

+ Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2022



St. Andrew Lutheran Church
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+ Second Sunday of Advent Order for Worship

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

- Masks are optional at St. Andrew when Covid-19 community level in Allegheny County is in the low and medium categories.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the back of the sanctuary.

***Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms.
By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.***

Welcome to St. Andrew!

- *Everyone is invited to make a nametag at the black bookcase in the back of the worship space if they would like.*
- *Children are invited to participate in Little Church; Big Faith, a Bible lesson and activity for children, following the Prayer of the Day.*
- *Worship "toolkits" to help children engage with the service are available in the black bookcase at the back of the worship space. There are "reader" and "pre-reader" resources available in each kit. Please feel free to use the kits for/with your children during worship.*
- *St. Andrew has recently returned to serving the sacrament of Holy Communion with both (separate) elements, bread and wine/grape juice. The presiding minister will first distribute the bread (host). Please consume this and then pick up an empty glass from the tray next to the presiding minister. The Communion Assistant will pour wine from the chalice or grape juice from the cruet into your glass. Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice. As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center aisle.*
- *A restroom is available on the main level of the church, through the doors to the Social Hall and to the right in the main office.*

Welcome

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

C: Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of new beginnings,

C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

P: People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch, a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C: Amen.



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

HS p. 3

A: In peace, in peace,
Refrain

Assistant: Congregation:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

A: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all ... (*Refrain*)

A: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word ... (*Refrain*)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God.

Congregation:

A - - - men.

Prayer of the Day

Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

By his coming, nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated.
Children are invited to come forward and gather around the Advent Wreath
for the lighting of the candles.*

Hymn during Candle Lighting

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240

v. 1-2

- 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
Lead our way through the darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.**
- 2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah;
Lead our way through the darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.**

*After the lighting of the Advent candles and hymn, children are invited to join the adult leaders
at the door and move to the office for Little Church; Big Faith.
We ask that one additional adult from the congregation attend with the children.*

Word

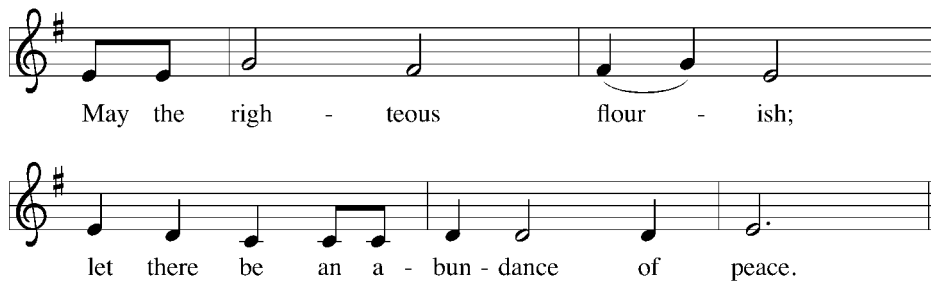
God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading – Isaiah 11: 1-10

- ¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

Psalm Refrain



Psalm 72:7
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
²**that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;**
³that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R**
⁵May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
⁷In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the | God of Israel;
you alone do | wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen. **R**

Second Reading – Romans 15: 4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for God's mercy.

As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with God’s people”;

¹¹and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise the Lord”;

¹²and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

HS p. 8

Marty Haugen

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Lord to whom shall we go?
5 You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia.

Gospel – Matthew 3: 1-12

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and

all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

*A time of silence for prayer and reflection follows the sermon.
When the hymn of the day begins, please rise as you are able.*





1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Prayers of the People

P: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence,
 let us pray for the world as it yearns for new hope.

After each petition

P: God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

P: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs.
 By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with those of all your people,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Meal

Offering

*We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.
An usher will pass around an offering plate for anyone who would like to offer gifts before God.*

Music during the Offering

Please rise as you are able.

Offertory Song

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray. Eternal God,

**C: you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.**

**Receive these simple gifts we offer,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your justice and healing.**

We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Dialogue

HS p. 14



Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with

Presider: you. *Congregation:* Lift up your hearts. We

Presider: lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface (*Sung by the presiding minister*)

P: It is our duty and delight ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

HS p. 15

Marty Haugen
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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might;—

5 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est!

10 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

13 san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 6/8 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line starts with a 7-measure rest. The second line begins at measure 5 and includes a 3/8 time signature change. The third line begins at measure 10. The fourth line begins at measure 13 and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life ...
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C:

Congregation:

Christ has died. Christ is

ris - en. Christ will come, come a - gain.

The musical score is written on two treble clef staves in the key of D major (two sharps) and 6/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'Christ has died. Christ is'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'ris - en. Christ will come, come a - gain.' The music is simple and melodic, with a final whole note on the second staff.

P: With this bread and cup we remember ...
... We look with hope for his coming.

C:

2 A - men. Come, Lord
Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. ...
... Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C:

Congregation:
A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -
men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

P: All praise and glory are yours, ...
... one God, now and forever.

C:

A - men.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Fraction and Invitation

Agnus Dei / Lamb of God

HS p. 18

Marty Haugen

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
4 you are the bread of life for us all:
8 mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.
11 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Holy Communion

- *Worshippers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *Holy Communion will be served with bread and wine/grape juice.*
- *The presiding minister will first distribute the bread (host) to each communicant. Please indicate if you require a gluten-free host.*
- *Once you have consumed the bread, please pick up an empty glass from the tray next to the presiding minister. The Communion Assistant will pour wine from the chalice or grape juice from the cruet into your glass.*
- *Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice.*
- *As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center aisle.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament.*
- *All are invited to join in singing the hymns during Holy Communion.*

Hymn during Holy Communion

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

ACS 901



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GAN, Welsh melody

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Hymn during Holy Communion

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELW 311



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to
Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,
To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and
light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are
go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from
cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.
pre - cious in your sight.
hill to val - ley flow.
king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

Hymn during Holy Communion

Wait for the Lord

HS 726

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second system of musical notation continues the melody from the first system. It also features a treble and bass staff with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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Verses from Psalm 39, 69, 118, 122, Isaiah 40, Matthew 6-7, Philippians 4. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

- 1. Prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight path for him,**
- 2. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.**
- 3. All the earth will see the Lord.**
- 4. Rejoice in the Lord always. He is at hand.**
- 7. I waited for the Lord, who heard my cry.**
- 8. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord our God.**
- 9. O Lord, show us your way. Guide us in your truth.**
- 10. Prepare the way of the Lord.**

When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.

Blessing


P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Thanksgiving

HS p. 20

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

3. Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for

ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:

Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Prayer

P: Let us pray.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.

As we await the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain and strengthen us by this holy mystery.

Guide us toward your promised future coming to birth
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Sending

Announcements

Please rise as you are able.

Benediction

P: God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

✝ bless you now and forever.

C:



A - men.

Sending Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway

Following page

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God!



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

A: Assistant (Cantor)

L: Lector

C: Congregation

HS: Hymnal Supplement

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

ACS: All Creation Sings hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Minister of Music
Cantor and Clarinet
Presiding Minister

Laura Reynolds
Maria Mangano
Rev. Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah – Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954. Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune. Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

St. Andrew Lutheran Church Announcements
December 4th, 2022

- **Worship in the Sanctuary and Online – Sunday, December 4th, + Second Sunday of Advent** – St. Andrew's next worship with Holy Communion will be this Sunday, December 4th, at 10:00 a.m. Masks are optional at St. Andrew when Allegheny County's Covid-19 community level is in the low and medium categories. Worship will also be live-streamed to Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom. Worship attendees are invited to make their own name tags at the back of the worship space. Coffee hour will be held in the Social Hall next to the sanctuary after worship.
- **Annual Meeting of the Congregation Today after Worship** – St. Andrew's congregational constitution specifies that we hold the annual meeting of the congregation in the fourth quarter of the year, usually in November or December. This year's annual meeting will be on Sunday, December 4th, after worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect members to serve on the Congregation Council, which serves as our board of directors, and to adopt a budget for ministry in the year ahead. Any Confirmed member of the congregation is eligible to vote at the meeting, though we welcome the presence and perspective of all from the community. No absentee or proxy votes can be accepted but we will offer a Zoom link option for those who cannot attend in person.
- **Seeking Individuals to Serve in Various Worship Roles** – As worship attendance increases and we return to distribution of wine at Holy Communion, we ask people of St. Andrew to consider offering your gifts in worship. On the upcoming Sundays, we will pass around a signup sheet describing different roles needed, including altar care and setup, Communion Assistant, Audio/Visual Minister, Adult Leader or Helper for Little Church; Big Faith, Usher, Cantor, Lector, and Counter. Please consider how best to share your gifts to enrich the worship experience of St. Andrew!
- **Monthly Produce Distribution – Tuesday, December 6th, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** – St. Andrew's monthly produce distribution in cooperation with Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is coming up on its usual First Tuesday of the month, December 6th. We invite people of the congregation to help serve with the distribution itself from 5:30-7:00 p.m., or to come earlier in the day to help with setup and unloading. The delivery is usually sometime between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., but we will call the people who sign up to let them know once we have confirmation from the food bank. If you would like to help, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-produce23>.
- **Shelter Dinner at East End Cooperative Ministry – Thursday, December 15th, 6:30 p.m.** – Every month, on the third Thursday, people of St. Andrew provide a meal for guests of the shelter at East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM). A menu is chosen ahead of time and individuals/families are invited to cook, bake, or otherwise provide one portion of the meal. Those who are unable to attend may also help provide for the meal financially. We also appreciate anyone who would like to come and help serve the meal at 6:30 p.m. EECM is located at 6140 Station St. in East Liberty, 15206. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-shelter36>.
- **Sing with a Choir on Sunday, December 18th during Worship** – If you love to sing, we are putting together a choir for the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18. The choir will sing during the worship service. There will be two rehearsals, December 11 after

service and December 18 before service. Laura will record the music and you can learn it at your own pace. Please see Laura if you are interested or contact her at ministerofmusic@standrewpittsburgh.org.

- **Donations for Coffee Hour** – As more people return to coffee hour or attend for the first time, it would be helpful to have additional donations to support this ministry. Any of the following would be much appreciated: Ground coffee, creamers, canned drinks, children's drinks, individually wrapped food items of any kind. Donations may be left on the coffee table in the Social Hall. Thank you for your consideration.
- ***Christ in our Home* Current Devotional Booklets for the Next Quarter (January - March 2023) Available at Church Entrances** – *Christ in our Home* is a booklet that offers a daily Bible reading with a short reflection and prayers, long with additional prayer concerns and readings for those who would like to expand their devotional practices. These are available at each entrance to the church, and we encourage people of the congregation to take one for yourself and others!
- **Two Vigils to Remember Recent Victims of Gun Violence – Wednesday, December 7th and Thursday, December 15th** – First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Centre and Aiken, joins the Pittsburgh Equality Center for a 6:00 p.m. vigil on Wednesday, December 7th, outside the church, to remember those killed at Club Q in Colorado Springs. Bidwell Presbyterian Church (1025 Liverpool Street, 15233) will host a vigil co-sponsored by CeaseFire PA, Squirrel Hill Stands against Gun Violence, PIIN, and other organizations on Thursday, December 15th, the tenth anniversary of the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School.
- **Bethel AME Pittsburgh Updates** – Our friends at Bethel AME are collecting clean, gently worn/used **Winter** clothing of all sizes. Items can be left on the table next to the pantry shelves in St. Andrew's Social Hall.