus on the giving of ourselves to God. Plan to spend time apart from the busyness of the season each day so you can be alert to God in the silent, the small, and the simple.

People that normally ignore the church are more apt to pay attention to how the church recognizes and marks this season. If our observance of Advent mirrors the anxiety and frantic nature with which our world marks the days leading up to Christmas, we might be communicating our own irrelevance. We are a people of hope and no where is that hope modeled more clearly than when a community that holds vigil for the in breaking of love into the world.

Prayer Requests

Elsie	Patricia	Barbara
Bill	Shirley	Linda T.
Lisa O.	Blake	Joyce
Christine	Rachel	Ernie
Janice	Jinx	Brad B.
Roger	Wayland	Sheryl
Judy	Chris	Steve
Kat	Johnny	Scott
		Jerry

Serving in our Armed Forces: Sean, Veronica H., Jericca S., Matt K., Eric O., Fletcher, Jonathan K., Will M., Rodney M., Jeffery B., Adam M., James W., and for all Veterans of the United States.

For those who have died:

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