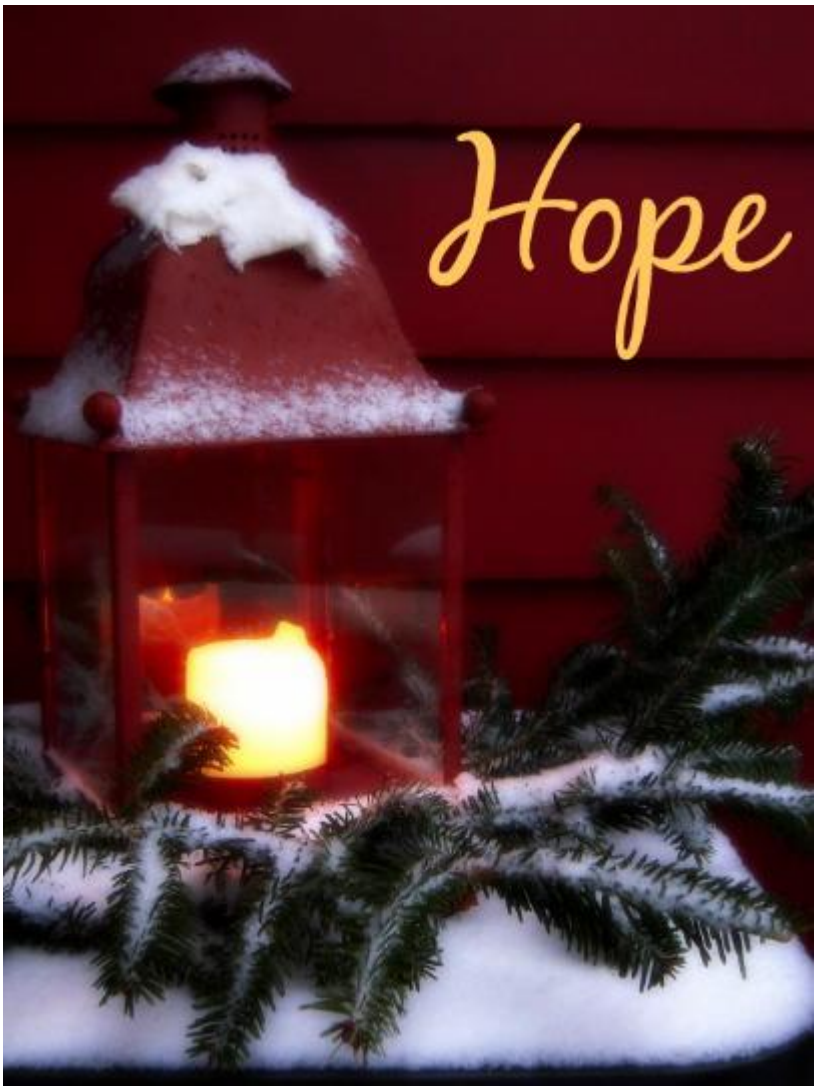
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



November 29, 2026

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026 10:30 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE Two setting of "Veni Emmanuel" Ferguson/Peeters
"*Be still and know that I am God.*"
(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE *"…I was a stranger and you welcomed me."* *Matthew 25:35b*
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**
(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist
Keep alert, for the day is coming soon.
Now the earth and the heavens tremble.
Pray for the gift of hope from God:
Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ.
Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE Chris and Sally Bobek
All Sing: Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call.
("Creator of the Stars of Night," Hymn 84)

Reader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth,
and set lights in the sky – sun and moon and stars.
By these stars, our ancestors charted their journeys.
By these stars, they knew God was with them. . .

Let us pray together:
Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of hope this week,
help us to become the signs of hope that others are searching for.
As these candles are but a glimpse of the light of the heavens,
help us to be a glimpse of heaven's hope. Amen.

*HYMN 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL
(Verses 1, 2, 6 & 7)

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Preparing for Christ's coming requires honest examination of our lives and our hearts. Let us turn to God in prayer to confess our sins.

So soon, God, too soon. We are hardly picked up from Thanksgiving and here it is Advent with Christmas around the corner. So soon. It is hard to shift gears. We are not ready. Where did the time go? How could the year have passed so quickly?

Yet, it is into such a world as this and such a time as this that you choose to enter. Again and again, you visit us in the darkest times of life and in the midst of hectic schedules and anxious lives.

Holy God, help us keep alert in this Advent season. Help us be ready to see you in the midst of ordinary tasks. Help us be ready to slow down for prayer, for children and grandchildren, for family and friends, for a stranger. Help us be prepared to stand up for peace and justice, for Jesus comes to bring new life to us and our world. O God, help us be ready to receive you again. Amen.

Silent Confession

*KYRIE

Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. In the name of Jesus Christ,
you are forgiven! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional) (Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE HEBREW TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Advent Medley"

THE GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON "Refusing the False Script"

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN 348 "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" HELMSLEY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he

shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Prelude on "Aberystweth" Held

*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (606)

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE SENDING

*HYMN 97 "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night" ABERYSTWYTH

*COVENANT AND BENEDICTION (Responsive)

We do not leave this sanctuary and leave God behind.
God's call to prepare our hearts, our minds, our communities and our world for the coming Christ, is clear.
May this call be ever before us: guiding us, inspiring us, enabling us to be Christ's body – his hands, his feet, his heart – in this, God's world.
May the grace, hope, peace, and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be with you all, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE Trumpet Voluntary on "Helmsley" Barr

<u>PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP</u>
The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor
Sharron Smith, Liturgist
Frank and Maurine Slaughter, Ushers
Jennifer and Ernie Abel, Greeters
Diane Pharr, Online Digital Greeter
Chris and Sally Bobek, Advent Readers
Michael Beery, Music Director, English Horn
Laurence Smith, Organist

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

Today
9:00 Advent Study—"A Case for Christmas"
10:30 Worship
11:30 Coffee Hour
4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group

Tuesday, December 1
1:00 Worship Mtg

Wednesday, December 2
10:00 Prayer Shawl Knitting Group
12:30 Centering Prayer Group
4:00 Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 4
9:00 Men's Breakfast-Platte River Inn
7:00 Manitou Winds Concert

Saturday, December 5
9:30 Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 6
9:00 Advent Study- "A Case for Christmas"
10:30 Worship
11:30 Advent Potluck and Carol Sing
4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group

PRAYER LIST

MILITARY: All of our US Military deployed and their families.

INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKERS :
Rev. Jerome Bizimana & the people of Rwanda
Rev. Butros Zaour & family & Majd Lahham, Damascus, Syria

MISSION CO-WORKERS:
Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar, & their children: Cindy Yessenia, Anna Flor & Nathan—Frontera de Cristo; Douglas AZ

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Bob Nelson
Tim Bergstrom
Kristin Lehoullier
Suzie Anderson
Vickie Smith
Sara Bruce
Olivia Dann
Dave Maxton
Susan Hillman
Deb Kessler
Diane Pharr
Family of John Olson- (Judy Bosma & Jim Olson)
The Navin Family
Amy and Family
Tim, Sarah, Tilly and Family
Casey Beal and Family
Peter Navin
Linda Koch
Evelyn Sengelaub
Laura and Bryan Sheffield
Gwen Baarstad
John Sappington
Chris (Harris) Bint
Marjorie Groenwald

SAVE THE DATE:
December 4, 2026
7:00 PM
Manitou Winds Concert





Please give to the Flower Fund and have a Poinsettia given in honor of a loved one.

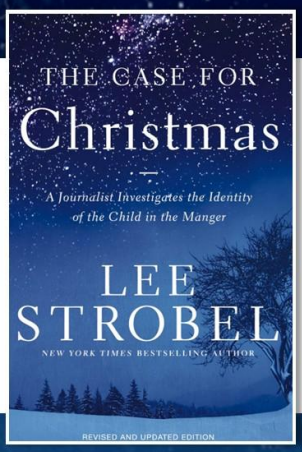


The Case for Christmas

A Journalist Investigates the Identity of the Child in the Manger

by Lee Strobel

Come along with us as bestselling author Lee Strobel invites us to push past the distractions of the holiday season and come into the presence of the baby who was born to change us and rewrite our eternal destination: the greatest gift of all.



Join us at **9AM** on **Sundays during Advent**

(Nov. 29, Dec.6, Dec. 13, Dec. 20)

(The class is all Video-based. No book or extra reading.)