



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

**CHRIST THE KING**

**NOVEMBER 26, 2023**

**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 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: Prière from *Suite for Organ*

*Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)*

### Tower Bell

**Hymn 544** (*stand*)

*Duke Street*

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun doth his successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head; his Name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song; and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his Name.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains, the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*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.*

## A Song of Praise

S-236

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

## Collect of the Day

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## First Reading *(sit)*

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

A Reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there

they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

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

**Psalm 100** *Sung by the choir to Anglican chant*

*George Elvey (1816–1893)*

- 1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; \*  
    serve the LORD with gladness  
    and come before his presence with a song.
- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; \*  
    he himself has made us, and we are his;  
    we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
    go into his courts with praise; \*  
    give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good;  
    his mercy is everlasting; \*  
    and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**Second Reading**

Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

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, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

**Hymn 494** (*stand*)

*Diademata*

1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own; awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

2 Crown him the Son of God before the worlds began, and ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man; who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast, and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

3 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save; his glories now we sing who died, and rose on high, who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death my die.

4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who over all doth reign, who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain, now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing their songs before him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King.

5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, enthroned in worlds above; crown him the King, to whom is given, the wondrous name of Love. Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall, crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for he is King of all.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

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

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

*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)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world, especially the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Doug, our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*

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.

*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.

**Announcements**

**Holy Communion**

**At the Offertory:**

Anthem

*G.F. Handel (1685–1759)*

Awake the trumpet's lofty sound; Let joyful songs of praise to heaven resound,  
for Christ the Lord of heaven and earth is crowned.

*Text adapted by John Cramer*

*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.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Sanctus**

S-125

*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.*

Fraction Anthem

S-167

(Antiphon) The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.  
The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. (Ant.)  
One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. (Ant.)

*The Celebrant says*

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

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

### **Music during Communion:**

**Hymn 382** (*sit*)

*General Seminary*

1 King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee; and that love may never cease, I will move thee. Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me; thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.

2 Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee; and the cream of all my heart, I will bring thee. Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me; and alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.

3 Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee; in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee. Small it is in this poor sort to enroll thee; e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

O saving victim, opening wide the gate of heaven to us below,  
our foes press in from every side, thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to thee ascend for ever more, blest One in Three,  
O grant us life that shall not end in our true native land with thee. Amen.

*St. Thomas Aquinas*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

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

**Hymn 555** (*stand*)

*Lancashire*

1 Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest thy tents shall be our home: through days of preparation thy grace has made us strong, and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

2 Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, but deeds of love and mercy, the heavenly kingdom comes.

3 Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears; for gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears. Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light: the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

**Dismissal**

*Priest*            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Toccata from *Suite for Organ*

*Malcolm Archer*

**THOSE SERVING TODAY: Sunday, November 26, 2023**

**Celebrant & Preacher:** Fr. Reese

**Assisting Priest:** Fr. Stadel

**Organist:** Ryan Hebert

**Choral Assistant:** Coleman Flentge

**Vergers:** Allison Besselieu

**Crucifer:** Ethan Smith

**Torchbearers:** Diana Tapie, Esther Henley

**Lectors:** George Western, Betsy Scheuer

**Lay Eucharistic Ministers:** Wallace Dixon, Paula Stewart

**Videographers:** Paul Scheuer, Doug Rubottom, Jan Smith, Kirk Peters

**Ushers:** Marshall Ferrell, Richard Chapman, Warren Brown, Pam Billings

**Altar Guild:** Jan Smith, Cathy Szuba

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Jan Smith, Cathy Szuba





The altar flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Judge William C. and Eloise Brooker  
by their family

**BIRTHDAYS:** Win Liggett, David Epp, Mark Crofoot, Patrick Allman, William Curtis, Susan Calhoun, Stella Thayer, Edwin Bourdeau

## **Make a Pledge for 2024**

Please return your pledge card for 2024 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.

## **Anchor Ball**

Your Vestry has graciously agreed to add its name as a supporter of the 2023 Anchor Ball sponsored by Port Tampa Bay. The Ball is scheduled for **Saturday, December 2, 2023**, at the PEPIN HOSPITALITY CENTRE (4121 N 50<sup>th</sup> St. in Tampa 33610), beginning at 5:30 pm. Proceeds will benefit the Tampa Bay Maritime Scholarship Foundation and the Tampa Port Ministries. St. Andrew's will continue its annual support of the Seafarer's Ministry and has purchased 6 tickets to the 2023 Anchor Ball for use by parishioners at NO COST to our participants! In addition, Irene and Peter Baker will attend and act as hosts this year, so we look forward to having another St. Andrew's table with 8 parishioners. There will be plenty of parking at the Centre, complimentary drinks and hor d'oeuvres, silent auction, dinner, live auction and dancing. What we need are some volunteers to share in this outreach ministry, put on some dress clothes for the evening (black tie optional), and open their hearts, wallets or pocketbooks. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pam Frost or Lauri Harder in the office (813/221-2035) so they can add you to the guest list. If you have any questions, please contact Peter Baker (813/230-0354; [pbakerlaw@gmail.com](mailto:pbakerlaw@gmail.com)). Remember, there is no cost to you – so please sign up and have a great time at the 2023 ANCHOR BALL!!

## Children & Youth News

**Confirmation classes started November 5<sup>th</sup>.** We'll break after Thanksgiving and **pick back up every Sunday** in the new year at **9:30am starting January 7, 2024**, with the date of confirmation being **Sunday, February 25, 2024 during the 10:30 service.**

Our annual Christmas pageant, put on by children and youth, will take place **Sunday, December 17th at the 10:30 service. All children and youth who would like to be involved in the pageant must attend just 4 rehearsals this year.** These rehearsals will be held the following weeks:

Sunday, November 26th at 9:30am

Sunday, December 3rd at 9:30am

Sunday, December 10th at 9:30am

Final Dress Rehearsal Saturday, December 16th at 10am

Pageant Sunday, December 17th at 10:30am (FULL CAST meets in the Children's chapel at 9:15am)

\*We will meet in the Children's chapel for all rehearsals and move to the sanctuary for the final dress rehearsal. We need children and youth of all ages! Please contact Alicia Schmid today at [aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com](mailto:aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com) to find a part for your child or teen!

## Adult Christian Education

**Sunday mornings at 9:30**

*Jesus Revealed: The "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John*

Light. Bread. Shepherd. Life. The Gospel of John uses these and other symbols to paint a picture of who Jesus is. Through the "I Am" statements Jesus describes himself with rich images, showing us that he is both fully human and fully divine and calling us as his followers.

In *Jesus Revealed: The I Am Statements in the Gospel of John*, author Matt Rawle explores the "I Am" statements in John as works of art that resonate throughout the Gospel and all of Scripture. He shows how these words point beyond themselves to the deep mystery of Jesus Christ. Join us on this journey and experience the profound truth at the heart of the I Am statements: that Jesus is light and life, and he calls us to himself and offers us the hope

of resurrection. Matt Rawle is lead pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

11/26 - I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25)

*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**

#### ***The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent***

This four-week Advent study by Pastor Susan Robb explores the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. In this series, we will explore the visits and dive deep into the history of the angel Gabriel – and other angels – in the Old Testament. *The Angels of Christmas* uses these four angelic appearances to discuss God's presence in history and our lives today. The messages of the angels hold meaning for listeners both then and now. Susan Robb recently retired as the Senior Associate Minister at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, where she was part of the church staff for twenty years.

Here is the line-up:

12/3 – Standing in the Presence of God: Gabriel and Zechariah

12/10 – Let It Be: Gabriel and Mary

12/17 – Acting on the Unbelievable: An Angel of the Lord and Joseph

12/24 – Hark the Herald Angels Sing: The Angels and the Shepherds

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

## **Gabriel Tree Project**

You can now choose a child's name for the Gabriel Tree Project: Please email Lin Busby ([ljlbusby@gmail.com](mailto:ljlbusby@gmail.com)), or call/text her at 813-486-1683 with your name choice. Let her know if you will be purchasing the gifts yourself, or if you are donating and wish the Parish Elf to shop and how much to spend. Or, if you prefer, you can make a donation and have us select a name for you. Send all donations to St Andrew's Church or put them in the Sunday donation plate marked Gabriel Tree.

Thank you for your wonderful support in past years. Please let the Elf know as early as you can to allow for better shopping choices.

Anyone can participate in one of several ways:

A. Select a child's name, purchase, and wrap the gifts, and drop them off at the Parish Hall by Sunday December 3rd or any time earlier. Prices have increased significantly and here are approximate costs for shopping. (young/\$80, elementary/\$100, mid-high/\$120). We appreciate any donations and will be happy to take your contributions with others to help support a child's Christmas.

B. Avail yourself of the ELF shopper's service. At the end of the program, you will receive a thank you note with photos of the gifts that were purchased for the child you selected.

- Select a child, indicate that you want the ELF to shop for this child when you sign up, and give a donation to the church office, either cash, check or on-line donation (please specify Gabriel Tree).

- Send a donation to the church and the Parish Elf can select a child and shop/wrap for you. Let Lin Busby know via text or phone call (813-486-1683) that you would like her to select a child for you. You can specify a boy or girl, and age range if you wish.

## **New Flower Chart**

The 2024 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 [cmchurchi18@gmail.com](mailto:cmchurchi18@gmail.com)



## **RECTORY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

*You are invited to join the Reeses for a Christmas party  
on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> • 6:00—10:00pm  
159 W. Davis Boulevard  
(NE corner of W. Davis and Barbados, on Davis Islands)*

## **GREENING OF THE CHURCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30am service**

All hands on deck to help load Christmas trees, poinsettias, lights and wreathes  
to decorate our beautiful church for the Christmas holidays!  
Volunteers ages 8 to 80 needed! With many hands this task can be accomplished quickly!

## **CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 5pm**

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge, was first held on Christmas Eve in 1918. Since then, churches around the world have continued this time-honored celebration. The service this year will be on **Sunday, Dec. 17 at 5p.m.** and will include carols by Herbert Howells, Harold Darke, David Willcocks, and more. You don't want to miss this service, as it is a wonderful way to usher in the Christmas season. Plan to join us and to bring a friend or two. The parish Christmas party will follow in the parish hall.

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Please join us for our annual Christmas party in the Parish Hall immediately following Lessons & Carols on **Sunday, Dec.17th**. Please bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share as we celebrate the joys of the season together. You may drop off your food (including items that need to be reheated with instructions) in the kitchen before or after morning services or before Lessons & Carols. Please contact Pam Curry: [plcurry@hotmail.com](mailto:plcurry@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Music Notes

We have two contrasting anthems today. The offertory comes from Handel's oratorio, *Samson*, which was sketched out while he was working on *Messiah* in 1741. Our rector requested this piece for today, and we have enjoyed working on it. It's a triumphant, majestic piece, perfect for Christ the King Sunday. Our communion anthem has a different aesthetic but tells a similar story. A text by St. Thomas Aquinas, the *O salutaris hostia*, or *O Saving Victim*, gives us another version of awakening, the opening of the gates of heaven.

I'll admit it. I worry. I stew and wonder how, why, when, and what if. I dwell on the negative. My mind takes me into the darkness, that seeming separateness, the outer country, where loneliness, despair, and pain blow in the frosty wind. Our world is full of these kinds of people, fear dwellers. They're on the edge of their seat, paranoid, and distrusting – the enemy pressing in on them. College students are the worst culprits. If you want to know about hell, spend time with a college student. They know *all* about it.

If you want to know about heaven, spend time with a sage, an artist, a writer, an athlete, a good book, or in meditation. When I immerse myself in something enrapturing, I am raptured. I don't need the "end times." I can focus on my writing, on playing the organ, or swimming laps – whatever whisks me away from dwelling on negativity. The dwelling place of the Lord is peaceful and enlivening. The gates of heaven are always open, and I am surrounded by pure focus when I do what I love. Where are my problems? There are no bills to worry about when you play the organ. It's heaven but learning *how* to play is hell! Do you see the difference?

Worry, stewing, and fretting are banishment *from* the kingdom. Then come to your senses. Hop on the organ bench and begin crafting something beautiful, back into the gates of bliss. Our native land, as St. Thomas puts it – *where* is that? It's in that awakening when the trumpet sounds. When you dive into the Kingdom of Heaven, you're on your bike without a care in the world. You have a childlike mindset, centered in meditative activity.

If we're immersed fully in the oneness of our native land, we're *already* in heaven. You're integrated. To be caught in fear, you're dis-integrated. When the mind whisks you away into the outer country of despair and worry, you're lost in hell, college students and fear mongers pointing the way. I'd rather be lost in wonder, love, and praise – *gone*, fully absorbed into the experiential now, not the conceptual later. Wouldn't you like to dwell in the house of the Lord? It's hard. Occasionally, you'll drift into the snowy banks.

But where would you like to dwell, heaven or hell? When I get caught in mindless fear and negativity, the trumpet awakens me, and I come back to my native land. When I come to my senses and engage in creative, loving, and peaceful activities, I “enter into his courts with praise.” If you’re in the outer country, afraid and schlepping through the snow, come to your senses. The gates of heaven are open, and the dwelling place of the Lord is yours. Saving victim or conquering hero, the King always welcomes you home. Fling wide the gates, your dwelling place is *now*. Come in, it’s “love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down.” *Soli Deo Gloria!*

-Ryan Hebert

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** Sarah Hudson, Terry Bostic, John Wolfe, Fred Heyer, Rhys Klug, Phyllis Kubal, Rose Ann Mayer, Lynwood Arnold, Robert Hursey, John Chapman, Will Proctor, Stan Rzad, Nancy Milam, Betty Jane Kent, Virginia Mullen, Roz Cole, Ann Crowder, Charlie Carl, William Maxfield, Jane Barrett, Al Getz, Luis Medel, Joanne Baldy, Nancy Dinkel, John Dinkel, Don McGinnis, Joy Bell, Bill Dye, Veronica Greaves, Nita McClintock, Owen Meats, 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, LouAnn Connors, Roma Plimmer, Patricia Maxfield, Jenette Kerr, Kay Rankin

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

Mark Caro, Sgt. Billy Gudzak, Charlene Maxwell, Joan Hoppe, Carlton Hart, Stephen Tedrowe, Mercedes Richardson, Virginia Sink, Charlie Richardson, Christine Hudson, Janet Norona, Michael Norona, Tom Huffman, Sonja Waters, John Mennell, Christopher Hunt, Kathy Connolly, David M, Bob Hart, Dale Dubin, Charles Mullen, Kay Rankin, Jack Plimmer, Corinne Gaile, Jack Boyet, Jean Turner, Fabio Pompili, Michael Perkins, Judy Crowley, Analee Mayes, Sonja Waters, John Mennell, Sandra, Steve Finessy, Warren Brown, Cathy Neely, Rick Ostman, Judith Mish, Mark Prater, Linda Barry, Ann & Gene Overmyer, Matt Harper, Susan Dawson, Dawn Headland, Beth Luensman, Carole Fields, Roy Collins, Judy Van Valkenburgh, Joe Daurril, Georgia Vahue (*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

509 East Twiggs Street ✕ Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone 813.221.2035

Emergency Number 813.451.5521

Electronic Mail: [secretary@saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:secretary@saintandrewstampa.org)

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

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

Wednesday Healing Service: 12:10 p.m.

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

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

The Rev. John Reese, *Rector*

The Rev. 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 2024:* Pam Curry, Richard Ferlita, *Senior Warden*, Kathy Lawless,  
Paul Scheuer, Lori Taplow, *Clerk of the Vestry*

*Class of 2025:* Barbara Brotherton, Derrick Brown, Chris Capsambelis,  
Richard Chapman, *Junior Warden*, Brad Hall

*Class of 2026:* Allison Besselieu, Holly Clemmons, Martha Cobb, Wallace Dixon,  
Eric Hargens, *Treasurer*

*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.*