

Second Sunday of Advent December 4, 2016

Prelude Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Processional Hymn 59 "Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding"

Merton

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant

Together, let us bless the Advent Wreath.

People

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever! Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days, you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgment; for you are our light and our salvation. Blessed be God for ever.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant

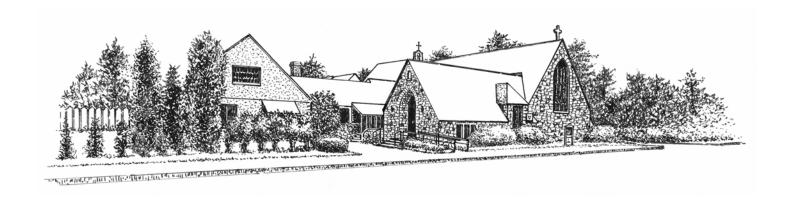
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355



Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Together we pray.

People

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The 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. His 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; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb,

Reader The Word of the Lord.People Thanks be to God.

the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The congregation is encouraged to sing the psalm.



- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
 and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
 and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy a mong the people; *
 he shall rescue the poor and crush the op pressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the möwn field, * like showers that water the earth.
- †7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessèd be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, * who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
 and may all the earth be filled with his glory.

 Amen. Amen.

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever 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. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may

with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For 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, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again

Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

Psalm 42

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This 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."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But 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? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do 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. Even 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.

"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. His 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."

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

After each bidding the Reader says, Lord, in your mercy. The People reply, Hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin BCP p. 360

Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Presentation of Bread and Wine

Offertory Anthem "Ev'ry valley shall be exalted" from Messiah

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Lucas Alvarado, solo

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low;

The crooked straight and the rough places plain. — Isaiah 40:4

Doxology Hymn 380 v. 3 "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" Old 100th

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP p. 367

Sanctus S 131 Gerald Near

Fraction Anthem S 151 David Hurd

Breaking of the Bread

Ushers will direct the congregation to communion stations, starting from the rear of the church and moving forward. Gluten-free wafers are available. All are welcome to receive communion.

Communion Anthem There is no rose

John Joubert (b. 1927)

There is no rose of such virtue

By that rose we may well see

As is the rose that bare Jesu; There be one God in persons three;

Alleluia. Pares forma

For in this rose containèd was

Then leave we all this worldly mirth,

Heaven and earth in little space;

And follow we this joyous birth;

Res miranda. Transeamus

Communion Hymn 75 "There's a voice in the wilderness crying" Ascension

Thanksgiving after Communion BCP p. 365

Blessing

Recessional Hymn 616 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

Dismissal

Clergy Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Gottes Sohn ist kommen

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)



Please join us for coffee hour following the 10am service, hosted by Jack & Jill Whiting.

Flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Louisa J. Gelser, Elsie Johnston Millet, Gertrude Haynes Nesbitt, Carl Pannullo, and Gloria Johnston Wiggin.

Serving St. Andrew's this week

Altar Guild Molly Aitken, Bonnie Akins, Margaret Blackwell, Judith Boland, Laura Brown MacKinnon, Elsie Deane, Heidi Harper, Ann Johnson, and Margarethe Kulke Flower Guild Cynthia Ballantyne Greeter Nancy Braun

Serving at 8am

Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Michael Kemp Ushers Jane Givens and Mark Housel

Serving at 10am

Acolytes Nate Parsons, Edie Parsons, Katherine Roer,
Elizabeth Martin, and Amelia Houghton

Chalice Bearers Wendy Haering-Engels, Joanna Horobin, Suzy Littlefield,
Paige Manning, Anne Prensner, and Paul Shackford

Lay Readers Joe Hamilton and Janet Giele

Ushers Carter Houghton, Bob Prensner, Sonsat Tom-Quinn,
Terri Rawson, Kris Vanin, and Michael Vanin

Serving at 5pm

Lay Reader/Chalice Bearer Blair Glennon

Intercessions from the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Parishes of the Alewife Deanery
St. Paul's Church, Bedford
All Saints' Church, Belmont
St. Mark's Church, Burlington
The Officers of the Diocese



About the Readings

From Preparing for Sunday http://standrewswellesley.org/worship reading.html

Isaiah 11:1-10 The hope associated with the kings of David's line was never really borne out by experience, yet it persisted. The picture painted here by the prophet Isaiah became even more meaningful to the exilic and postexilic generations, as shown by the quotation from it in Habakkuk 2:14. It formed the expectation of a messianic king embodying all the best qualities of the past and empowered with the Spirit of the Lord, as was David, the son of Jesse. The king's wisdom issues in justice, especially for the poor. His reign restores the peaceful harmony of the created order.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 This royal psalm was probably used as part of the enthronement ceremony for the Davidic kings. As God's representative, the king's dominion should extend to the whole world (vv. 8-11). His deliverance of the poor ensures power and prosperity for all (vv. 12-17), and his reign fulfills the promise to Abraham found in Genesis 12:2-3 (v. 17). After the end of the monarchy, this psalm was interpreted in reference to the coming Messiah.

Romans 15:4-13 In chapter 14, Paul discussed the dispute between "strong" and "weak" Christians about dietary observances. It is not clear whether the division arose between two groups of Gentiles or between Gentile and Jewish Christians. In 15:3, Paul applies Psalm 69:9 to Christ to call the conflicting parties to mutual surrender. At the beginning of today's reading, Paul justifies his use of the scriptures by pointing out their role in showing the continuity of God's activity and thus providing encouragement and hope to Christians. The example of Christ himself provides the model for imitation. God, in Christ, both fulfilled the hope of "the circumcised" (v. 9), the Jewish people, for a Messiah and extended salvation to the Gentiles. A quotation from the Old Testament (2 Samuel 22:50) shows that the inclusion of the Gentiles had always been a part of God's purpose. Such encouragement in Christ and in the scriptures results in a divine hope that overflows in the believer's life.

Matthew 3:1-12 John the Baptist's clothing identifies him as a prophet. But he is more than a prophet; he is Elijah returned. He preaches the same message as Jesus, challenging the same opposition. But Matthew also makes clear the distinction between John and Jesus. John calls his listeners to repent, to turn back to the covenant way of life, for the kingdom of heaven is spatially and temporally at hand in the person of Jesus. The kingdom stretches between present reality and future consummation. Neither physical

descent from Abraham nor baptism by John, but only deeds that spring from repentance will avail against the coming judgment, symbolized by fire. The mightier one to come will baptize with "the Holy Spirit and fire" (v. 11). This was later interpreted by the early Church as the regenerative baptism with the Holy Spirit.



Notices & Announcements

Newcomers and visitors: We extend a warm welcome to those who are new in our community. Please fill out one of the welcome cards in the narthex (foyer) and hand it to a greeter for a fuller welcome!

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Please contribute to our Christmas worship by offering flowers in memory of, or in thanksgiving for, people you love. Please submit your names by **Wednesday**, **December 7**, along with a contribution made payable to St. Andrew's Church, with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. You may leave a note in the "Flower Memorial" box in the mail room, or with your weekly offering in the plate. Thank you. — Margarethe Kulke

• altarflowers@standrewswellesley.org

Advent Lessons & Carols

Join us for Advent Lessons & Carols, **Sunday, December 11 at 5pm**. It is a time to contemplate the great mystery of the season we have entered into, a time to still our busy minds and bodies as we listen to Bible readings and anthems of hope and faith in a candlelight service. There will be a reception immediately following. Come and bring your friends and neighbors. — Wardie Mannix

• wardiemannix@gmail.com

Advent Taizé-Style Service

If you are longing for mystery, silence, and flickering candles in Advent, please join us **today**, **December 4** from **5:45 to 6:20pm** at the main altar for our service. If you arrive before 5:40pm, please gather in the Children's Chapel until the 5pm Eucharist finishes. All are welcome.

- Rev. Margaret Schwarzer
- margaret@standrewswellesley.org

Holiday Alternative Gift Fair Today, December 4, after the 10am service,

St. Andrew's will hold our Alternative Gift Fair. The fair benefits programs at our outreach ministries. You can support many ministries, including El Hogar, Heifer International, the St. Andrew's Knitting Ministry, St. Stephen's Youth Programs, the Wellesley Food Pantry, Family Promise Metrowest, and the Salvation Army Miracle Kitchen.

— Ann Johnson ● <u>aegjohnson@aol.com</u>

Say Cheese for the Directory!

If you missed the formal photo shoots, don't worry—you can still be included! Drop in for a make-up session at St. Andrew's **today**, **December 4**. We will be taking photographs (first come, first served) in the Rite-13 room after the 10am service.

If you already had your picture taken by Lifetouch, please pick up your free 8x10 in the copy room. All photos are in a marked box on top of the table by the window. Thank you. — Nancy Hancock

• nancyhancock339@gmail.com

5pm Christmas Eve Intergenerational Choir

The Intergenerational Choir is an opportunity to make your Christmas Eve at St. Andrew's even more special by singing in the choir with your family and friends!

To participate, please pick up music posted outside my office and send me an email. — Amanda Kern

- <u>amanda@standrewswellesley.org</u>. Important dates:
- Thursday, December 22: 6-7:30pm Intergenerational Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary. Pizza supper after rehearsal!
- Saturday, December 24: 4pm
 Meet in the choir room for warm-ups and a final rehearsal. The choir sings at the 5pm service.

Christmas Pageant Signups

All children and youth are invited to join in the 2016 St. Andrew's Christmas pageant! Auditions and rehearsals are as follows:

• Today, December 4, 11:15am:

- Auditions for speaking roles
- Sunday, December 11, 11:15am:
 Rehearsal for speaking roles
- Saturday, December 17, 9:40am to 12pm: Rehearsal for all participants
- Sunday, December 18, 9am: Participants gather for 10am pageant!
- Amanda Kern
- amanda@standrewswellesley.org

Bible Circle Reminder

Bible Circle will meet on **Tuesday**, **December 13 at 10:30am in the Harvey Room.** Margaret Schwarzer will lead the discussions. The title for this year is: *Reflecting on Epistles: The Letter to the Hebrews and the Letter of Paul to Philemon*. We will read and discuss chapters 5 and 6 of the letter to the Hebrews. We hope that you can come. Please bring your Bible! — Margarethe Kulke

• mnbkulke@verizon.net

Advent Book Drive: Support St. Stephen's

This year, our Advent church school outreach project is a book drive for the Blackstone Elementary School library, which is run by volunteers from St. Stephen's in Boston, our sister parish. The Blackstone library has a specific wish list of new, hardcover titles to stock its shelves—check the e-Pistle for a link to the Amazon list or visit www.tinyURL.com/BlackstoneLibrary2016. Books can be delivered to my office.

- Rev. Catherine Healy
- catherine@standrewswellesley.org

Stewardship Update: Keeping St. Andrew's Strong!

As of November 30, we have 230 pledges for \$830,752. Thank you so much to all who have pledged! We are approaching our goals of 300+ pledges for at least \$900,000. We need everyone's support, and we need pledges and gifts large and small to sustain our programs and momentum for 2017. If you haven't yet done so, please give thanks for our vibrant parish and our missions, and make a generous pledge this week! As I stated on Commitment Sunday, in baseball terms, it's not just the home runs and triples we need, we also need many doubles, and singles, as well as bunts, hit-by-pitches, walks, and even steals! Please be as generous as you are able, and show your support for St. Andrew's! - Herb Manning • https://hemanning78@gmail.com

Online Giving Now Available

Electronic giving is now offered on our website under the GIVE tab. You may choose your checking account, savings account, or credit card to make pledge payments (one-time or recurring) or special contributions (e.g., memorial flowers, outreach). Creating a profile will only take a moment, and you will be able to make changes to your donations and view and print your online donation history.

- Lynda Sperry • <u>lynda.sperry@verizon.net</u>

Blue Christmas Service

Sometimes, Advent and Christmas are full of peace and soulful satisfaction; in other years, we may find ourselves in the midst of loss, disappointment, worry, or illness. If you or someone you love has had hardships this year, or if you are longing for a chance to make room for the Spirit of God at a time of struggle or loss, please join us on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30pm for a Blue Christmas Service. We will gather with solemn, gentle silence, a spoken service, and the opportunity for each of us to silently light candles and kindle a prayer or a hope for the year that is past, and the year that is ahead. We will rest in the promise of Christmas, remembering that even in times of sorrow, God's love and grace can find us and support us. — Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

• margaret@standrewswellesley.org

9am Christian Learning Series
Join us on Sunday, December 11 at 9am in
Room 2 when two spiritual directors from
Bethany House of Prayer will lead us in an
Advent meditation: *A Graceful Silence*.

- Rev. Margaret Schwarzer
- margaret@standrewswellesley.org

Prayer Request Cards

In your pew, you will find yellow cards that you can use to make a public or private prayer request. Please place these cards in the offering plate or give them to a member of the clergy. — Rev. Catherine Healy

• catherine@standrewswellesley.org

Why Socks?

Winter is fast upon us. While we here at St. Andrew's are warm and well-fed, our marginalized brothers and sisters are not. I once again humbly appeal to your generosity and request SOCKS—new, white, men's cotton crew socks, size L or XL.

Please let me remind you *why* these socks are so important. Many people who are homeless are on their feet constantly, and most have old shoes, which harbor infection. Since changing shoes is not an option for them, changing socks is one of the few ways to help protect their feet. These socks will be distributed by Roseanna Means, M.D., president and founder of Health Care Without Walls, to seven shelters in the greater Boston area.

Please consider making a difference by contributing to this vital ministry, which has been an important part of our ministry to the homeless since 2007. You may do this by:

- Placing socks in the SOX BOX located outside the library.
- Sending a check to St. Andrew's for any amount—memo "SOX BOX"—this will be included in your church statement, and I'll happily purchase the socks.

 Purchasing socks in honor of your loved ones at the Alternative Gift Fair held on December 4.

Remember, as we pull on our woolly socks and warm dry boots, our sisters and brothers in Christ pound the pavement, most wearing inadequate foot covering. — Donna Kell

• donnalb.kell@gmail.com

Mitten Tree

The St. Andrew's mitten tree is in the parish hall. Please bring new hats, gloves, and mittens for those in need this winter.

- Debbie Osborn
- debbieosborn@verizon.net

Donate Winter Coats

Coats for Kids, our annual collection of gently used winter coats for children and adults, has begun. All sizes are needed, but especially Pre-K and adult XL sizes. Drop them off in the red bin marked "Coats for Kids" in the corridor outside the parish offices.

- Joanna Horobin
- joannahorobin@gmail.com

Illness and Off-Hour Emergencies

The clergy are always available to assist you. Please email or call the clergy if you or a member of your family expects to be in the hospital and wishes to be visited. Also, please let us know of names that should be added to our prayer list. Our prayers and concerns are with all those in need.

- Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole 603/831-4938
- adrian@standrewswellesley.org

Name Tags

Name tags are a great way to get to know folks and help everyone feel welcome. The membership committee offers lovely, reusable magnetic name tags for all members. If you would like a new or replacement name tag, please contact Jane Andrews at jmlandrews@gmail.com or at 781/431-1372.

Revised Parish By-Laws Approved

The Standing Committee has approved a revised set of our parish by-laws. Three provisions were added/deleted in the approved version:

- Added language that would prevent two or more members of the same household or family from serving concurrently on the vestry.
- Deleted language that would allow the rector to name a non-voting, ex-officio

- member to the vestry for a one-year term. Since all vestry meetings are open to the parish, this language was not necessary to allow the rector to ask parishioners to participate in vestry discussions.
- Added language stating that any formal organizations connected to the parish (e.g., a St. Andrew's food pantry serving the community) must have charters declaring their purposes, defining their members, and describing their scope of action. While we currently do not have any such organizations, it was prudent to add this language, in case there are any changes in the future.

We will need to re-approve our revised parish by-laws at the **Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29, 2017**. Please contact me with any questions. — Lynda Sperry

• lynda.sperry@verzion.net

Weekly Deadlines

Announcements and anything else to be added to the leaflet or e-Pistle are due by **Tuesday at noon**. Please consider limiting your announcement to 50 to 100 words.

- Katharine Clark
- kate@standrewswellesley.org



Gratitude

Gathering of the Greens

Many thanks to all who joined in the "Gathering of the Greens" for advent wreaths last Saturday. Thanks to Christine Beach for organizing the gathering. Thank you also to Luisa Hunnewell for her hospitality in welcoming St. Andrew's to gather greens on her property.

Advent Wreath Potluck Supper

Many thanks to Barbara Bergstrom, Nancy Jones, Sandy Rigney, Jenny Sawyer, and Kris Vanin for organizing the Advent Wreath Potluck Supper last Sunday evening. This new initiative was a great success. There was a very jolly atmosphere in the parish hall as the potluck supper was shared and wreaths were made. It seemed a perfect way to end the Thanksgiving holiday weekend and begin the season of Advent. We hope it will be a new tradition!

Turkey Trot Joy

Thanks to all 61 of us who were on "Team St. Andrew's" this year. We ran with 1,700 others and helped raise \$85,000 for charity on Thanksgiving Day. Thanks, also, to Peter Lull, who got up early on Thursday to take photos of the race, and thanks to Jenny Sawyer, who came up with the idea of a St. Andrew's water station at the one-mile mark. Zebby Dubé, Becky Hamlin, Kathy Hunter, Mark and Scott Sawyer, and Bill Wiberg passed out water while the rest of us ran towards the finish line. Our youngest runner was 7, our oldest runner was 75, and a good time was had by all.

Thanksgiving Dinners for St. Stephen's

The outreach committee would like to thank Jack & Jill Whiting as well as "the cast of thousands," for the help received getting food into the kitchen (thank you, Steve Killeen), making up "double bags," filling bags, putting them in the cars, and driving them in to St. Stephen's (thank you Jane Andrews and Bob Harrington). It's a lot of work. Then there was the Tuesday turkey pick up and driving again to St. Stephen's (thank you, Victor Calcaterra & Mary Scanlon). The 72 dinners were very much appreciated by Tim Crellin and the recipients at St. Stephen's.

Vestry

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Calendar

- The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated on Sundays at 8am, 10am, and 5pm. The **Holy Eucharist** is also celebrated every Wednesday at 7:30am. We offer healing prayer at this service. **Silent Contemplative Prayer** is offered weekdays at 8:45am.
- Senior Choir has rehearsal Thursday evenings at 7:30pm, and Sundays at 9am; Junior Choir also has rehearsal Sundays at 9am.
- Parish Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday, 9am to 12pm.
- **12-Step Programs** Al-Anon, Tuesdays, 7:30pm; Men's AA, Wednesdays, 8pm; Women's AA, Thursdays, 7pm; Emotions Anonymous, Saturdays, 9:30am; Sober Sisters, Saturdays, 10:30am.

Sunday, December 4

9:45am Kids' Place, Church School, and Rite-13
11:15am Directory Photos
11:15am Pageant Auditions
11:30am Alternative Gift Fair
5pm Confirmation Prep
5:45pm Taizé-Style Service
6:45pm High School Youth Group

Monday, December 5

7pm Reading Mavens

Friday, December 9

6:30pm Youth Group Frog Pond Trip

Sunday, December 11

9am Christian Learning Series9:45am Kids' Place, Church School, and Rite-1311:15am Pageant Rehearsal5pm Advent Lessons & Carols6pm Candlelight Reception



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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