

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Centered in God, Focused on Others



The First Sunday after Christmas Day Sunday December 29, 2024

The Reverend Amy Whitcomb Slemmer, Esq., Rector
Linda Gelinias, Warden
Sean Glennon, Music Director
Joanne Bibeau, Administrative Assistant
Jesse Avellino, Sexton
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www.standrewshanover.org

Readers: Suzanne Bunszel, Dane Ripellino, Janet Keane, Kristi Oliveira,
Sean Glennon, and Rev. Amy Whitcomb Slemmer

Please note updated COVID-19 Guidelines:

- Masks are optional.
- Seek designated area if you wish to remain masked and socially distanced.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the entrance to the church, and for use before and after Holy Communion.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #83

O Come, All Ye Faithful (v. 1-3)

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

THE ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

Celebrant: The people who walked in darkness

People: **have seen a great light.**

Celebrant: For to us a child is born,

People: **to us a son is given.**

Celebrant: His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

People: **the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,

People: **and peace to God's people on earth.**

THE BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider: The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

Lesson I (read by Suzanne Bunszel)
Genesis 3:1-13 – Adam and Eve rebel against God.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Collect for the 1st Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn #89 – It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (v. 1 & 4)

**It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King.'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.**

**For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**

Lesson II (read by Dane Ripellino)

Isaiah 40:1-11 –God comforts his people and call on them to prepare for redemption.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Collect for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

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.

Hymn #109 – The First Nowell (v. 1 & 3)

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.**

Lesson III (read by Janet Keane)

Micah 5:2-5a—The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

The Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Advent

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.

Hymn #115 – What Child Is This (v. 1 & 3)

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels
sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

**So bring him incense, gold and
myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own him:
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.**

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels
sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

Lesson IV (read by Kristi Oliveira)

Matthew 1:18-23– The birth of Jesus.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

The Collect for the 4th Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn #96 – Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1 & 2)

**Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Lesson V (read by Sean Glennon)

Luke 2:1-20 – Jesus is born in Bethlehem and is worshipped by angels and shepherds.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Collect for Christmas

O God, who hast caused this holy night to shine with the illumination of the true Light: Grant us, we beseech thee, that as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, so may we also perfectly enjoy him in heaven; where with thee and the Holy Spirit he liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #79 – O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1 & 3)

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still
we see thee lie! Above thy deep and
dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the
everlasting Light; the hopes and fears
of all the years are met in thee
tonight.**

**How silently, how silently, the
wondrous gift is given! So God
imparts to human hearts the
blessings of his heaven. No ear may
hear his coming, but in this world of
sin, where meek souls will receive
him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

Lesson VI (read by Rev. Amy)

John 1:1-14 – The Incarnation of the Word of God.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

The Collect for the 1st Sunday After Christmas

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn #111 – Silent Night

**Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born;
Christ, the Savior is born!**

**Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING (*please stand as able*)

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one - things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, The Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the world! the Lord is come* (H 100 v 1-2,4)

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and
heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal:

Presider: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing the light in the star that led to the manger.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(Communion is available from the reserved sacrament for anyone who would like to receive immediately following the service at the altar rail.)

PRAYER LIST:

Bill MacLellan – Nicol Family – John – Tracy Sprows – family of Amy Motta—Dennis – Dave N – Lee G – Don S – Pam E – Jan B – Leah – Katrina & Darren – Paul Nicol –Mark D – Art J – Joyce – Matthew –Thomas & Gloria – Barbara Whitman

Each week this prayer list includes requests we have received through publication (Thursday, noon). If you wish to add people to this list, please submit names by email to office@standrewshanover.org or call the office or place a note on the offertory plate or give to an usher or to Rev. Amy at Sunday service.

Immediately following this service join us for fellowship and Reverend Amy's Africa Talk.

Sunday, January 12th, at 9:30 am, the Feast of the Epiphany, we will celebrate with baptisms and receptions. You may be baptized or received from another denomination into the Episcopal Church at any age. If you are interested, or curious let the office know and we will set up a time for preparation with Reverend Amy. These conversations can be in person or via Zoom if that is more convenient for you. The sacrament of baptism or the reception into the Episcopal Church is a great cause for community and family celebration, and includes a joy filled liturgy and a welcome for babies' godparents who may be new to St. Andrew's or the Episcopal Church. All are welcome!

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Parents and grownups are invited to drop children off at Children's Chapel in the Parish Hall any time after 9:15am. Our kiddos will draw their name tags, enjoy a bible lesson and then join everyone in Big Church at announcements.

STAY CONNECTED

*Sign up to receive "The Call", our weekly e-newsletter. Use the sign-up link at "The CALL E- News" link at www.standrewshanover.org or call or email the office.

*Check out our website www.standrewshanover.org or our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/standrewshanover> for all of the latest news.

*Rev. Amy's email address is RevAmy@standrewshanover.org and pastoral phone is 781-422-4112

*office/Joanne's email address is office@standrewshanover.org and office phone is 781-826-2062

Christmas Flowers and Music

In Memory of

Ellie & Harris Broidrick
Roger Leslie
Camille & Rudy Cibik
Mary & James Nagle
Eileen Mather, Anna Carey and Ann Bunszel
Sallie, George, Pauline & Donald
Sandra Taylor Knowles & William D. Willett
Catherine "Diana" Gregory
John "Richard" Gregory
Michael Joyce
Kevan Joyce
Anne & Brooks Kelly
Beverly & Les Johnson
Richard Sullivan
Wade & Gertrude Killman
Lena Killman
CHUM
Jay & Kathryn Murdoch
Francesca Scopelleti
Vernon Gibson
Kenneth M Whitman & Barbara Whitman
Antonio & Olinda Goncalves
Roger and Marie Gelinas

In Memory of

Thomas Keane
Louise Folsom
Cecelia Grady
H. Raymond Morse, Jr. and Maureen Morse
Bill Eppard
Roland & Helena Bibeau
Teresa and Horace Laprade
Patty Lutzy
Jameel al Aidroos

In Thanksgiving for

Colin, John & Nick
David Nickerson & Family
Nikki, Jenna, Marc, Matt, Olivia, Sophia,
Lucy, Samantha & Jack
Jason & Aaron, Kyle & Kasey