

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent December 12, 2021

Please note, everyone in church (except age two and under) must wear a mask covering the nose and mouth. We are livestreaming the 10am service.

Prelude *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* BWV 659 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Processional Hymn 56 (vs. 1-3) "O come, O come, Emmanuel" *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity BCP p. 355

S102 Trisagion (front section of hymnal) Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

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 Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud

singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6

Richard Clark

The congregation is encouraged to sing the psalm.



- 1 Surely, it is¹ God who¹ saves me; *
I will trust in¹ him and¹ not be a¹ afraid.
- 2 For the Lord is my stronghold and my¹ sure de¹ fense, *
and¹ he will¹ be my¹ Savior.
- 3 Therefore you shall draw¹ wa¹ ter with re¹ joicing *
—¹ from the¹ springs of sal¹ vation.
- 4 And on that¹ day you shall¹ say, *
Give thanks to the¹ Lord and¹ call upon his¹ Name;
- †5 Make his deeds known a¹ mong the¹ peoples; *
see that they re¹ member that his¹ Name is ex¹ alted.
- 6 Sing the praises of the Lord, for¹ he has done¹ great things, *
and this is¹ known in¹ all the¹ world.
- 7 Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ¹ ring out your¹ joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the¹ Holy¹ One of¹ Israel.

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your

requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn "Thuma mina"

South African from *Wonder Love and Praise*, 808

Additional verses

- 3. *Call:* Lead me, Lord, *Response:* Lead me, Jesus.
- 4. *Call:* Fill me, Lord, *Response:* Fill me, Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors

came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the

Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris

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 *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*

Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green.

The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell,

The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:

I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil; here I will sit and rest awhile:

Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive;

Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Doxology Hymn 380 v. 3 “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” Old 100th
 Eucharistic Prayer B BCP p. 367
 S129 Sanctus (front section of hymnal) Robert Powell
 Breaking of the Bread
Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast.
 S 156 Fraction Anthem (front section of hymnal) *Christ our Passover* Gerald Near
All are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will direct the congregation. You have the choice of receiving a wafer or a packaged container of bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available.
 Communion Anthem *Lead me, Lord* Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)
 Communion Hymn 66 “Come, thou long expected Jesus” *Stuttgart*
 Thanksgiving after Communion BCP p. 365
 Blessing
 Recessional Hymn 68 “Rejoice! rejoice believers” *Llangloffan*
 Dismissal
Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
 Postlude *Herr Christ, der einge Gottessohn* J.S. Bach

Please join us for fellowship immediately following the service on the patio



If this is your first time at St. Andrew’s — Welcome!

We’re glad you found us. Please look for someone from our membership committee during fellowship to welcome you and answer questions you may have. Please also feel free to use this QR code to fill out a *seeker information form* so that our clergy and members of our congregation can welcome you and help you get engaged with our church.

In-person Services and COVID-19

Following the diocesan guidelines, these are the protocols that we will observe to keep all of us safe. (These protocols may change.)

- People will be asked to sit six feet apart from people not in their “bubble.”
- Everyone in church must wear a mask covering the nose and mouth (except age two and under) and remain masked to sing. Clergy and readers unmask for speaking.
- There will be separate hymnals and prayer books for each service.



**The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of
Corydon P. Cronk, given by Carol C. Cole and Caspar Cronk**

Serving St. Andrew's this week

Altar Guild D.D. Alexander, Dell Beggs, Judith Boland, Jean Childs, Zebby Dubé,
Erica Gelser, Karen McAdams, Heather Schaefer, and Cynthia Scott

Altar Flowers Dell Beggs and Jill Whiting

Serving at 8am

Lay Eucharistic Minister Nancy Echlov

Ushers Jane Givens and Mark Housel

Serving at 10am

Acolytes Crucifer, Emma Barry; Torch, Alex Dehn; and Torch, Ben Dehn

Broadcast Tech Volunteer Lynda Sperry

Lay Eucharistic Ministers Paige Manning and Margaret Zusky

Lay Readers Sarah Dent and Cam McCormick

Ushers David Boghosian, Tim Phillips, Larry Scott, and Paul Zusky

Intercessions from the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Parishes of the Alewife Deanery

Christ Church, Cambridge

St. Bartholomew's Church, Cambridge

St. James' Church, Cambridge

St. Peter's Church, Cambridge

Diocesan Disciplinary Board



Christmas Services

Christmas Eve In-person Services

Friday, December 24, our in-person services will be at **3pm, 5pm, and 10pm**. COVID safety protocols will limit attendance at each service to 350 people, on a first come, first served basis. If you want to attend the 5pm service, we suggest you arrive early. We encourage some of you to attend the 3pm or 10pm service instead

Children's Service at 3pm

This half-hour service is designed for young children and families to experience the Christmas story through music and movement (no Holy Communion).

Family Eucharist at 5pm

This is an hour-long service with carols, communion, and a sermon. This service ends with the church lights darkened and everyone holding a candle as we sing *Silent Night*. This is the most popular service.

Choral Service at 10pm

This is a beautiful hour-long service with communion, carols, choir anthems, and a sermon, preceded by a string quartet prelude at 9:40pm. The service ends with the church lights darkened and everyone holding a candle as we sing *Silent Night*.

Christmas Eve Online Services

We will be streaming the 3pm and the 5pm, also available to view later.

Christmas Day

On **Saturday, December 25**, at **10am** there will be an in-person service of Holy Communion with carols. This is a rather relaxed and happy service with about 50 to 60 people. Coming to this Christmas service in person would avoid a crowd.

Sunday December 26

On **Sunday, December 26** there will be no in-person services at St. Andrew's. Instead, at 10am there will be a live Zoom-style service online with readings, carols, prayers, and a homily. This will be broadcast from the homes of the clergy in the same way we did during the pandemic. This service will be available later online as well.



About the Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Zephaniah's ministry took place during the reign of Josiah (640-609 BCE) before the fall of Jerusalem and the exile to Babylon. Zephaniah's book foretells the coming "day of the Lord," the reckoning day when God first judges the unfaithful and then rewards the faithful. Today's passage, like many other prophetic messages, concludes Zephaniah's message on a note of comfort and jubilant hope. It presents a picture of the salvation of the people and the ultimate restoration of Jerusalem after God's judgement has been carried out. The promise in verse 17 encapsulates the revelation to God's people. Power and tenderness unite in God's relationship with humanity to produce final victory and great joy.

Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6 This canticle combines two short hymns: Isaiah 12:1-2 and 12:3-6. They both present "the day of the Lord" as a new exodus, echoing the song of Moses in Exodus 15:1-2. The first song, similar to Psalm 116, describes deliverance. The second is a song of thanksgiving, perhaps referring to the miraculous gift of water during the Israelites' desert wanderings (Exodus 15:25-27; 17:1-7). God's provision for the people's thirst symbolized the divine provision for their spiritual thirst. The people will rejoice at the presence of

the transcendent Holy One in their midst. These two psalms serve as the climax to the prophecies in chapters 7-11. After the divine judgment, God's final word is one of consolation and joy.

Philippians 4:4-7 Paul encourages the Philippians to recognize and establish joy as the atmosphere of their life. Their participation in the past sufferings of Christ and in his present lordship, and their anticipation of his glorious return in the future are the context for their life together now. This joyful lifestyle means that they can be gracious, unselfish, free from anxiety, bold in prayer and thankful as they make their needs known to God. Then peace beyond understanding, peace in the midst of trial, will be theirs. Finally, Paul offers a list of commonly recognized Greek virtues as a guide, for whatever is good in human life is incorporated into life in Christ. He also offers himself as a model for imitation and a guide for the Philippians' behavior.

Luke 3:7-18 In this section, John the Baptist preaches the good news of forgiveness and of the coming of a new relationship with God. John's baptism is a symbolic and prophetic act, the outward sign of a changed inner self. But he makes clear that repentance or changing one's life

has many practical implications. Those who have are to share with those who have not; tax collectors are to cease their extortion (19:8); and soldiers are to cease brutality and blackmail. The mightier one who is coming, identified with the Messiah, will baptize “with the Holy Spirit and fire,” two images that are often associated with God’s power and

judgment (12:49). John’s image is of a baptism of judgment (3:9, 17) rather than one that is purgative and salvific. The conjunction of Holy Spirit and fire may also be a reference to Pentecost. John preaches the good news of forgiveness and of the coming of a new relationship with God.



Notices & Announcements

Note: all staff email addresses are on the second to last page. Deadline for materials is noon on Tuesdays for both the bulletin and the e-Pistle.

Bishop's Visitation, Today

It is the custom in the Diocese of Massachusetts for one of our two bishops to undertake a visit to each parish every other year. **Today**, Bishop Gayle Harris, the Suffragan Bishop in our Diocese, will be visiting St. Andrew's. She will preach and preside at the 10am service, be present at coffee hour, and then meet with the vestry. (Our last Bishop's Visitation at St. Andrew's was in 2019 by Bishop Alan Gates, the Bishop of Massachusetts.) The purpose of the visitation is for the bishop to make sure that the parish is healthy and for the bishop to communicate any diocesan priorities to the parish. If you have any questions, please contact Adrian.

Alternative Giving Fair



Today, after the 10am service, St. Andrew's will hold the *Alternative Giving Fair* which benefits our outreach partners and supports many ministries. Use this QR code to get there, or [you can find the form here on our website.](#)

The Christmas Pageant

Speaking role/blocking rehearsal **today from 11:15am to noon** in the church for the

Christmas Pageant which will take place **on Sunday, December 19, at the 10am service**. We are looking for children, teens, and adults



to bring the Christmas story to life as storytellers and behind the scenes helpers. To get involved, please [see the signup](#) and all the dates you will be committing to [on our website](#), or use the QR code to get there.

— [Amanda Kern](#)

The Mitten/Giving Tree

The mitten tree has grown! In addition to mittens, we hope to have unwrapped gifts for the children of St. Stephen's under the tree— toys, games, legos, and clothing sizes 6-16. See the notes on the tree for a full list. Please get your gifts **under the tree by December 14** for delivery to St. Stephen's.

Children's Programs Winter Break

There will be no church school or Rite-13 from **Sunday, December 19 to Sunday, January 2**. See you at our Christmas celebrations and in class on **Sunday, January 9!**

9am Christian Learning



Join us **today** for *What is Sainly about Santa?* (He isn't just a cartoon elf!) in person in the parish hall (masked and distanced) or

on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/>. Meeting ID: 815 3084 9594 Passcode: StAndrews. All are welcome.

On **Sunday, December 19**, join us for a Bethany House of Prayer offering. A Bethany House Spiritual Director, Cathy Venkatesh, will lead us in a meditation entitled *Advent Journeys & Resting Places*. Come rest in God's grace. Classes will resume for 9am Christian Learning on January 23. [The zoom link and the list of classes are on our website.](#) — Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

Blue Christmas Service

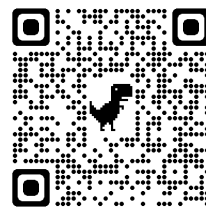
Sometimes Advent and Christmas are full of joy and satisfaction; in other years, we find ourselves in the midst of loss, illness, or disappointment. If you, or someone you care about, has had a hard year, and you are longing to make room for the Spirit of God in a time of struggle or loss, please join us on **Wednesday, December 15, from 7 to 7:30pm in the sanctuary**. We will rest in the promise of Christ, remembering that even in times of sorrow, God's love and grace can find us and support us. Please contact [Rev. Margaret Schwarzer](#) if you want your loved one prayed for at this service; this service will not be online. All are welcome.

Youth Group Alumni Night

St. Andrew's young adults and college students are welcome back to youth group for a night of festive fun on **Sunday, December 19 at 6:45pm in the parish hall**. We can't wait to learn from your wisdom!

For our St. Stephen's Family

- As is our custom, we will be sending gift boxes to seniors at St. Stephen's and we always include homemade cookies. We need many dozens so please let us know if you can bake. [Contact Jack and Jill Whiting](#) to help with this gift. They will need your cookies **by December 21**.
- Donate non-perishable grocery items in the collection box in the parish hall, [please sign-up here](#) on our website.



Sacred Ground Sign up now!

Please email Adrian by clicking [here](#), if you would like to participate in the monthly 10 session Sacred Ground course **beginning in January 2022**. The Sacred Ground course was developed by the Episcopal Church to explore issues of racial justice and living into Christ's vision for us to be the Beloved Community. The Sacred Ground course is being widely used throughout the Episcopal Church and involves ten once a month sessions which include a mix of film, reading, and discussion. The kick-off date for the course is Saturday January 22 – this will be

longer session from 9am-1pm. The rest of the sessions will be two hours each. **The dates planned for the course so far are:** Saturday, January 22 (Launch date) 9am-1pm, Wednesday, February 16, 7pm-9pm, Saturday, March 19, 9am-11am, Wednesday, April 27, 7pm-9pm. You will be able to participate either online or in-person.

Pledging for 2022

Thank you to all who have sent in pledges for 2022. The results are encouraging. **If you have not pledged, please do so** as soon as possible so we can finalize our budget. You



can send in a pledge form by mail, put one in the plate, or pledge on the GIVE tab of our website. Please do not hesitate to speak to

me, a member of the stewardship campaign, the wardens, or the rector if you have questions. — Hugh MacArthur

Year End Donations

Please observe the following best practices to complete your pledge(s):

- **Stock donations:** Please have stock donations **processed by Wednesday, December 15** AND **send me an email** documenting the stock name, number of shares and how it should be applied (2021 Pledge, 2022 Pledge, Capital Campaign, etc.)
- **Checks:** Please mail by **Friday, December 17** to allow for holiday delays.

- **Online:** If paying by credit card, please **process your request by Tuesday, December 28**. If paying by ACH, **process by Wednesday, December 29**. Payments submitted online can take 48 hours to be received and may not be credited until Monday, January 3, 2022. December 31st is a bank holiday.
- **In-person:** Drop at the church office **by noon on December 30**.

Please reach out with any questions and thank you for your continued support of St. Andrew's! — Joanne Butler

Provide Cozy Clothing

- Donate new or gently used warm coats in all sizes—babies through XXXL. They will be cleaned by Anton's Coats for Kid's and Families for distribution via various organizations serving the needy. Drop them in the bin in the office corridor, until the end of the year.
- Leave new, white athletic socks (men's large) in the SoxBox in the office corridor for distribution to homeless people.

Name tags

Get to know folks and help everyone feel welcome by wearing a name tag. The membership committee offers reusable magnetic name tags for all members. If you would like a new or replacement name tag, please contact Becky Hamlin.



Gratitude

Lessons & Carols

Thank you to Wardie and our magnificent choir for Lessons & Carols. The service was quite simply beautiful. And thanks for the lovely outdoor reception headed up by Margaret Zusky and Wendy Haering featuring treats, cookies, mulled wine, and hot cider. Thanks also to all of the great bakers who provided the amazing cookies for our first ever fresh air reception and the setup and cleanup crews.

Cookies and Carols

Thank you to all our families who baked delicious cookies for our family cookies and carols last Friday. It was so lovely to spread the Christmas spirit with caroling!

Vestry

Adult Formation Ansley Martin

Clerk Joanna Horobin

Communications

Terri Rawson-Wakefield

Fellowship Linda Lull

Finance David Osborn

Human Resources Lisa Howe

Membership Elizabeth Clarke

Outreach Joanna Horobin

Property Stephen Mahoney

Stewardship Hugh MacArthur

Treasurer Harry Condon

Wardens Paige Manning

Will Nystrom

Worship Laura Brown MacKinnon

Youth Formation Coryell Urban

Staff

- **In an emergency, please contact Adrian on his cell phone: 603/831-4938.**
- The clergy are available to assist you if you email or call them if you or a member of your family expects to be in the hospital and wishes to be visited.
- Please let us know of names that should be added to our prayer list.

Rector Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

adrian@standrewswellesley.org

Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership

Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

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Assistant Rector for Youth and Families

Rev. Mia Kano

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Pastoral Associate Rev. Karen Vickers Budney

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Parish Administrator Katharine L. Clark

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Music Minister Helen Ward Mannix

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Financial Administrator Joanne Butler

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Christian Learning Coordinator Susan Jackson

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Director of Youth Choirs Amanda Kern

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Sexton Steve Killeen

steve@standrewswellesley.org

Assistant Sextons Bill Clover and Matthew Killeen

Weekly Calendar

- The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated on **Sundays at 8am, 10am** (*also online*), **and 5pm**, and every **Wednesday at 7:30am**; **Online Morning Prayer** is also offered weekdays at **8:30am** on our website, our YouTube Channel (*use the QR code for a link to our YouTube channel to watch the recording after the service*), or on Facebook, unless otherwise noted.



- **Senior Choir** rehearsal is on **Thursdays at 7:30pm**.
- **Parish Office hours** are Monday through Thursday, **9am to 5pm**, and Friday, **9am to 12pm**. Staff is continuing to work some hours remotely.
- **12-Step Programs** Men's AA, Wednesdays, 8pm; Women's AA, Thursdays, 7pm; Emotions Anonymous, Saturdays, 9:30am.

Sunday, December 12

9am Christian Learning
9am Senior Choir
9:30am Junior Choir
9:45am Church School
9:45am Rite-13
11am Bishop Forum
11am Coffee Hour
11:15am Pageant Rehearsal
(speaking roles)

Tuesday, December 14

11am Morning Bible Circle

Wednesday, December 15

12pm Advent Bible Challenge Forum
7pm Blue Christmas

Saturday, December 18

9:30am Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, December 19

9am Christian Learning
9am Senior Choir
9am Christmas Pageant Readiness
9:45 Church School
9:45am Rite-13
10am Holy Eucharist and Christmas
Pageant
11am Coffee Hour
5pm Confirmation Class
6:45pm Alumni Night Youth Group



ST. ANDREW'S
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