



Welcome to
SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TAMPA, FLORIDA
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024
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: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Tower Bell

Please stand as the choir and ministers enter

Great Litany (*kneel when choir and ministers kneel*)

S-67

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us for ever.
Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence,
and famine,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and
from dying suddenly and unprepared,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law;
by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and
Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy
Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the
day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule
and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge
and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set
it forth, and show it accordingly,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind
into thy kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy
Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

Grant us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy.

S-96

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading (*sit*)

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1–9 *Sung by the choir to plainsong*

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;

my God, I put my trust in you; *

let me not be humiliated,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

Hymn 73 (*stand*)

St. Stephen

1 The King shall come when morning
dawns and light triumphant breaks; when
beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy
awakes.

2 Not, as of old, a little child, to bear, and
fight, and die, but crowned with glory like
the sun that lights the morning sky.

3 The King shall come when morning
dawns and earth's dark night is past; O
haste the rising of that morn, the day that
e'er shall last;

4 and let the endless bliss begin, by weary
saints foretold, when right shall triumph
over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.

5 The King shall come when morning
dawns and light and beauty brings: Hail,
Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come
quickly, King of kings.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

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

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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.

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

Holy Communion

At the Offertory:

Anthem *arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)*

People, look east. The time is near Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.
Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.
Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.
Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

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

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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-130

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

S-164

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

The Celebrant says

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

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Music during Communion:

Hymn 53 (*sit*)

Gottes Sohn ist kommen

1 Once he came in blessing, all our ills
redressing; came in likeness lowly, Son of
God most holy; bore the cross to save us,
hope and freedom gave us.

2 Still he comes within us, still his voice
would win us from the sins that hurt us,
would to Truth convert us: not in torment
hold us, but in love enfold us.

3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not
ashamed to claim him, but wilt trust him
boldly nor dost love him coldly, he will
then receive thee, heal thee, and forgive
thee.

4 One who thus endureth bright reward
secureth. Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from
our sins release us; let us here confess thee
till in heaven we bless thee.

Spiritual

Andre Thomas (b.1952)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary till your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

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 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 57 (stand)

Helmsley

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain; thousand
thousand saints attending swell the triumph
of his train: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2 Every eye shall now behold him, robed in
dreadful majesty; those who set at nought
and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion still his
dazzling body bears, cause of endless
exultation to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture, with what rapture, with
what rapture gaze we on those glorious
scars!

4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee, high on
thine eternal throne; Savior, take the power
and glory; claim the kingdom for thine
own: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou
shalt reign, and thou alone!

Dismissal

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

Postlude: Fughetta on “People Look East”

Richard Shephard (1949–2021)



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in anticipation of the beautiful season of Advent
by Michael & Michele Morris

THOSE SERVING TODAY: Sunday, December 1, 2024

Celebrant: Fr. Reese

Preacher: Fr. Campbell

Organist: Ryan Hebert

Choral Assistant: Coleman Flentge

Verger: Richard Ferlita

Crucifer: Sam Scheuer

Torchbearers: Aiden Kennington, Jacob Kennington

Lectors: Sam Scheuer, Betsy Scheuer

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Brad Hall, George Bedell

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

Ushers: Derrick Brown, Donreece Brown, Chris Watson, Michael Dickinson

Altar Guild: Beth Kennington, Adrienne Love, Anne Paige

Coffee Hour Host: The Fellowship Team

BIRTHDAYS: William Curtis, Susan Calhoun, Charlotte Parkes, Stella Thayer, Edwin Bourdeau, Kirk McCann, Mike Hursey, Mike Keracher, Charlotte Henderson, Winston Blake

ANNIVERSARIES: Mike Keracher & Jan Newhoff

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.

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 cmchurchi18@gmail.com

Joy! A Winter Spectacular

Musicians from Dr. Kiran C. Patel High School are excited to return to St. Andrew's for their fourth annual winter concert! This year's theme is "Joy!" and will be a showcase of music intended to spread joy and light to our community! We hope you will mark your calendars and be a part of this truly festive celebration. The concert is here at St. Andrew's on **Thursday December 12 at 7PM**. Tickets are \$10 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

	<h3>Christmas Flowers & Music</h3>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers amount \$		<input type="checkbox"/> Music Amount \$
Donation made by: _____		
In Memory of: _____		

In Thanksgiving for: _____		

<i>Use this QR Code to make your donation online and send this completed form back to the office so we have your dedication information.</i>		

Gabriel Tree Project

The Parish Outreach Committee is again sponsoring the 2024 Gabriel Tree Project. This supports students and families at Dunbar Elementary, a local Tampa public school. Our two previously sponsored schools were closed this year by the county.

Thanks to our generous donors, all the children on the Gabriel Tree have been selected. We will be holding the party on **Saturday Dec 7** and always welcome and need volunteers for the party. Donations are still welcome to cover the party costs – food, craft supplies, candy-filled coffee mug for the parent, photos of the children, gift items for guessing games and raffles (trees with decorations, larger items such as bicycles) as well as remaining gift wrapping supplies. Please contact Martha Cobb (ladymcobb@msn.com)

to let her know you are interested in participating in the party, or Pam Curry (plcurry@hotmail.com) if you can assist in gift wrapping after church Sunday Dec 1st.

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

Experiencing Christmas: Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent

Discover how everything changed when God was born.

Everything seems different at the end of the year. We put lights on our houses to dispel the growing darkness, Christmas music floods local radio stations, eggnog flows, and wrapping paper and tape are always ready. Things just look, smell, and taste differently during the Advent and Christmas season, and these differences are a sign to us that God is about to do something radical and different. Christmas is when God surrounded the divine with senses of his own. That first noel was when God had eyes to see suffering, ears to hear our cries, and hands to hold those in need, and all of these senses were bundled in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. “This will be a sign to you,” the angel told the shepherds, and they traveled to Bethlehem and found a child. What signs do you see during the Advent and Christmas season that point you to the divine?

Join us for this video study led by Matt Rawle, Lead Pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Here is the line-up:

12/1 – Do You See What I See?

12/8 – Do You Hear What I Hear?

12/15 – Do You Taste What I Taste?

12/22 – Do You Feel What I Feel?

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

Children & Youth News

Our annual Christmas pageant, put on by children and youth, will take place **Sunday, December 22nd at the 10:30 service. All children and youth who would like to be involved in the pageant must attend the rehearsals.** Rehearsals will be held the following weeks:

Sunday, December 1st at 9:30am in the children's chapel

Sunday, December 8th at 9:30am in the children's chapel

Sunday, December 15th at 9:30am in the children's chapel

Final Dress Rehearsal Saturday, December 21st at 10am in the sanctuary

Pageant Sunday, December 22nd at 10:30am (FULL CAST meets in the Children's chapel at 9:15am)

We will have a Christmas Party for all participants after the Pageant/ 10:30am service and coffee hour on the 6th floor! Parents are welcome to stay as well, but the church would also love to have your assistance with the greening of the church (you can contact the main office at 813-221-2035)!

*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 to find a part for your child or teen!

Your Gift Makes a Difference



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



RECTORY CHRISTMAS PARTY

*You are invited to join the Reeses for a Christmas party
on Friday, December 20th • 6:00—10:00pm
159 W. Davis Boulevard
(NE corner of W. Davis and Barbados, on Davis Islands)*

GREENING OF THE CHURCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, 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 22nd 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. 22 at 5p.m.** 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.22nd**. 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 Allison Besselieu at allisonbesselieu@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Saint Andrew's Holiday Schedule

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Friday, December 20 - 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Rectory Christmas Party

159 W. Davis Boulevard

(NE corner of W. Davis and Barbados, on Davis Islands)

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Sunday, December 22 - 10:30 a.m. service

Christmas Pageant

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Sunday, December 22 right after the 10:30 Service

The Greening of the Church

Volunteers ages 8 to 80 needed! With many hands this task can be accomplished quickly!

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Sunday, December 22 — 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Lessons & Carols

followed by Parish Christmas Party *(child care provided)*

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Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve services

5:30 p.m. — Choral Eucharist (Rite II)

9:00 p.m. — Choral Eucharist

(Rite I with incense)

A string ensemble will perform at both services,
with pre-service music at 5:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

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Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day service

10:30 a.m.

Music Notes

I used to love making art projects in Sunday school, Advent calendars that would help us count down the days until Christmas. I loved Christmas *because* of the element of surprise. But once Santa came, it was a letdown. No more surprise to look forward to! As an adult, I look forward to taking down the Christmas Tree – all those pine needles everywhere! I look forward to getting past it.

Today, our music is centered around anticipatory delight. It's that wonderful feeling of looking forward. I love Malcolm Archer's setting of "People Look East." Richard Shephard picks up on that same, lilting tune and makes a fun organ postlude out of it. It's skipping and frolicking, but what are we looking forward to? Many people say Christmas, but really? It's the same every year. By the time it's over, you're relieved. How many gingerbread cookies can you eat, and eggnog can you drink?

In theology, looking east is significant because it symbolizes turning towards God. Sometimes it's interpreted as facing the rising sun, but can you imagine facing the sun? Your pupils would burn out. It would blind you. But that's what Advent is – turning towards the blinding of the unknown, the unexpected, the vast sheen of nothing that no words can describe nor images capture. The images of Christmas – boy oh boy – how many more do we need? The Nativity has been painted to death.

I have to play "O Come All Ye Faithful" a total of 4 times between Lessons and Carols and Christmas morning. I have played that carol (and the others) hundreds of times. Playing "O Come All Ye Faithful" will not be a surprise to me this year, unless I inadvertently play it in g minor instead of g major. That might be a fun surprise, but the rector might frown.

I know what to expect on Christmas Eve – well-dressed people we've never seen, appearing in church for the first time, never to be seen again; more of the familiar, waist-busting food and trite carols; and rehashing of the past, red banners hanging over the altar and all. I know *exactly* what it's going to look like. I know *exactly* how it's going to feel when the lights dim, and we sing "Silent Night" (insert eyeroll). Can we turn on some lights please? Turn them so bright, we can't see anymore. Now that would be surprising – but again, the rector might frown.

But Advent reminds me of being in paradise, blinded by trust, light, and love that I can't capture, see, or describe. I live in that anticipatory delight now – my head in the clouds –

not knowing a thing, especially those well-dressed bodies that appear in church only once a year, not even knowing how to hold a hymnal.

“O Come All Ye Faithful” is old news and brings me down to earth, but earth is *meh*. New news is forever unexpected, radiant, anticipatory, and perpetually ascending! I’m now facing the rising sun, the paradise of the unexpected, the return trip into the clouds of glory from whence I came. This is the nature of Reality – the only true direction of eternal life – clean, pure, open, and silent – settled *towards* the sun. When you can’t see a thing, what good news! You’re faced in the *right* direction – East, and you’re not counting down to anything but merely living in paradise, *now* and *always*. *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

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 Chiramonte *(If you wish to add someone to the prayer list, please call Lauri in the church office at 813-221-2035.*

SAINT ANDREW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH