# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



A Festival Service of Lessons and Carols

December 14, 2025

# 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025 10:30 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Two settings of "Veni Emmanuel" Wagner/Peeters

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Christmas Joy Offering

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.)

CHORAL INTROIT "Prepare the Way of the Lord" PREPARE THE WAY

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LITURGY OF THE ADVENT WREATH All sing: (Hymn 83 – "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus")

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Reader: Children of God, what are we waiting for? We wait for joy  $\dots$ 

Let us pray:

O Giver of life, you turn mourning into dancing. You surprise us with beauty. Joy is your gift and our invitation to rejoice always, to pray without ceasing, and to give thanks in all things. May we carry your joy like a lantern, shining steadily as we wait. Amen.

Hear the witness of the apostle Paul:

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near."

We delight in the joy of your presence, which no hardship can steal away.

**IRBY** 

Come, Lord Jesus, and make joy our strength.

\*HYMN 140 "Once in Royal David's City"

(Verse 1 sung by a soloist & congregation joins in verse 2.)

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional) (Page 188, Glory to God Hymnal)

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

CAROL 112 "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" Sussex Carol

(Verses 1 & 2)

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-9

The prophet foretells of the Peaceful Kingdom.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old"

**SAMANTHRA** 

THIRD LESSON: Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Myn Lyking"

Terry

(Words: Traditional, 15th Century/Music: Richard Ruciman Terry)

1.

I saw a fair mayden sytten and sing She lulled a little childe, a sweete Lording.

#### Chorus:

Lullay mye lyking, my dere sonne, my sweeting. Lully my dere herte, myn own dere derling.

2.

That same Lord is he that made alle thing, Of alle lord is his is lord, of alle kynges King.

3.

There was mickle melody at that chylde's birth All that were in heav'nly bliss, they made mickle myrth.

4

Angels bright sang their song to that chyld; Blyssid be thou, and so be she, so meek and so mild.

FOURTH LESSON: Luke 2:1-7

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Unexpected and Mysterious"
(Words and Music: Jeannette Lindholm)

Hampton

Unexpected and mysterious is the gentle word of grace. Ever-loving and sustaining is the peace of God's embrace. If we falter in our courage and we doubt what we have known, God is faithful to console us as a mother tends her own.

Of a momentary meeting of eternity and time,
Many learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine.
Then she learned of God's compassion, of Elizabeth's great joy,
And she ran to greet the woman who would recognize her boy.
We are called to ponder mystery and awaiting the coming Christ,
To embody God's compassion for each fragile human life.
God is with us in our longing, to bring healing to the earth

God is with us in our longing, to bring healing to the earth,
While we watch with joy and wonder for the promised Savior's birth.

FIFTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds go to the manger.

CAROL 128 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

SOLO "There's a Star in the East"

**FOLLOW** 

SIXTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL 152 "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" R NOBIS NASCITUR

(Verses 1 and 2)

CAROL 123 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" CAROL CMD

(Verses 1, 2 & 5)

SEVENTH LESSON: John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

CAROL 108 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

(Verses 1, 3, & 4)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY Variations on "Puer nobis" Barkhardt

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

\*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

\*HYMN 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

\*BENEDICTION (Responsive)

This Advent and Christmas season, may light dispel darkness;

May the love of Christ pull us closer together;

May the peace the angels sang reign among us;

May we promise to keep hope alive;

May Jesus Christ be born again as the light of the world!

POSTLUDE "Joy to the World" Cherwien



### PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor
Jim Trent, Liturgist
Al and Bonnie Garbrecht, Ushers
Mac and Marilyn Whisner, Martha Garber, Greeters
Susan Eldred, Cynthia Blanchard, Advent Candle Lighters
Jim Trent, Scott Gravelie, Readers
Diane Pharr, Online Digital Greeter
Michael Beery, Soloist and Music Director
Laurence Smith, Organist

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

#### Today

9:00 Adult Ed Bible Study

10:30 Worship

11:30 Congregational Meeting

11:45 Coffee Hour

4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group

7:00 Readers Theater—

"All on a Winter's Night"

## Monday, December 15

2:00 Grief Group

### Tuesday, December 16

10:30 Class-"Finding Resilience in Jesus"

1:00 PW- Christmas Auction at Havlin's

2:00 Finance Mtg

#### Wednesday, December 17

10:00 Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

Centering Prayer Group 12:30

1:00 Arts on the Hill Mtg 3:00 **Choir Rehearsal** 

Note time change

#### Friday, December 19

Men's Breakfast - Platte River 9:00 Inn

#### Sunday, December 21

9:00 Advent Bible Study

10:30 Worship

11:30 Coffee Hour

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

Efi Latsoudi & Lesvos Solidarity, Greece

#### MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

**Bob Nelson** The Navin Family Tim Bergstrom Tim, Sarah, Tilly and Family

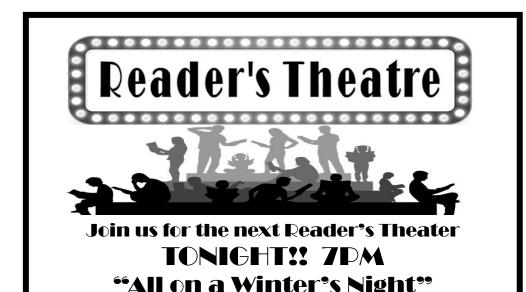
Britta Baarstad Linda Koch Joel Hough Evelyn Sengelaub

John Warren Robey Kristin Lehoullier Laura and Bryan Sheffield

Martha Campbell Gwen Baarstad Joan Wathern Suzie Anderson Tamara Cas

Dottie Patterson Andrew Heglin Paul Olin Bobbie Edwards John Sappington Joyce Kirshner Cathy Lane

Tim Quist Kristin Lehoullier Family of Terry Bard



# Poinsettias are given by:



Gloria Boyd — In memory of Gretchen and Al Amstutz

Judy McQuilkin — In memory of Bob McQuilkin

Judy McQuilkin — In memory of Drew Trahan

Diane Pharr — In memory of Patricia Pharr Velnetske

Diane Pharr — In memory of Richard and Barbara Pharr

Virginia Gardner — In memory of Loved Ones

Sue Sheffield and Marley Navin — In memory of Cathy Moser

Sue Sheffield and Marley Navin — In loving honor of the Navin Family

Jeannine Chapman — In memory of Steve Chapman

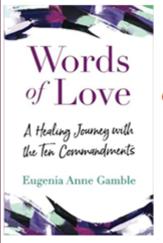
Beth and Paul Olin — In memory of their son, David

Mary Heglin — In memory of George Marsh

Jill Claybour — In memory of Richard Claybour

Jennifer and Ernie Abel — In memory of their mothers





# **Coming in January**

The Ten Commandments are more than a list of ancient rules. In Words of Love, Eugenia Anne Gamble dives into each of the Ten Commandments and examines their application for modern-day Christians, going beyond the letter of the law to a spiritual truth pointing us toward wholeness and well-being.

Watch for signup information in the coming weeks.