

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

2017

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30 P.M.

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TAMPA, FLORIDA

+ + +

The Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir

Dr. Rodney Shores, Choirmaster

The Saint Andrew's Youth Choir

Dr. Rodney Shores, *Director*

The Saint Andrew's Cherub Choir

Maggie Coleman, *Director*

Haig Mardirosian - Organist

+ + +

String Ensemble

Francisca Mendoza, Violin

Nina Kim, Violin

Josh Dampier, Viola

Edevaldo Mulla, Cello

Wendy Leggett, Bass

Daphne Soellner, Flute

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

24 December 2017

PRELUDE • 5:00 P.M.

Choral selections by The Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir:

And There Were Shepherds	<i>J.S. Bach (1685-1750)</i>
Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heav'nly Light	
A Tender Shoot	<i>Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)</i>
Adam Lay Ybounden	<i>Boris Ord (1897-1961)</i>
Ave Maria	<i>Franz Biebl (1906-2001)</i>

Concerto for Flute, op. 26, no. 6	<i>Michel Corrette (1709-1795)</i>
Allegro	
Andante	
Presto	

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO • 5:30 P.M.

The People stand as the Choir and Ministers enter.

Celebrant Let us proceed in peace.
People **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

At the Procession, Hymn 93	<i>Regent Square</i>
"Angels from the realms of glory"	

The figure of the Christ Child is carried in procession to the Crèche.

The Blessing of the Crèche

Celebrant Behold, the dwelling of God is with men.
People **He will dwell with us and we shall be his people.**

Celebrant God himself is with us. Alleluia.

People **O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin: Bless, we pray, this crèche, that it may be to us a sign of his humble birth; and grant that we who joyfully behold his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Hymn 83, Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6	<i>Adeste fideles</i>
"O come, all ye faithful"	

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn 96, Stanzas 1 & 4

Gloria

“Angels we have heard on high”

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray. O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 (*sit*)

THE people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

After the Lesson, the Reader says

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

Hymn 107, Stanzas 1-2 – *sung by all, standing*

In dulci jubilo

“Good Christian friends, rejoice”

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

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

Hymn 107, Stanza 3

In dulci jubilo

The Sermon (*sit*)

Father Reese

The Nicene Creed - *said by all, standing*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People: *Form III (kneel)*

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed, especially those in whose memory the flowers and music have
been given, eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against
you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace (*stand*)

Priest The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Greetings (*sit*)

Offertory Carol

Haig Mardirosian (b. 1947)

Mary had a baby, Oh Lord,
Mary had a baby, Oh Lord,
Mary had a baby, Oh Lord,
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
What did she name him, Oh Lord,
What did she name him, Oh my Lord,
What did she name him, Oh Lord,
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
She named him Jesus, Oh Lord,
She named him Jesus, Oh my Lord,
She named him Jesus, Oh Lord,
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
Now where was he born? Oh, Lord,
Where was he born? Oh, Lord.
Where was he born? Oh, Lord.
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
Born in a stable,
Born in a stable,
Born in a stable,
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
And where did she lay him? Oh, Lord.
And where did she lay him? Oh, Lord.
And where did she lay him? Oh, Lord.
The people keep a comin' and the train done gone.
Mary had a baby...
African-American Spiritual

At the Presentation: Hymn 100, Stanzas 1, 2, & 4

Antioch

“Joy to the world! the Lord is come”

The Great Thanksgiving: *Eucharistic Prayer A*

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-128

The people kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.

During Communion:

Agnus Dei

Hymnal S-165

Cherub Choir Carol

arr. David Gardiniere

O come, little children, o come one and all;
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.
Come see what the Father in heaven this night
Has sent down to earth for our joy and delight.

Come see in the stable with oxen and sheep
A babe in a manger lies gently asleep
As Mary and Joseph look on him with love
A chorus of angels is singing above.

The shepherds are kneeling in silence to pray,
And dimly the light flickers over the hay.
The stars in the heavens shine down and adore Him.

O come, little children, o come one and all;
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.
Come see what the Father in heaven this night
Has sent down to earth for our joy and delight.

Children's Choir Carol

arr. Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)

Still, still, still, see the child asleep so still;
So Mary gently rocks her baby
Singing songs of love and mercy,
Still, still, still, see the Child asleep so still.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, my tender Baby, sleep.
The angels sing glad songs before you,
Praising and rejoicing o'er you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, my tender Baby, sleep.

Love, love, love, great is God's mighty love.
He left his throne in heav'n above
And came to earth to show His love.
Love, love, love, great is God's mighty love.

Translation: Patricia Halbeck

Hymn 101 - *sung by all, seated*

"Away in a manger"

Cradle Song

Hymn 99 - *sung by all, seated*

"Go tell it on the mountain"

Go Tell It on the Mountain

The Postcommunion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *(kneel)*

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living
members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Hymn 111 - *sung by all, kneeling*

"Silent night, holy night"

Stille nacht

At the Retiring Procession: Hymn 87 - *sung by all, standing*
"Hark! the herald angels sing"

Mendelssohn

Dismissal - *The response is "Thanks be to God."*

Christmas Oratorio, op. 12
Overture

Charles Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – 2017

Tom & Elise Akins	in memory of their mothers, Ruth Akins and Marielle Robichaud
Irene & Peter Baker	in loving memory of Dickie Connar and Bobbie Faber
The Baldy family	in loving memory of Anderson Lacy Baldy, Jr.
Ben, Jeannie & Emily Borsch	in memory of the Rt. Rev. Frederick H. Borsch
Judy & Ed Bourdeau	in thanksgiving for family
Jane Cantler	in thanksgiving for her children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren
Bud Cash	in memory of his wife, Bertha Cash and son, Timothy Cash; in thanksgiving for his family, the Hollars and the LeGrands
Stephanie Chapman	in thanksgiving for family
Holly Clemons & Katie Pastorius	in memory of Charles Clemmons and Kay Hart
Piers & Pamela Curry	in memory of William T. Michell
David & Jan Dees	in memory of Dr. Curtis Rorebeck and Marie Jane Bentschner
Michael & Mary Beth Dickinson	in memory of R. Clayton Dickinson and Anderson Lacy Baldy
Jerry Divers	in memory of Jean Bacon Divers
Wallace A. Dixon	in memory of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Nehemiah F. Dixon, and aunts Janie Brownell and Rachel White
Dr. & Mrs. James N. Endicott	in memory of William and Bede Greeson
R.J. Erskine	in memory of Mary Louise and Mary Vanessa Erskine
Carole Fields	in memory of Dr. Rodney S. Fields, Benjamin Roberts Fields, Ben H. Roberts, Lunett Roberts, D. Wallace Fields, Martha Ann Fields; in thanksgiving for Rodney, Lisa, Roddy, Rebecca and Ryan Fields
Kathleen Good Jenkins	in loving memory of Rita Wendling Good
Eric & Loueita Hargens	in memory of her son, Bradley J. Dykes
Vernon & Charlotte Henderson	in thanksgiving for their family
Carole King	in memory of daughter, Shannon King; husband, Mark King; parents Bernice and Paul Tarnow, in-laws Lorena and Russell King; brother, Tommy Tarnow
Bettye J. Kirkland	in memory of her grandparents, Tommie and Morris Kirkland, uncle Luther Kirkland
Kay & Whitney Kurtz	in memory of Irene Bourdreaux and Kenneth W. Osborne
Adrienne Love	in thanksgiving for Olivia Love Wallace, granddaughter
Linda & Michael McGhee	in memory of Heather Lauren McGhee
Anne & Sophia Paige	in thanksgiving for family and friends
Wayne & Anna Putney	in memory of Maria and Florian Jurdak
Amy & Earl Rahn	in memory of Norman Cartwright and Jeanne C. Rahn; in thanksgiving for Gwen and Josie Rahn
The Rev. John & Jeanette Reese	in thanksgiving for Sheridan Marr, Flower Chair
Tina Repp-Guard family	in memory of Eleanor Pavlik and Gary Repp
The Roberts & Brightwell families	in memory of Vi and Wally Smith
Nell Rorebeck	in memory of Dr. Curtis Rorebeck
L. Gray, Catherine & Ward Sanders	in thanksgiving for the year 2017 A.D. and all its blessings!
Jane & Nathan Simpson	in memory of Nathan B. Simpson, Jr. and John Gray Simpson
Don & Virginia Sink	in memory of loved ones
Pam Sitton	in thanksgiving for her grandson, Tyler Daniel Mackin
Jan & Earl Smith	in memory of their parents and grandparents
Jack & Linda Sparn	in thanksgiving for God's many blessings
Jerold & Anne Stadel	
Mrs. Catharyn Szuba	in memory of W.J. and Lillian Fitzgerald
Mark & Jill Turlington	in memory of Wayne Pharr
Giovanni Ulibarri & Dominga Belardo	
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Vince	in memory of their good friend, Connie Rynder
The Watson family	in memory of Charles Watson, Betty and Jack Watson, and Ronald Powers
John & Pat Wolfe	in thanksgiving for all the music in their lives; and in thanksgiving for their family: John II, Brian, Katy, Maggie, Emmy and James

The Charles A. and Irene M. McKay and Mary Irene Falk Fund
within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay

CHRISTMAS MUSIC – 2017

Tom & Elise Akins	in thanksgiving for the artistry of Haig Mardirosian
Irene & Peter Baker	in loving memory of Dickie Connar and Bobbie Faber
The Baldy family	in loving memory of Anderson Lacy Baldy, Jr.
Siegfried & Linda Barry	in loving memory of their parents, Frank and Gloria Youdis, Frieda Haderer-Barry; and grandparents
Jeannie, Ben & Emily Borsch	in thanksgiving for Barbara Borsch
David Bucchiere & The Rev. Dr. John L. Hooker	in thanksgiving for the ministries of Rodney Shores, Haig Mardirosian and the choirs of St. Andrew's
Chris & Julie Capsambelis	in memory of their mothers: Shirley Meredith and Eleanor Ross
James W. Carmichael	in memory of Rev. and Mrs. James M. Carmichael; in thanksgiving for the many blessings
James W. Carmichael	in memory of Mary Tennette Sloan; in thanksgiving for the grace of God
Frazier & Claire Carraway	in memory of Nancy Bailey and Randy Bolen; in thanksgiving for Margaret and Bailey
Stephanie Chapman	in thanksgiving for family
Holly Clemmons & Katie Pastorius	in thanksgiving for God's beautiful gifts to us in nature and music!
The Crawford family	
David & Jan Dees	in thanksgiving for Nell Rorebeck
Michael & Mary Beth Dickinson	in thanksgiving for Mary Ashley, Michelle and Ian
Jerry Divers	in memory of Jean Bacon Divers
Ian & Mary Ashley Edwards	in memory of Lacy Baldy and Clayte Dickinson
Dr. James & Sunny Endicott	in memory of Jason Krivy
Carole Fields	in memory of Dr. Rodney S. Fields, Benjamin Roberts Fields, Ben H. Roberts, Lunett Roberts, D. Wallace Fields, Martha Ann Fields; in thanksgiving for Rodney, Lisa, Roddy, Rebecca and Ryan Fields
Richard A. Ferlita	in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Dominick Ferlita; in thanksgiving for so many blessings
Richard A. Ferlita	in memory of Nelson Paul Ferlita; in thanksgiving for so many blessings
Rosemary Graf	in memory of William Fowler
Mary Beth Harris	in memory of John Isaac Meats
Fran Kerr	in thanksgiving for family and friends
Carole King	in thanksgiving for her children: Mark, Jr., Rusty and Cyndi King, Melinda and Greg Cashin; grandchildren Peyton and J.R. King, Steven, Alexandra and Mark Cashin
Deloris E. Lewis	in memory of her parents, Alfonso Liand and Ruth B. Lewis
Leslie Lowe	
Rosemary S. McAteer	in thanksgiving for Derrill, Megan, Clara and Kathryn
Catherine Michelsen	in memory of Helen Lee Simmons
Charles & Virginia Mullen	in thanksgiving for Donald and Virginia Sink
Anne & Sophia Paige	in thanksgiving for family and friends
Wayne & Anna Putney	in thanksgiving for many blessings
The Rev. John & Jeanette Reese	in thanksgiving for St. Andrew's musicians
Tina Repp-Guard family	in memory of Eleanor Pavlik and Gary Repp
The Roberts & Brightwell families	in thanksgiving for their family and friends and all of God's blessings
Nell Rorebeck	in memory of Mrs. Nell Struss
L. Gray, Catherine & Ward Sanders	in thanksgiving for the year 2017 A.D. and all its blessings!
Jane & Nathan Simpson	in memory of Nathan B. Simpson, Jr. and John Gray Simpson
Don & Virginia Sink	in thanksgiving for their grandchildren: Robby and Sierra, Katie, Ally and Will

Jan & Earl Smith
Jack & Linda Sparn
Paula Stewart
Kathi Stoy
Mrs. Catharyn Szuba
Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Vince
John & Pat Wolfe

in thanksgiving for their children, their families, and many blessings
in thanksgiving for God's many blessings
in thanksgiving for Elijah T. Stewart, USMC
in memory of William Parent; in thanksgiving for Virginia Parent
in memory of E.J. Szuba
in memory of their good friend, Connie Rynder
in thanksgiving for all the music in their lives; and in
thanksgiving for their family: John II, Brian, Katy, Maggie,
Emmy and James

WINDOW CANDLES

The candles in the church windows are given to the praise and glory of God
and in thanksgiving for their twin grandchildren, Mackenzie Swann Maynell and
Mac Carey Maynell, by Mary and Henry Brown

THOSE SERVING TODAY: December 24, 5:30 p.m.

Celebrant and Preacher: Fr. Reese; **Assisting Priest:** Fr. Campbell

Organist: Haig Mardirosian

Vergers: Richard Ferlita, Piers Curry

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Readers: Beverley, Derrick and Donreece Brown,
Anabel Ramirez, Natalie Schmid

Ushers: Don Sink, Marshall Ferrell, David Ramirez, Richard Chapman

Acolytes: Marshall Ferrell, Michael Phillips, Ian & Stella Curry, Kate & Abby Turlington

Altar Guild: Adrienne Love, Rachel May

Bambino Bearer: Daniel Carr

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God in joyful celebration of the Christmas season
and for the many blessings of St. Andrew's, John and Rick our priests, the lovely music
provided by our choir and organist, and all who serve God in his church.
Merry Christmas to all, by Jan and Earl Smith



Annual Parish Meeting
Sunday, January 28, 11:45 am
following the 10:30am service
to hear Annual Reports and elect new Vestry members

Make a Pledge for 2018

Please return your pledge card for 2018 as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, cards are available at the back of the church, in the Parish Hall, or through the parish office (813-221-2035). Make a commitment and support St. Andrew's in the coming year!

We have currently received **136 pledges for \$361,267**. Please help us reach our goal of \$430,000 in pledges for 2018!

END OF YEAR GIVING: According to IRS tax rules for charitable deductions, donors must deliver checks on or by December 31, 2017 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2017. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2018 (January 1st) will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2017, even if the check is predated to 2017 or was actually written in 2017. However, checks that are written, mailed and post-marked in 2017 will be deductible in 2017 though they are not received by a church until 2018.

Upcoming Events

Friday-Tuesday, December 22-26 – *Office closed for the holidays*

Friday-Tuesday, December 29-January 2 – *Office closed for the holidays*

Sunday, January 28, 11:45am – *Annual Parish Meeting*

Sundays, 9:30am – *Adult Christian Education, third floor*

Wednesdays, 7:00am – *Men's Prayer Breakfast,*

Samaria Café, Madison & Tampa streets

Wednesdays, 12:10pm – *Holy Eucharist*

Wednesdays, 5:30pm – *Youth Choir Rehearsal, second floor*

Wednesdays, 7:00pm – *Adult Choir Rehearsal*

Thursdays, 10:30am – *Bible Study, third floor*



THANK YOU, ANGELS!

A very special thank you for all who shopped for over 100 children and volunteered to help at the Gabriel Tree Party. There were more volunteers than ever before and it takes every single one of you to make a difference in what is one of St. Andrew's most wonderful events each year. A very special thank you to Martha Cobb and Nekeshia Hammond who put in hours of organization to make this miracle happen. Bless you all and we are so fortunate to have such angels at St. Andrew's that continue to work for Him!



Decorating Elves

Many thanks to all those wonderful people who worked so hard to beautify the church for our Lord's birthday. We are grateful for the generosity of Nancy Turner, who donated all the Christmas trees and wreaths. We appreciate the hard work of Sheridan Marr and Jan Smith, who directed the greening. Thanks to those who spent many hours this past Sunday making St. Andrew's look so grand and festive!

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30am

Christianity and World Religions: Wrestling With Questions People Ask

Christianity and World Religions: Wrestling With Questions People Ask is a video-based small-group study that explores four major world religions - Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism – and compares the beliefs of each with those of Christianity. This six-week study deals openly and honestly with questions people ask about other religions, including why we should believe the claims of Christianity over those of other faiths. As part of the study, author and presenter Adam Hamilton interviews a religious leader from each tradition. He treats the world religions with great respect, recognizing the unique contributions of each. In examining these major world religions and the beliefs of their followers, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbor, and find positive ways to share the gospel. Hamilton is Pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas.

Here is the line-up:

1/7 – Questions People Ask

1/14 – Hinduism

1/21 – Buddhism

1/28 – Islam

2/4 – Judaism

2/11 – Christianity

This class, facilitated by the Rector, meets in Room 302 (the Library) on the third floor of the Parish Building.

Thursday morning Bible Study is on hiatus for the holidays. Beginning January 18, we will



study the book of Exodus using the study guide *Exodus: Learning to Trust God* by James Reapsome. "Trust God. It sounds so simple. Yet it is often difficult to trust God with the important areas of our lives -- our money, our career, our marriage, our health. In the book of Exodus, Israel's struggles resemble our own. In this story of hardship and

hope, we can learn along with Israel that God is worthy of our trust." Join us in the library at 10:30am on Thursday mornings!

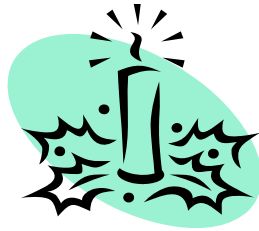
This class, facilitated by Alice Prucha, meets in Room 302 (the Library) on the third floor of the Parish Building.

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A Christmas Prayer

Light of the world so clear and bright,
Enter our homes on Christmas night;
Re-light our souls so tenderly
That we may grow to be like Thee.



Christmas Reminders

May the Christmas presents remind you
of God's greatest gift-His only begotten Son.

May the Christmas candles remind you
of Him who is the light of the world.

May the Christmas tree remind you
of another tree on which He died for you.

May the Christmas feast remind you
of Him who is the bread of life.

May the Christmas snow remind you
of the cleansing power of Christ.

May the Christmas bells remind you
of the glorious proclamation of His birth.

May the Christmas carols remind you
of His glad tidings which we are to proclaim to all mankind.

May the Christmas season remind you
in every way of Jesus Christ your King.

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Electronic Mail: secretary@saintandrewstampa.org
Web Site: www.saintandrewstampa.org

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday Service Schedule: Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Dabney T. Smith, *V Bishop of Southwest Florida*
The Rev. John Reese, *Rector*
The Rev. Ralph M. Campbell II, *Assisting Priest*
Dr. Haig Mardirosian, *Interim Organist/Choirmaster*
Dr. Bienvenido Yangco, *8:00 a.m. Musician*
Dr. Rodney Shores, *Youth Choir Director*
Pamela Frost, *Parish Administrator*
Kathleen Good Jenkins, *Administrative Assistant*
Alicia Schmid, *Director of Children's and Youth Ministries*
Richard Connor, *Sexton*

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Loueita Hargens, *Clerk*; George Levy, *Junior Warden*; Irene Baker
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Cate Hammer, Jim Morgan
Class of 2017: Gary Cotter, *Treasurer*; Richard Ferlita, Brad Hall,
Paula Stewart, Lori Taplow

In the name of Christ, we the people of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, in response to God's call, proclaim our belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior, and thereby declare our purpose to be to glorify God through our worship and work, to serve the spiritual and temporal needs of others as Christ's disciples, and to build a lively, growing community in Christ's image.