



*Welcome to*  
**SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**TAMPA, FLORIDA**

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**  
**FEBRUARY 16, 2025**

**10:30AM**

*May those who sorrow find comfort;  
the weary, rest;  
the troubled, peace;  
the lonely, friends;  
the unhappy, joy;  
and may all find the sense of God's presence in this Holy Place.*

Welcome to Saint Andrew's Church in the city of Tampa. You are sharing in a tradition of worship that has been offered here since 1883, when a wood-frame building was erected on this site as Tampa's first Episcopal Church. The cornerstone of the present church was laid in 1904.

All Visitors and Newcomers are invited to complete the information card, found on the back of the pews, and leave it with an usher or in the offering plate. Please introduce yourselves to the clergy as you leave the church.

Each Sunday we celebrate The Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. (Rite I, said); and at 10:30 a.m. (Rite II, with choir).

***At Your Service:*** Stay warm at Saint Andrew's: Borrow a shawl from the basket at the back of the church. Shawl donations also welcomed!

*Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent—for this is the house of God.  
Before the service, speak to God.  
During the service, let God speak to you.  
After the service, speak to one another.*

**PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

## Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude: Trio Sonata in E Minor, BWV 528, *Andante*

*J.S. Bach (1685–1750)*

### Tower Bell

**Hymn 423** (*stand*)

*St. Denio*

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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.*

*The following is sung, all standing*

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Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Collect of the Day**

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 1** *Sung by the choir to Anglican chant*

*Frederick Gore Ouseley (1825–1889)*

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, \*  
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \*  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, \*  
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

## Hymn 296 (*stand*)

*Engelberg*

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold; and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!

2 We share by water in his saving death. Reborn we share with him an Easter life as living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!

3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's power shakes the Church of God. Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!

4 A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Alleluia! Amen.

## **Holy Gospel**

Luke 6: 17-26

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

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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

## **Sermon**

## **Nicene Creed** (*stand*)

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.



## **Prayers of the People** (*kneel*)

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 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.

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

### *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.*

### **Peace** (*stand*)

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

### **Announcements**

## **Holy Communion**

Spiritual

*arr. Linda Twine (b. 1945)*

Sit down servant! I can't sit down. My soul's so happy, Lord I can't sit down. No, I can't sit. No, I can't quit. I've got to sing hallelujah, glory hallelujah. No, I can't rush. No, I can't hush. I've got to sing hallelujah, Amen! No, no, no, I can't eat, no I can't sleep. I've got to sing hallelujah, glory hallelujah. No, I can't slouch, no I can't grouch, I've got to sing hallelujah, Amen!

*Traditional*

*Hymn 380, stanza 3 (stand)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Great Thanksgiving**

*The people remain standing*

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in  
our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our  
Lord.

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**

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*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people kneel.*

*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.*

*The Celebrant then continues*

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.

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

**Music during Communion:**

**Hymn 493** (*sit*)

*Azmon*

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear  
Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God  
and King, the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God, assist  
me to proclaim and spread through all the  
earth abroad the honors of thy Name.

3 Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and  
bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the  
sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

4 He speaks; and, listening to his voice,  
new life the dead receive, the mournful  
broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor  
believe.

5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones,  
your loosened tongues employ; ye  
blind, behold, your Savior comes; and  
leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love be  
now and ever given by saints below and  
saints above the Church in earth and  
heaven.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God: the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode. Still to the lowly soul he doth himself impart, and for his dwelling and his throne chooseth the pure in heart.

*John Keble (1792–1866)*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*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.

## **Blessing**

*The priest blesses the people, saying*

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

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God our Creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who guideth us on to the end of our days.  
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
Til shadows have vanished, and darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law he enforces: the stars in their courses,  
The sun in His orbit, obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine,  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,  
With glad adoration a song let us raise,  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving  
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

**Dismissal**

*Priest*            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People*           Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Intermezzo

*Hermann Schroeder (1904–1984)*



## **THOSE SERVING TODAY: February 16, 2025**

**Celebrant & Preacher:** Fr. Reese

**Assisting Priest:** Fr. Campbell

**Organist:** Ryan Hebert

**Choral Assistant:** Coleman Flentge

**Verger:** Richard Ferlita

**Crucifer:** Thomas Adams

**Torchbearers:** Aiden Kennington, Jacob Kennington

**Lectors:** Irene Baker, Peter Baker

**Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Donreece Brown, Derrick Brown

**Videographers:** Paul Scheuer, Jan Smith, Kirk McCann, Joe Scheuer

**Ushers:** Eric Hargens, Loueita Hargens, Winston Blake, Chris Cobb

**Altar Guild:** Beth Kennington, Sally Phethean, Jan Smith

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Elaine Kimball, Mary Beth Harris, Pam Billings



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in thanksgiving for Emily  
as she celebrates her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday  
by Ben & Jeannie Borsch

**BIRTHDAYS:** Janet Norona, Cassidy Lawless, Paul Pizzo, Steve Chambers, Catherine Sanders, Emily Borsch, Jim Morgan, Ben Besselieu, Chas Diaz

## **Make a Pledge for 2025**

Please return your pledge card for 2025 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 132 pledges for \$550,104.00**

## St. Andrew's Parish Picnic

Please join us for our annual St. Andrew's Parish Picnic. This year, we will meet at beautiful Picnic Island Park **on Sunday, March 2nd** starting at 12:30 pm. The address is 7409 Picnic Island Blvd, Tampa, FL 33616, Shelter 609. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by the church. Don't forget lawn chairs or picnic blankets, outdoor games, sunscreen, bug spray or anything else you would like to bring for a festive gathering outdoors filled with fellowship, food and fun!

### Shrove Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

5:30pm Holy Eucharist in the Children's Chapel

6:00pm Pancake Supper in the Parish Hall

(hosted by St. Andrew's Youth)

6:45pm Lenten Series begins



### Wednesday, March 5th

#### Service times at St. Andrew's:

8:00am Holy Eucharist (Rite One) in the Chapel

12:10pm Holy Eucharist (Rite Two)

7:00pm Holy Eucharist (Rite Two with choir)

*All services include imposition of ashes*

## Youth News

Please join Children's & Youth Ministries for the following Upcoming Event:

**Sunday, March 9th** we will have a Family Busch Gardens Day after Sunday services! Youth in middle & high school are welcome to attend if they have season's passes or can cover the cost of tickets. All younger children are welcome to attend with their parents. We can cover the cost of a handful of tickets for youth in middle & high school who don't have passes, so please let Alicia know by Sunday, February 16th if you need a ticket!

Contact Alicia at [aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com](mailto:aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com) with any questions.

## **Adult Christian Education**

**Sunday mornings at 9:30**

***Everywhere Is Jerusalem: Experiencing the Holy Then and Now***

**Location matters.**

Christianity isn't a batch of spiritual thoughts or metaphysical truths. It's a journey of real people with their feet on the ground in real places. In *Everywhere Is Jerusalem*, The Rev. James Howell takes you on a spiritual pilgrimage to significant places in the ongoing story of the Christian faith. You'll go from Bethlehem to Jerusalem, from the Jordan River to Assisi, and from the Sea of Galilee to Montgomery, Alabama. Along the way, you'll discover the profound connections between biblical stories and the places where they happened. You'll see how Christians throughout history have brought their faith to life worldwide, in their own cities and communities. And you'll find God calling you to bring your own faith to life right where you are, right now.

Part travelogue, part Bible study, this video series will take you on a spiritual journey to the places that are most important in our faith, and you'll discover that the most important place of all is the place where you are, right now.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

2/16 - Everywhere is Bethlehem: Prayer Walls

2/23 - Everywhere is Nazareth: Finding the Way Home

3/2 - Everywhere is Jerusalem: Places of Sorrow and Hope

*This class, facilitated by the Rector, meets in Room 302 (the Library) on the third floor of the parish building.*

## St. A's Book Club Meetings for Mar-Apr 2025

Founded in October, 2024, our Book Club has grown to over twenty members. Our first two choices were Ernest Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro" (Nov 10) and Claire Keegan, *Small Things Like These* (Dec 8). In 2025, we shall usually meet on the first Sunday of the month, after the 10:30 am Eucharist, and in the third floor Library, room 302. Bring your coffee & snacks. If you enjoy good reading, challenging ideas, and cogent discussion, come and join us.

Here are our remaining Book Club 2025 dates and the books we shall discuss.

❖ Sun **Mar 2** / 6<sup>th</sup> meeting / H.P. Lovecraft, *Case of Charles Dexter Ward* (1941), 118 pp, \$8.

❖ Sun **Apr 6** / 7<sup>th</sup> meeting / Paulo Coelho, *The Alchemist* (1988), 197 pp, \$15.

Come and join us. If you want to be on our mailing list or if you have any questions, please do email me, Ray Vince, Book Club secretary, at [rvince@hccfl.edu](mailto:rvince@hccfl.edu) or text me at 813-857-7419.

## New Flower Chart

The 2025 Flower Sign-Up Chart is in the parish hall. Don't delay choosing important commemorative dates. Please help with this wonderful ministry to adorn the altar during worship by sponsoring flowers. High Altar flowers are \$150 for florist choice, personal choices can be arranged at an additional cost. Chapel Altar flowers are optional. If you'd like to sponsor both altars, the cost is \$250. If you have questions, please contact Charlotte Churchill 813-352-0162 [cmchurchi18@gmail.com](mailto:cmchurchi18@gmail.com)

## Music Notes

Choirs are notorious surprise spoilers. They know little about the mischievousness of "holding back," the joy of subtlety, and the subversive nature of delivery. Spoiler alert! Choirs have a hard time. It's because your average chorister is fearful. Call it stage fright, but that's OK. Style is hard to teach. The message is rarely suggestive. But suggestive – that's how to deliver the message. You want to leave the listener some room to want to know more. You want to leave the listener wondering, "Whatcha got cookin'?" The wafting fragrance is too good to pass up. If they sit at your table, you can serve, but ultimately, they'll have to taste the delectableness of freedom for themselves.

In celebration of Black History Month, I wanted to do something different, a nifty spiritual arranged by African American composer, Linda Twine. A native of Oklahoma, she began her musical career in New York, teaching music in public school by day and accompanying classical and jazz artists at night. At one of these engagements, she was asked if she would like to substitute for the keyboardist of the Tony Award winning Broadway hit, “The Wiz.” She’s also known for her imaginative arrangement of spirituals. Teaching choirs to sing stylistically is like parting the Red Sea. Why would anyone be exuberant? Haven’t you seen the so-called news? Well, we’re not talking about “the news,” but something seemingly more guarded, but hiding in plain sight.

It’s puzzling how the slaves could have hope. They did though. They didn’t want to tip slave masters off that there was an escape plan, so they encoded the message in cryptic music. Imagine if you knew your days in bondage were coming to an end. It’d be hard to keep your enthusiasm under wraps. But that’s the trick. We mustn’t let the cat out of the bag, overtly. Subversion is key. In this music, you’ll hear it “wanting” to bust out all over. In hushed tones, it builds, exhilaration mounts, then, we put a lid on it. Oops – a sudden outburst. Shhh – sit down, servant! Don’t tip anyone off that you’re secretly happy about this undergirding operation of freedom. You’ve learned some good news. You’ve turned off the nightly news.

Heavily influenced by jazz, this music is about playing it cool. Choirs notoriously play it “fearfully,” ruining the style, or contrivedly putting on a happy face. The plastic surface is dull. But once you get it, your countenance won’t lie. Jesus’ personal revelation about spiritual freedom was the epitome of “playing it cool.” He spoke cryptically. To speak to the spirit, one must be clever. The message is provocative, in a chili-bubbling way. Whatcha got cookin’? Sit down, servant. I’ll let you in on a secret. Sit. Stay.

There *is* an escape plan, and it’s hardly containable if you know who you are. “Be still and know that I am God.” There’s a plan a’brewin! Some have crossed, and I ain’t talkin’ physical death. Who can contain the occasional outburst once you’ve tasted freedom? The trick is keeping a lid on it, but not so tightly that the message doesn’t make others wonder, “Whatcha got cookin’?” Sit down servant, it’s a *big* helping of freedom. Why wouldn’t your soul want to bust out all over once you’ve crossed over? How do you pass along the taste of freedom, without blowing your cover? Well, that’s the fun part. You invite them to sit, stay. Be still, and *you* will know “the secret” too. You are already free, and you’ve never been held against your will. There is only One Will. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

-Ryan Hebert

## **Keeping Our Perspective and Priorities Straight**

Leith Anderson, a pastor, shared an experience: As a boy, he grew up outside of New York City and was an avid fan of the old Brooklyn Dodgers. One day his father took him to a World Series game between the Dodgers and the Yankees. He was so excited, and he just knew the Dodgers would trounce the Yankees. Unfortunately, the Dodgers never got on base, and his excitement was shattered. Years later he was engrossed in a conversation with a man who was a walking sports almanac. Leith told him about the first major league game he attended and added, "It was such a disappointment. I was a Dodger fan' and the Dodgers never got on base." The man said, "You were There? You were at the game when Don Larsen pitched the first perfect game in all of World Series history"" Leith replied, "Yeah, but uh, we lost." He then realized that he had been so caught up in his team's defeat that he missed out on the fact that he was a witness to a far greater page of history.

Let me ask you a question. What's going on down the street in our ballpark? We may be so caught up in the beauty of our building, the eloquence of the sermon, and the friends who sit around us, that we miss out on a far greater page in the story of our Christianity. Look around you. What is it that is happening in our community? What is it that is happening down the street at your neighbor's house? What is happening down at the playground? What is your spouse trying to tell you? Is God pitching a perfect game in the world series of our neighborhood and we simply are missing out because we are so invested in our team?

-Brett Blair

## **A Religion Worth Nothing**

A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.

-Martin Luther

**WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** Sarah Hudson, Charles Caro, Evelyn Smith, Mignon Grant-Levy, John Tomlinson, Nell Rorebeck, Marion Gustin, Jane Collins, Paul Cullen, Barbara Jones, Gerry Calahan, Mary Nichols, Peggy Kleven, Linda M. Delmasto, Angela Massari, Evelyn O. Jewell, Brycen Coyle, Anita Ramirez, Jane Cantler, Phyllis Sheaffer, Diane Kemker, Martha Medel, Sarah Moody, Larry Kleven, Isabelle Ferrell, William Shuler, Ian Snider, Libby Dickinson, Roma Plimmer, Patricia Maxfield, Jenette Kerr, Kay Rankin, Joe Daurril, Stephen Rosser, Rose Williams, Al Stein, Precious Montgomery, Nancy Honeycutt, Jerry Divers, Wayne Putney, Jean Turner, Matthew Borsch, Bennie Kay O'Brien, Jack Plimmer, Gerald Anthony Brozyna, Andrew Orestano, Marcia Biondolillo, Charlene Maxwell, James Arthur "Bubba" Turner, Beth Sellas, Charles Cernuda, Callista Tolbert, Rebecca Blake, Analee Mayes, Eric Mann, Doug Rubottom, Michael Kaney

**THOSE FOR WHOM PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY REQUESTED:**

Mark Caro, Sgt. Billy Gudzak, Joan Hoppe, Carlton Hart, Stephen Tedrowe, Virginia Sink, Charlie Richardson, Christine Hudson, Janet Norona, Michael Norona, Christopher Hunt, Charles Mullen, Corinne Gaile, Jack Boyet, Holly Clemmons, Katie Pastorius, Deloris Lewis, Ralph & Nancy Swank, Delphine & Bob Ballard, Janis Riasanovsky, Linda Barry, Brian Polley, Edwin Bourdeau, Ron Trybus, Matt Harper, Jean McAlister, Gale Vineyard, Allyson Littleton, Luzette Lightfoot, Pamela Ann Lane Ketchy, Elizabeth Mangun, Mike McGhee, Ramond Chiamonte, Lee Barks, Nancy Martin, Debbie Bonsole, Leigh Kaney, Arizona Kennington, Charlotte Churchill, Delphine Ballard, Ingrid Peterson, Brad & Hylda Starling, Jeannie Borsch, Rome Schad, Laurie Pharr, Evelyn Latner (*We are happy to include all prayer requests. Names will remain on the list for four weeks. Please call Lauri in the church office if you desire a name to remain on after four weeks or to be removed sooner.*)

**Your Gift Makes a Difference**



St. Andrew's runs solely on the generosity of its members. Give today via the offering plate or scan this code with your phone to give online. You can also mail your gift to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Attn: Administrator, 509 East Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602. Every gift, large or small, sustains the church you love.

# SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Emergency Number 813.451.5521

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Web Site: [www.saintandrewstampa.org](http://www.saintandrewstampa.org)

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday Healing Service: 12:10 p.m.

Sunday Service Schedule: Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Scharf, *VI Bishop of Southwest Florida*

The Rev. John Reese, *Rector*

The Rev. Ralph M. Campbell II, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Canon Jerold R. Stadel, *Priest Associate*

Ryan Hebert, *Director of Music/Organist*

Coleman Flentge, *Associate Director of Music*

Pamela Frost, *Parish Administrator*

Lauri Harder, *Administrative Assistant*

Alicia Schmid, *Director of Children's and Youth Ministries*

Anguel Dimitrov, *Sexton*

## Vestry

*Class of 2026:* Allison Besselieu, Jennifer Smith, Martha Cobb, Wallace Dixon,

Eric Hargens, *Treasurer*

*Class of 2027:* Nicole Carr, *Clerk of the Vestry*, Piers Curry, *Senior Warden*,

Don Crawford, Wayne Daley, Paul Henley

*Class of 2028:* Pam Billings, Patrick Keogh, George Levy, *Junior Warden*,

Jennifer Richardson, Keri Thatcher

*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.*