

Welcome to

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH TAMPA, FLORIDA

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS JANUARY 5, 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!

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: Ding Dong Merrily on High

Christopher Tambling (1964–2015)

Regent Square

Tower Bell

Hymn 93 (stand)

1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; ye, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with you is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light: *Refrain* 3 Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar: seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: *Refrain*

4 Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear, suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: *Refrain*

The Celebrant says

PriestBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd 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*.

1 Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night, and the mountains in reply, echoing their brave delight. 4 See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. *Refrain*

Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Collect of the Day

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

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

First Reading (*sit*)

Jeremiah 31:7-14

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they

shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

Psalm 84:1-8 Sung by the choir to Anglican chant Charles H. I

Charles H. Lloyd (1849–1919)

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! * My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, * and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; * hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; * and look upon the face of your Anointed.

Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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

Hymn 124 (stand)

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beauteous than the noonday light? It shines to herald forth the King, and Gentiles to his crib to bring.

2 True spake the prophet from afar who told the rise of Jacob's star; and eastern sages with amaze upon the wondrous token gaze.

3 The guiding star above is bright; within them shines a clearer light, and leads them on with power benign to seek the Giver of the sign.

star of grace impels us

Puer nobis

4 O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek thy face, let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of thy light to use.

5 To God the Father, heavenly Light, to Christ, revealed in earthly night, to God the Holy Ghost we raise our equal and unceasing praise.

Holy Gospel

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

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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, especially the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza; *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.

The People may add their own petitions.

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 Priest then 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)

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

The Service of Admission for the Order of the Daughters of the King

Presenter: It is my privilege to present Betsy Scheuer, Jennifer Hamdi, Martha Cobb and Sally Phethean as candidates for membership in The Order of the Daughters of the King.

Clergy: We are gathered here in the sight of God and before this congregation to admit these women into the The Order of the Daughters of the King. We commend them to your earnest prayers that they may have grace to fulfill the obligations of The Order and that their labors may be to the glory of God and the welfare of all His people.

Addressing the candidates:

Clergy: The Daughters of the King is an Order for women whose mission is the extension of Christ's Kingdom, especially among women and girls, through prayer, service and evangelism. Do you desire to become a member of The Order of the Daughters of the King?

Candidates: I do.

Clergy: Do you promise to obey faithfully the two Rules of The Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service? To offer your support to the clergy for the good of the parish and the extension of Christ's kingdom? To wear faithfully the cross of The Order? And to work for its purposes, as God may give you the opportunity?

Candidates: I do with God's help.

Clergy: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit I receive and admit you as members of the Order of the Daughters of the King.

Addressing the congregation:

Clergy: Will you support these women in their ministry of prayer and service?

Congregation: We will.

The clergy blesses the crosses.

Clergy: Bless, O Lord, these crosses and grant to your servants now admitted into this Order such an abundance of your grace that they may wear this sacred symbol in the spirit of humility and with devotion in the service of The King of kings. Amen.

EACH NEW MEMBER IS PRESENTED HER CROSS WITH THE FOLLOWING WORDS:

"Accept and wear faithfully the cross of The Order, remembering the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Take up your cross and follow me."

New Members: Almighty God, help me to pray so faithfully that I may draw near to you and learn your will. Help me to serve so joyfully that others may be drawn to you. May your Holy Spirit guide me each day, that all I think, do, or say may be pleasing in your sight. I ask it all for the sake of Him whose cross I wear, my King and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

All Daughters of the King:

O Eternal Father, you have sent us your Son to teach us things pertaining to your heavenly kingdom. Give your blessing to our Order wherever it may be throughout the world. Grant that we, your Daughters, ever may discern your truth and bear the cross through the battles of our earthly life. Give us strength to overcome temptation and grace to work to spread your Kingdom and to gather your scattered sheep within your fold. Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit that we may always remember it is your work we are called to do; that all we think, do or say may be pleasing in your sight. We ask it all For His Sake, our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Clergy: May your love, O Lord, help the Daughters live lives of love, and may your holiness lead them to be examples of virtue, that they, strengthened by your Holy Spirit, may pray and serve you all their days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Clergy: The blessing of God Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Holy Communion

At the Offertory:

Carol

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

What is this lovely fragrance wafting Like to the scents of flowers in spring! Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, Hear you not heavenly caroling? What is this lovely fragrance wafting Like the scents of flowers in spring. What is this light so fair, so tender Breaking upon our wondering eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant Followed his course o'er eastern skies. What is this light so fair, so tender, Breaking upon our wondering eyes? Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart's adoration, love for aye. Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today.

Traditional French Carol

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.

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.

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

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

Sanctus

S-128

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. 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

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.

S-165

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Music during Communion:

Carol

Here we bring new water from the well so clear For to worship God with, this happy New Year.

Refrain: Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine; The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go. *Refrain.*

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in. *Refrain*.

> Words anon. Carolyn Tapie, mezzo-soprano

Hymn 117 (sit)

1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid; star of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2 Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his head with the beasts of the stall; angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

3 Shall we then yield him, in costly devotion odors of Edom, and offerings divine, gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Morning Star

4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favor secure; richer by far is the heart's adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor. 5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid; star of the east, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. 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 109 (stand)

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

Refrain Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star three wisemen came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wisemen three full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought and with his blood our life hath brought. *Refrain*

The First Nowell

Dismissal

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

Postlude: Postlude sur un Noël

Denis Bédard (b. 1950)



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the installation of our new Daughter of the King members by Margo Kemm

THOSE SERVING TODAY: Sunday, January 5, 2025 Celebrant & Preacher: Fr. Reese Assisting Priest: Fr. Campbell Organist: Ryan Hebert Choral Assistant: Coleman Flentge Verger: Piers Curry Crucifer: Thomas Adams Torchbearers: Daniel Carr, Roy Collins Lectors: Mark Shoka, Barbara McFarquhar Lay Eucharistic Ministers: George Bedell, Brad Hall Videographers: Paul Scheuer, Jan Smith, Doug Rubottom, Kirk McCann Ushers: Derrick Brown, Donreece Brown, Chris Watson, Michael Dickinson Altar Guild: Jan Smith, Kathy Lawless, Cathy Szuba Coffee Hour Hosts: Daughters of the King

BIRTHDAYS: Laurie Brown, Michael Norona, Chris Cobb, Catalina Dixon, Kristina Dixon

Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 2, Noon following the 10:30am service



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 115 pledges for \$513,164.00

Un-Greening of the Church

Come and help take down the Christmas decorations at the church after the 10:30 service today. Many hands will make for light work!

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30 December 29th through Jan 19th

The Wired Word, facilitated by the Rector, examines a current event from the previous week and analyzes it through the use of Biblical references. Come and see how Scripture can help us make sense of what's happening in the world today.

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

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 line-up:

- 1/26 Everywhere is Galilee: The Downward Call
- 2/2 Everywhere is the Jordan: Baptism and All the Waters
- 2/9 Everywhere is the Mount of Olives: Standing Up and Courage
- 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

New Flower Chart

The 2025 Flower Sign-Up Chart is in the parish hall. Don't delay in 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 <u>cmchurchil8@gmail.com</u>

END OF YEAR GIVING: According to IRS tax rules for charitable deductions, donors must deliver checks on or by December 31, 2024 in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2024. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2025 (January 5th) will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2024, even if the check is predated to 2024 or was actually written in 2024. However, checks that are written, mailed and post-marked in 2024 will be deductible in 2024 though they are not received by a church until 2025.

St. A's Book Club Meetings for Jan-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 Book Club 2025 dates and the books we shall discuss.

- Sun Jan 5 / 4th meeting / Charles Portis, *True Grit* (1968), 240 pp, \$17.
- Sun Feb 9 / 5th meeting / Hernan Diaz, *Trust* (2023), 416 pp, \$10
 Note: Moved to 2nd Sunday because of the Church Annual Meeting on Feb 2.
- Sun Mar 2 / 6th meeting / H.P. Lovecraft, *Case of Charles Dexter Ward* (1941), 118 pp, \$8.
- Sun Apr 6 / 7th 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 <u>rvince@hccfl.edu</u> or text me at 813-857-7419.

Save the date to taste new wine and enjoy music



Acclaimed food critic Chris Sherman will host another wine tasting event in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, February 15th**, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. The focus this year will be wines from regions south of the Equator. Heavy hors

oeuvres will be served; and Allison Besselieu and Julie Tollen will play a selection of musical pieces. Tickets, \$10 each, will be on sale following church services during the first two weeks of February.

Music Notes

Today's postlude is a fun ditty on a French carol called "Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella." It originated in the 17th century in Provence. The song was intended as dance music and was later translated into English and published in France. In the story, the carol is about two shepherdesses, Jeannette and Isabella, who are excited to find the baby Jesus in the stable and are told to bring torches. In Provence, children still carry torches and candles while singing the carol to Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, dressed as shepherds and milkmaids.

I called this arrangement, by Canadian composer Denis Bédard, a "ditty," but not derogatorily. A ditty is a cute name for a short, simple song. The etymology of the word ditty is interesting. It's from Old French *dite* 'composition', and from Latin *dictatum* meaning 'something dictated.' It's an interesting parallel that Jeanette and Isabella were instructed to find the Christ Child. Of course, Christ means "anointed one," and we are often directed to our own inward knowledge of the Light of Christ, symbolized in torches in this carol. So, what do you find in your own mind? Pitchforks and torches, or real light – the light that sheds the meaning of love on the world?

Stevie Wonder once said about his own music that he was simply excited about what he was hearing in his mind. I can relate. I'm a deep thinker, and I *love* my ideas. When I started on my book two years ago, I heard it being dictated. It was the strangest ditty. I'd wake up from a nap or from a night's sleep, and I'd hear fragments of it, and I'd have to run to the computer to not forget what I had heard! Torches – light leading the path of becoming an author I suppose.

How many of us are excited about what we "find" in our heads? Are you hearing ditties or dirges? Are you seeing dreams or nightmares? In a famous song from the 80s called "Flashdance," Irene Cena sings, "Pictures come alive you can dance right through your life." Unfortunately, pictures *do* come alive, and too often they devour us with worst-case scenarios. Thoughts can take on a mind of their own. Ever heard of a runaway thought?

The Light of which I speak is often overlooked and maybe words like this shed some light on how we are scaring ourselves. My hope for 2025 is that we'd all stop scaring ourselves and start getting excited about what's in our heads. I get excited about what's in my head and heart, and my fingers dance on the keyboard – both at the organ as a musician and the computer as a writer. What a dance! The postlude today is a ditty, and a ditty makes you dance. Thank God Denis Bedard went to the manuscript paper after hearing it in his head. What's in most of our heads is garbage – complaints and grievances. Those are pitchforks and torches! *Bring* a Torch is a dance of an entirely different matter, certainly not the danse macabre.

This will be the year of the ditty. I'm excited about what's in *my* head. I'm ecstatic, honestly. Pictures come alive! I think I *will* dance right through my life. I've been pretty good at that thus far. I'm really going to master this ditty thing. Enough pitchforks and torches. Time to torch the fear and shed *real* Light on the world, something to be excited about, something to help people stop scaring themselves. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

-Ryan Hebert

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

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 Chiaramonte, Lee Barks, Nancy Martin, Debbie Bonsole, Michael & Lee Kaney, Arizona Kennington, Charlotte Churchill, Delphine Ballard, Ingrid Peterson (*We are happy to include all prayer requests. Names will remain on the list for four weeks.*)

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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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

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Class of 2025: Barbara Brotherton, Derrick Brown, Victoria Klug, Richard Chapman, Junior Warden, Brad Hall 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

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.