



Welcome to
SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TAMPA, FLORIDA

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

10:30 AM

*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 & Baptism, Rite II, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude: Prière à Notre-Dame from *Suite Gothique*

Leon Boëllmann (1862–1897)

Tower Bell

Hymn 182 (*stand*)

Truro

1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, he comes to claim the here and now and conquer every place and time.

3 Not throned above, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains, but daily, in the midst of life, our Savior with the Father reigns.

4 In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn or wealth divide, he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

5 Christ is alive! His Spirit burns through this and every future age, till all creation lives and learns his joy, his justice, love, and praise.

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant then continues

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People There is one hope in God's call to us;
Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People One God and Father of all.

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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading (*sit*)

Acts 8:26-40

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in

charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

Psalm 22:24–30 *Sung by the choir to Anglican chant* *Edward J. Hopkins (1818–1901)*

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
 and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live forever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
 he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
 all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD's forever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 194 (*stand*)

1 Jesus lives! thy terrors now can no longer,
death, appall us; Jesus lives! by this we
know thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia!

2 Jesus lives! for us he died; then, alone to
Jesus living, pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Savior giving. Alleluia!

3 Jesus lives! our hearts know well nought
from us his love shall sever; life, nor death,
nor powers of hell tear us from his keeping
ever. Alleluia!

4 Jesus lives! to him the throne over all the
world is given: may we go where he has
gone, rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia!

Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Baptism of George Nelson Wieloszynski Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The Parents and Godparents say

I present George Nelson Wieloszynski to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant then continues

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant then asks

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces
of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world
which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with he who is committing himself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Baptismal Covenant (*stand*)

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking
of bread, and in the prayers?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent
and return to the Lord?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as
yourself?
People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the
dignity of every human being?
People I will, with God's help.

The Clergy and baptismal party process to the Baptismal font.

1 I want to walk as a child of light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain.*

Prayers for the Candidate

The Celebrant then says to the people

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord hear our prayer.

Leader Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

George Nelson, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

The Priest now prays over him, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin and have raised him to the new life of grace.

Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying

George Nelson, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

George Nelson, receive the light of Christ as a sign that you have passed from darkness into light. Shine as his light in the world to the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

Hymn 490 (*stanza 3*)

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

The Celebrant then says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord

Announcements

Holy Communion

At the Offertory:

Anthem

William Mundy (1529–1591)

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord: that ye love together as I have loved you, that even so ye love one another.

John 13:34

Doxology with Alleluias (stand)

Lasst uns Erfreuen

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

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant 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.

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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.

Agnus Dei

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Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: Give us your 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.

Hymn 213 *(sit)*

Middlebury

1	Come away to the skies, my beloved, arise and rejoice in the day thou wast born; on this festival day, come exulting away, and with singing to Zion return.	4	We with thanks do approve the design of that love which hath joined us to Jesus' Name; so united in heart, let us nevermore part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.
2	Now with singing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our heavenly Father bestowed, while his grace we receive from his bounty, and live to the honor and glory of God.	5	Hallelujah we sing, to our Father and King, and his rapturous praises, repeat: to the Lamb that was slain, hallelujah again, sing, all heaven, and fall at his feet.
3	For the glory we were first created to share, both the nature and kingdom divine! Now created again that our lives may remain, throughout time and eternity thine.		

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Remain in my love. This is my commandment: that you love one another, as I have loved you. God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them. God is love. If you keep my commandments, love one another, as I have loved you. Then your joy's complete.

John 15:9–12

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 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise
to our victorious King, who hath washed us
in the tide flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him, whose love divine gives his
sacred Blood for wine, gives his Body for
the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the
priest.

2 Where the Paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the
wave that drowns the foe. Praise we Christ,
whose blood was shed, Paschal victim,
Paschal bread; with sincerity and love eat
we manna from above.

3 Mighty victim from on high, hell's fierce
powers beneath thee lie; thou hast
conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us
life and light: now no more can death
appall, now no more the grave enthrall;
thou hast opened paradise, and in thee thy
saints shall rise.

4 Easter triumph, Easter joy, these alone do
sin destroy. From sin's power do thou set
free souls newborn, O Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory, songs of praise, Father,
unto thee we raise: risen Lord, all praise to
thee with the Spirit ever be.

The Dismissal

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.



People Thanks be to God. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - - lu - ia.

Postlude: Menuet from *Suite Gothique*

Leon Boëllmann

We welcome the newly baptized, George Nelson Wieloszynski,
son of Erich Wieloszynski and Chelsea Daubar,
and brother of Henry Ross

The Baptismal Banner was made as a keepsake by *Adrienne Love, Anna Putney, Jeanette Reese, Carol Jane Smith, and Lori Taplow.*

THOSE SERVING TODAY: Sunday, April 28, 2024

Celebrant: Fr. Stadel

Preacher: Fr. Reese

Organist: Ryan Hebert

Choral Assistant: Coleman Flentge

Verger: Piers Curry

Crucifer: Maren Kennel

Torchbearers: Aiden Kennington, Jacob Kennington

Lectors: Irene Baker, Peter Baker

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Patrick Keogh, Dorothy Peters

Videographers: Paul Scheuer, Doug Rubottom, Jan Smith, Kirk McCann

Ushers: Pam Billings, Marshall Ferrell, Warren Brown, Frazier Carraway

Altar Guild: Ursula Keeler, Jan Smith, Cathy Szuba



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in celebration of our 42nd wedding anniversary
by Margo and Larry Kemm

BIRTHDAYS: April Adams, Tania Phillips

Parish Picnic

Please join us as for our annual St. Andrew's Parish Picnic. Earl and Jan Smith have once again graciously offered to host the parish picnic at their home **today, April 28th** starting at **12:30 pm**. The Smith's address is 3627 Berger Rd. in Lutz. 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!

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee is hosting our **Cinco de Mayo luncheon on Sunday, May 5** following the 10:30 service. Tacos with all the trimmings, yellow rice, and black beans are among the items on the menu. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Advanced purchase is greatly appreciated. Proceeds will support our Operation Smart Start initiative. Hope to see you there for food and fellowship.

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News

Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus with scholar Amy-Jill Levine as she examines John the Baptizer, the Little Apocalypse, the Transfiguration, and several of Jesus's most notable stories and parables. The Good News of the gospel message comes alive in this video series as we see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. We will engage in an in-depth study of select passages that illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels. Amy-Jill Levine is a retired Professor of New Testament studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

4/28 – Fig Trees and Tenants: Mark 11-12

5/5 – The Little Apocalypse: Mark 13

5/12 – Judas Iscariot and the Naked Young Man: Mark 14-15

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

Book Reading Groups

Several members of this parish would like to start book reading groups. If you are interested, we will have a short discussion at the parish picnic, or you can call Pam Curry at 813-850-6406 or Jan Riasanovsky at 813-767-2673 with questions or suggestions.

Music Notes

Imagine remaining in love *all* the time. When we think of romantic love, we say one has *fallen* in love. What a beautiful image, *falling*. For the longest time, I felt a need to advance in my life. That itch grew in me over the last few years. So, I began a search. I started looking for ways to climb. As an academic, I looked towards administration – that was one

way I could advance. I looked towards larger institutions with graduate programs. Working with more advanced students could have been another way to climb. I looked for professional choral opportunities. None of those so-called advancements attracted me. So, what did I do? I plunged.

A year ago, I quit my full-time teaching job. That's how I was to advance. I simply cut the cord, and now I'm free falling. You know that feeling of being on a rollercoaster? The best part is when you get to the top, and the climbing mechanism disengages and puts you in a freefall. How exhilarating!

I think today's communion anthem takes us on an excursion like that – a freefall. Do you remember those old Nestea commercials? They showed people with huge smiles on their faces as they fell backwards into an inviting pool of clear, cool water. Simon Lole, the composer of today's anthem, has created such an image with the text from the 15th chapter of John. The vocal lines soar above, but this heightened sensation is more like allowing gravity to pull you towards the ever-loving arms of The Creator.

The advancement that I sought in life was simply to recognize that I am in love. I'm not in love with anything or anyone in particular, but I have learned that in freefalling, in letting go, and in being brave, the source of God's love is revealed – it's within. You can't climb your way towards it. You breathe out, unhinge, disarm, and simply float into sublimity.

The word sublime comes from the Latin *sublimis* which means 'high up.' But the root 'sub' means below. It could sound like a contradiction. The way to advance is to *fall*, not to fail necessarily. We "stumble upon" good fortune, or we "fall into" good luck. Of course, we realize there is no such thing as fortune or luck. The rest of the world paws at advancement, but believers simply let go. And what do you find?

You find that you never needed to reach for the stars. You *are* the star. You are the star of creation, the pinnacle of God's love, power, and authority, encoded into you very being. The chemical composition of stardust is also your chemical makeup. No reaching. It's an inner skydive. Yes, the vocal lines in this anthem *soar*, but it's more like the sound you make on a rollercoaster, hands in the air as it falls, "Weeeeeee."

Freefalling is the most incredible *high*. Letting go of possessions, the so-called need to advance, and disarming yourself is perhaps the greatest love of all. Go ahead and take the plunge. This music is indeed sublime. It reaches the rafters effortlessly. Most of the world

is afraid that if they let go, they'll hit rock bottom. But rock bottom is hit by climbing, reaching, and striving, not by falling. How easy is it to fall in love? It's simply a matter of releasing. But only a few are brave enough. Perhaps this music will encourage you to take the plunge. I can assure you, it's the best and *only* way to advance. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

-Ryan Hebert

The **Flower Chart in the parish hall** has multiple Sundays available, especially May. Please consider sponsoring flowers to adorn the altar. The High Altar flowers cost \$150, the Chapel Altar flowers are optional. Both Altars cost \$250. Following the 10:30am service, the sponsor is encouraged to take the High Altar flower arrangements home or share with family & friends. For additional information, please contact Charlotte Churchill (813) 352-0162 cmchurchi18@gmail.com

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

THOSE FOR WHOM PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY REQUESTED:

Mark Caro, Sgt. Billy Gudzak, Charlene Maxwell, Joan Hoppe, Carlton Hart, Stephen Tedrowe, Virginia Sink, Charlie Richardson, Christine Hudson, Janet Norona, Michael Norona, Christopher Hunt, Charles Mullen, Jack Plimmer, Corinne Gaile, Jack Boyet, Jean Turner, Analee Mayes, Rick Ostman, Dawn Headland, Beth Luensman, Carole Fields, Judy Van Valkenburgh, Georgia Vahue, Sean Heavey, Janet Cook, Linda Liconti Longo, Holly Clemmons, Katie Pastorius, Deloris Lewis, Dale Saville, Jeff Johnson, Wayne Putney, Ralph & Nancy Swank, Delphine & Bob Ballard, Janis Riasanovsky, Linda Barry, Fabio Pompili, Tania Pratt, Nancy Spayd, Grace Brazil, Matt Harper, Melina Fernon (*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.*)

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Emergency Number 813.451.5521

Electronic Mail: secretary@saintandrewstampa.org

Web Site: 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. Canon Jerold R. Stadel, *Assisting Priest*

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 2025: Barbara Brotherton, Derrick Brown, Victoria Klug,

Richard Chapman, *Junior Warden*, Brad Hall

Class of 2026: Allison Besselieu, Holly Clemmons, 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

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.