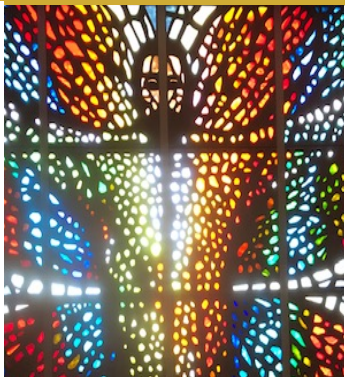


Saint Andrew's

Episcopal Church x School



CRECHE SERVICE & HOLY COMMUNION

DECEMBER 24, 2025

4:00 PM

Welcome. Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church extends a warm welcome to all who gather here to celebrate the birth of Jesus. A special welcome to those who have come a long distance, to friends and families who are reunited, and to visitors who seek the unique love of Christ at this special time. We hope you will fully participate in the service. Everything you need for the service is in this bulletin.



PRELUDE

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Aron David Miller

WELCOME

Please stand for the procession and hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O come, all ye faithful”

Adeste fideles

**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.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest.**

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

**See, how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We, too, will thither bend our joyful footsteps.**

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

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Presider The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

People **And we beheld his glory.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please remain seated during the reading of the Birth Narrative and for the singing of the carols.
Each crèche figure will be brought forward at the appropriate time.*

THE STORY OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS

READING – **Luke 2:1-5**

About that time, Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. These first records were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to go to his own hometown to be listed. So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, and Joseph went there because he was from David's family. Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby.

*During the singing, **Mary and Joseph** are brought to the Crèche.*

HYMN

O little town of Bethlehem”

St. Louis

**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 wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.**

READING – **Luke 2:6-7**

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them at the inn.

*The **baby Jesus** is brought to the Crèche.*

HYMN

“Away in a manger”

Cradle Song

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the heavens looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

READING – **Luke 2:8-9**

That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep.

*During the singing, the **sheep** are brought to the Crèche.*

HYMN

“Go tell it on the mountain”

***Refrain:* Go tell it on the mountain; over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain; that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)**

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain; over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain; that Jesus Christ is born!**

**The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)**

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain; over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain; that Jesus Christ is born!**

READING – **Luke 2:10-12**

All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel, said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make you very happy. This very day in King David's hometown, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. You will know who he is, because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying on a bed of hay."

*During the singing, the **Angel Gabriel** is brought to the Crèche.*

HYMN

"It came upon the midnight clear"

Noel

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.**

READING – **Luke 2:13-14**

And suddenly many angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said, "Glory to God in the highest heaven! Peace on earth to everyone whom God loves."

HYMN

"Angels we have heard on high"

Gloria

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

READING – **Luke 2:15-20**

After the angels had left and gone back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord has told us.” They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and they saw the baby lying on a bed of hay. When the shepherds saw Jesus, they told his parents what the angel had said about him. Everyone listened and was surprised. But Mary kept thinking about all this and wondering what it meant. As the shepherds returned to their sheep, they were praising God and saying wonderful things about him. Everything they had seen and heard was just as the angel had said.

*During the singing, the **shepherd** is brought to the Crèche.*

HYMN

“The first Nowell”

The First Nowell

**The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields
as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.**

Refrain: **Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.**

Refrain: **Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

READING – **Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11**

When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and said, “Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” The wise men listened to what the king said and then left. And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They were thrilled and excited to see the star. When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshipped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and gave them to him. Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

HYMN

“We three kings”

Three Kings of Orient

**1 - We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

*During the singing of verse 2, the first of the **Wise Men** is brought to the Crèche.*

**2 - Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, gold I bring to crown him again.
King for ever, ceasing never over us all to reign.**

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

*During the singing of verse 3, the second of the **Wise Men** is brought to the Crèche.*

**3 - Frankincense to offer have I: incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, gladly raising, worship him, God Most High.**

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

*During the singing of verse 4, the third of the **Wise Men** is brought to the Crèche.*

**4 - Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**5 - Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Heaven sings, "Alleluia!" "Alleluia!" the earth replies.**

Refrain: **O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

SERMON

The Rev. Maly Carswell Hughes

Please stand, as you are able

HYMN

"Hark! the herald angels sing"

Mendelssohn

**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 heaven 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 man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!**

Refrain: **Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King!**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader All things have been clothed in grace by the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ; all the earth has been enlightened in his dawning. Trusting in His light and grace, let us pray for all people in need and for all the world, saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader For the churches, which united they may be faithful in witness to your Son come among us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader For the leaders of nations, that they may turn from ways of fear and warfare to the ways of your wisdom and grace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader For the poor of the earth, for victims of violence and tyranny, that their suffering be ended, and that they may come to know joy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader For all families, that they may be renewed in joy, receive the word of mercy into their hearts, and become places of hospitality to the stranger. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader For this congregation, that we may be renewed by the light and grace of your incarnate word. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader For those who have died, that their efforts continue to inspire our action and that they may rest in your care until that day when all shall rise again in your new Creation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Presider Rejoicing in the company of Mary, mother of our Lord, and of all the witnesses of the incarnation, we commend these prayers and all our life to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

You may greet each other in the name of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

The Wexford Carol

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

Text: Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind what our good God for us has done in sending his beloved son. With Mary holy we should pray, to God with love this Christmas Day; in Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed messiah born. Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep; to whom God's angel did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear. "Prepare to go," the angels said, "To Bethlehem. Be not afraid, for there you'll find this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus born." With thankful heart and joyful maid, the shepherds went, the babe to find, and as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger he was laid and by his side a virgin maid attending on the Lord of Life who came on earth to end all strife.

The Offering plates will be passed down each row by the ushers. Please give generously to support the ministry of Saint Andrew's. You may also give online using the QR code.



Please stand for the Presentation of the Offerings and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.

PRESENTATION HYMN

"In the Bleak mid-winter"

Cranham

**In the bleak mid winter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak mid winter, long ago.**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God 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:

SANCTUS (*spoken*)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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,

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

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, our patronal Saint 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

Presider 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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Presider Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE INVITATION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

When receiving communion you may drink from the common cup (no intincting is offered). If you desire to only receive the bread you are receiving the full communion. If you do not want to receive communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing from the priest.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

A Maiden Most Gentle

Noel Rawsthorne

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION *All standing, 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.**

**Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born.**

**Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

THE BLESSING

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Mary and Joseph, and the peace of the Christ Child, be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room;
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness;
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ!
People **Thanks be to God!**

*The Clergy, Vestry, and Staff wish you and your family a
Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

**Join us for a Festival Choral Eucharist this evening at
8:00 pm and 10:30 pm**

Christmas Day Eucharist – 10:00 am

**Sunday, Dec 28 – One service at 10:00 am
Lessons & Carols**

*Christmas Flowers and Music
are given to the Glory of God by*



Barbara Cooke Monks in thanksgiving for the lives of Frederick James Cooke and Barbara Souther Cooke and Lawrence E. Monks.

Jane and Joe Lawson in thanksgiving for all the December birthdays-Paul Lawson, Mark Welch and Jane Lawson.

The Stearns Family, Michael Burroughs, Betty Toepfer in memory of John Toepfer Marlene Sleek in memory and thanksgiving for the life of Tom Sleek.

Diane Lovelace in memory of Charles and Marge McIntyre, Melvin and Peggy Lovelace, Gerry Lovelace, and Michael Eberle.

Gerry Chartrand and the Averill Family in memory of Papa and Oma.

Susi and Harry Van Wickle in thanksgiving for the blessing of their grandchildren: Elinor Hehir, Patrick Hehir and Liam Maher.

Ann Wright in memory of the Rev Deacon Max Wright.

Ann Warren Smith in memory of Howard Nelson.

Roger and Dottie Barney in memory of Kimberly & Jeannette Barney and Nancy & Trevor Wright.

The Stermer Family in thanksgiving for our Saint Andrew's family.

Gray and Debbie Judge in thanksgiving for our family.

Muffie Waterman in thanksgiving for my husband, Scott and our precious children, Eva and Oscar.

Tim, Mary Ann and Danielle Gee in thanksgiving to everyone at Saint Andrew's for all your support and prayers this year.

Kay Morton in memory of David H. Morton, James W. McKee, and Richard & Helen Taylor.

Barbara Busch in memory of loved ones who now celebrate Christmas Eternal.

Beth Hopf in memory of the Stevens Family: Harland, Maryvina, Ann, and David.

Nancy Allgeier in memory of Lee Allgeier.

Ed Jacklitch in memory of Carol-this season was her favorite.

The Rev. Joel Martinez and Mr. Joshua Gila in memory of Sharon Martinez and Bren Gila.

The Rev. Maly and Allan Hughes in memory of Mary London James Carswell, Matthew Jackson Carswell, William James Carswell, James Bernard Hughes, Rhoda Silver Hughes, and Joan Rhoda Hughes

Ministers of the Liturgy this evening: **Presider/Preacher:** The Rev. Maly Carswell Hughes; **Associate Priest:** The Rev. Joel Martinez; **Director of Music/Organist:** Michael Burroughs; **MC:** Tim Gee; **Lectors:** Anne Cameron, Lauren Fitzpatrick; **Eucharistic Ministers:** Julie Averill, Andrew Fitzpatrick; **Acolytes:** Lydia Boyd; **Altar Guild:** Dianne Kavanagh, Mary Genetti, Betty Toepfer; **Lead Usher:** David Averill; **Ushers:** Lisa Watt, Ed Clendaniel, Joe Lawson; **Greeters:** Julie Averill, Gerry Chartrand; **Flowers:** Lindsay Catterton.

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Maly Carswell Hughes, *Rector*
The Rev. Joel M. Martinez, *Associate Priest & Assistant to the Rector*
The Rev. Roger Barney, *Assisting Priest*
Michael Burroughs, *Director of Music/Organist*
Nancy Allgeier, *Office Manager*
Lauren Fitzpatrick, *Wedding/Funeral Coordinator*
Sarah Clark, *Bookkeeper*
Ann Wright, *Parish Care*

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church & School

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