

Welcome to

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH TAMPA, FLORIDA

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JUNE 22, 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 and come to coffee hour in the parish hall after the 10:30 a.m. service.

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 Andrews: Borrow a shawl from the basket at the back of the church. Shawl donations also welcomed!

IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTICE

As a mission of outreach to our parishioners and the greater Christian community, audio and video of this service will be recorded and broadcast live on social media. We make every effort to respect and preserve the privacy of members and visitors. If you have any specific questions or concerns about your privacy while worshipping with us, please speak with one of the ushers at the rear of the church.

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: Gavotte I & II from English Suite No.3, BWV 808

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Tower Bell

Hymn 688 (stand)

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing: for still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing: dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabbaoth, his Name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle. 3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us; the prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure, one little word shall fell him.

4 That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth: let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still, his kingdom is forever.

All standing, the Celebrant says

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Celebrant says

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*.

Ein feste Burg

The following is sung, all standing

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.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

First Reading (sit)

A Reading from the First Book of Kings

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus."

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

William Crotch (1775–1847)

1 Give judgment for me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; * deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

2 For you are the God of my strength; why have you put me from you? * and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?

3 Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, * and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling;

- 4 That I may go to the altar of God, to the God of my joy and gladness; * and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.
- 5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? * and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 6 Put your trust in God; * for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-29

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

Hymn 686 (stand)

1 Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Holy Gospel

Luke 8:26-39

PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As Jesus stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had

happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

PriestThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise 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)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially the people of Ukraine, Israel & Gaza.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer*.

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)

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd 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

G.P. Palestrina (1525-1594)

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum; ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks So longeth my soul after thee, O God.

Psalm 42:1

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

Eucaristic Prayer C

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Celebrant and People

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 as the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN*.

S-129

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 Celebrant 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

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.

S-163

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 335 (sit)

1 I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hunger; they who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father draws them.

Refrain And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up, and I will raise them up on the last day.

2 The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and they who eat of this bread, they shall live forever, they shall live forever. *Refrain*.

Hymn 653

1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! Re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

2 In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word, rise up and follow thee.

3 O Sabbath rest by Galilee! O calm of hills above, where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity interpreted by love! I Am the Bread of Life

3 Unless you eat of the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his Blood, you shall not have life within you, you shall not have life within you. *Refrain*.

4 I am the resurrection, I am the life. They who believe in me, even if they die, they shall live forever. *Refrain*.

5 Yes, Lord we believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God who has come into the world. *Refrain*.

Repton

4 Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.

5 Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm. 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*.

Hymn 493 (stand)

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.

Dismissal

PriestGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Postlude: Toccata in B minor, No. 4

Eugene Gigout (1844-1925)

THOSE SERVING TODAY: Sunday, June 22, 2025

Celebrant: Fr. Campbell Preacher: Fr. Reese Guest Organist: Linda Pointer Conductor: Coleman Flentge Verger: Richard Ferlita Crucifer: Sam Scheuer Torchbearers: Wyatt Smith, Esther Henley Lectors: Coleman Flentge, Barbara McFarquhar Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Brad Hall, George Bedell Videographer: Paul Scheuer, Jan Smith, Kirk McCann, Joe Scheuer Ushers: Marshall Ferrell, Richard Chapman, Warren Brown, Pam Billings Altar Guild: Adrienne Love, Anne Paige, Sally Phethean Coffee Hour Hosts: Kathi Stoy and The Choir



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Isaiah Hurst and Reagan Overton

BIRTHDAYS: Addison Ferrell, Lynne Hensley, Maria Shroka, Rachel May, Ingrid Peterson, Elise Atkins, Pam Billings, Briggs Tibbals, Kristin Mora **ANNIVERSARIES**: Stephen & Elaine Kounnas, Ingrid & Bill Peterson

Associate Music Director Farewell

Coleman Flentge, our Associate Director of Music, is leaving St. Andrew's. His final Sunday is today. Please make it a point to thank Coleman for his ministry during fellowship time after the service. Coleman initially came to St. Andrew's to sing in the choir eight years ago. For the past six years, he has been the Associate Director of Music under Ryan Hebert. Coleman has conducted the choir for many choral pieces over the years and was also director of the children's choir and handbell choir. Coleman, we are grateful for all your work and wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

Let Freedom Ring

On **Sunday**, **June 29**, we will celebrate the 249th birthday of America with a patriotic musical celebration at **5:00 p.m.** "Let Freedom Ring", under the direction of Pass-A-Grille Beach Community Church Organist/Choir Director Dale Williams, will feature six local vocalists and include renditions of "America, the Beautiful", "Lift Every Voice and Sing", favorites by George M. Cohan, and other stirring patriotic songs. We hope you will join us and bring your friends!

Youth News

Children's chapel at 10:30 continues through the summer. I am still searching for a few more shining star volunteers to serve during both hours on Sunday mornings. If you are still thinking about serving once a month, why not just come hang out with us on Sunday morning? The other Sunday School teachers and I would love to have your help, and make you feel welcome.



Also, please mark your calendars for VBS 2025: Vacation Bible School 2025 will take place **August 4-8, 2025**.

The VBS theme this year is True North: Point kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust. Guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains,

racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North! Stay tuned for supply lists, but feel free to contact Alicia at <u>aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com</u> to volunteer for a week of faith, fun, and fellowship! Building Sundays TBD.

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

What Happens Next

A Traveler's Guide through the End of This Age

Are we living in the end times? If so, what does that mean for us? In this video series, Max Lucado's optimistic, accessible, and non-sensational guide to what the Bible says about heaven's timeline will empower us to face the future with faith.

Seven years of chaos called the Tribulation. A cruel and cunning Antichrist. The dreaded battle of Armageddon. These images and ideas associated with prophecy can be stimulating but also unnecessarily scary. Max Lucado believes God wants us to be prepared, not scared.

Max explores four big ideas that will provide a solid foundation for understanding God's plans and will remind us that we are headed to a far better place than where we started. He explains that

- we were made to reign with Christ;
- God has made and will keep his promises;
- heaven has a timeline; and
- a golden era, the millennium, awaits God's children.

In a world filled with political tension, personal trials, and international turbulence, we find ourselves drawn to exploring what happens next on heaven's timeline. Whether you find yourself in the "I can't wait," "I'm almost ready," or "I'm not sure about all of this" camp, you will be encouraged to ponder God's plans and promises for the future. In Max's signature encouraging style, he reminds us, "It's all about hope. It's all about him."

Here is the rest of the line-up:

6/22 – The Rescue and the Rewards

- 6/29 Destination Wedding
- 7/6 God Will Have His Garden
- 7/13 The Great Homecoming

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

Music Notes

Inhale. Exhale. The eternal cycle of inspiration and creation. When we sing, we inhale inspiration from the Universe and release it through creation. Neither can function independently: you must exhale to inhale, and vice versa; inspiration *is* creation, and creation *is* inspiration, forever undulating in the very fabric of our essence.

Today is my last Sunday as the Associate Director of Music here at St. Andrew's. During my time here, I've had a few opportunities to share my musical thoughts through these "music notes," and I wanted to take this moment to connect with you one last time.

Today's anthem, Palestrina's *Sicut Cervus*, is particularly special to me because it was one of the first pieces I ever really "connected with," musically speaking. If I am not mistaken, we performed it during my very first semester at the University of Tampa when this wideeyed, naïve, small-town Kentucky boy got thrown into Chamber Singers with a frightening bald man. I had been in high school choir for two years, but my director and our rehearsals were nothing in comparison and could not have prepared me for what I would learn from Dr. Ryan Hebert throughout my time at UT and beyond. This piece has always stuck with me; the combination of the beautiful melody, a piquing text, and an ineffable linkage to something beyond description brings me back to it time and again.

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, as you may know, is one of history's most famous composers, hailing from the Italian Renaissance. Palestrina sought to meld the divine with the tangible, to bridge the gap between the spiritual and physical worlds. While many composers have aspired to do the same, and indeed many have accomplished some facet of this feat, Palestrina was among the first to explore the expression of our internal divinity in an external way through music.

Sicut Cervus remains one of his most adored motets—and with good reason. It is no stranger to the choir at St. Andrew's, and I have been fortunate to conduct or sing this piece at least half a dozen times, each time renewing my sense of awe and wonder at how one can translate the ethereal components of God into arbitrary, inherently meaningless dots on a page.

But music offers a unique, intangible, and, in some ways, ineffable quality. If you've never sung in a choir, it's hard to put into words the *experience* of singing a piece like *Sicut*

Cervus. When you connect to music as a participant, you are wholly embodying the essence of God Himself (or Herself). As any artist will tell you, we don't *create* anything, and Palestrina didn't *create* this piece. It was *received* from the Universe, from God, and we are merely vessels channeling its source.

Some people think music is written for the listener, for the audience, or the congregation. But those of us who make music (and all art, for that matter) know that it is actually for ourselves. It's quite selfish, really, that we singers get to experience the magic of this piece firsthand in a way that is totally intangible at every level. We can't see our vocal cords move; we can't physically manipulate our vocal mechanism; we don't have keys to press — we simply open our mouths, and the Breath of Life moves through us. We don't get to cling to it, hold on to a note for longer than our breath will allow, and we never get to experience the music after the last echo has faded. We must release the gift back to the universe, to God, the ultimate Inspirer and Creator.

The text also offers a beautiful metaphor: "Like the deer longs for water, so my soul longs for Thee." This has always struck me as such a compelling comparison. Most of our anthems deal with the "almighty" aspect of God, the "out there"-ness of Creation (think "If ye love me, keep my commandments," "Christ is the world's true Light," or even last Sunday's spiritual, "Upon the mountain when my God spoke, out of His mouth came fire and smoke.") Yet this simple Psalm begins with an image of natural longing, bringing our relationship with the divine to a primal level. Our souls long for God not because it is accessory, not because it is convenient or solves a problem, but because it is *part* of our basic needs. There isn't a *why*; there isn't a mutual exchange that necessitates a transaction between us and our Creator—it is as much a part of our human fiber as the need for water.

If I may be so bold as to attribute thoughts to the Palestrina, or even the great Johann Sebastian Bach, I don't think they created their music to be remembered. Though I'm sure they'd be flattered and honored to know their music is still cherished and adored several centuries later, I don't think that was their intent. I don't believe they sought fame, notoriety, or pomp from their sacred works. No, I think it was much more humble, like a deer panting for the water brook. And it is in that honest humility that we connect not only more deeply to ourselves, but to the Source of our inspiration. I hope today, as you listen to the choir perform *Sicut Cervus*, you find yourself connected to the divine, to Palestrina, to the choir, and to yourself.

It has been a wonderful eight years here with you at St. Andrew's. I have found a home and made some incredible music with people who are even more incredible. As I transition into my next chapter, I've started a business as a holistic health and wellness coach called The Uninterrupted Life. I plan to use my passions to help others live more fully, more deeply, and more authentically, and I am excited to explore a new "entrepreneurial" side of myself.

If you would like to keep up with my journey and insights, the best way to do so right now is to subscribe to my weekly Living Uninterrupted newsletter. You can subscribe for **free** at the following link: <u>https://livinguninterrupted.beehiiv.com/subscribe</u>. I am also on Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, and soon to be Facebook and YouTube all under the username @TheUninterruptedLife.

I hope to see you there!

Until next time, St. Andrew's,

Most humbly and musically,

Coleman

PART-TIME CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTER

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, downtown Tampa, seeks dynamic, spiritual person responsible for teaching Sunday School class for children (grade 5 and below) of the parish; will also assist during Children's Chapel on Sunday mornings and lead/assist at monthly events for children and youth; must have good interpersonal, relational, and administrative skills. Team player. Approximately six (6) hours per week. Resumes and communication (electronic preferred) to: The Rev. John Reese, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 509 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602. E-mail: rector@saintandrewstampa.org

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 ove

church you love.

WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Sarah Hudson, 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, Deloris Lewis, Pamela Ann Lane Ketchy, Charles Mullen, Jean McAlister, Sofie Paton-Smith

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, Corinne Gaile, Jack Boyet, Holly Clemmons, Katie Pastorius, Ralph & Nancy Swank, Delphine & Bob Ballard, Janis Riasanovsky, Edwin Bourdeau, Leigh Kaney, Charlotte Churchill, Ingrid Peterson, Jeannie Borsch, Milca Burgos, Joan Schofield, Valerie, Frances Dee Martinez, Rodney Rodriguez, Linda McGhee, Patrick Wing, Judith Lombana, Darren Watts, Karen & Mahlon Sandord, Kay Saville, Linda & David Williams (*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.*)

Prayer Request Cards are available at the back of the church for prayers by the Daughters of the King or contact Adrienne Love (phone) 813-391-5129 (or email) <u>alove6984@gmail.com</u>



SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

509 East Twiggs Street ♥ Tampa, Florida 33602 Telephone 813.221.2035

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. Ralph M. Campbell II, Assisting Priest The Rev. Canon Jerold R. Stadel, Priest Associate 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.