

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Denton, Texas

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 1, 2024

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Prelude Num komm, der Heiden Heiland (Now come, Savior of the heathen) Andreas Nikolaus Vetter

Welcome and Announcements

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Anne and Alex Lindberg

SUNG RESPONSE

Congregation sings (to tune of "Frere, Jacques")

Light of Jesus (echo: light of Jesus); show the way (show the way. Shine in us forever (shine in us forever); this we pray (this we pray)

CALL TO WORSHIP Lisa Patterson

When will God's promise be fulfilled?

The days are surely coming.

When will we be saved?

The days are surely coming.

How will we know the signs to take place?

The days are surely coming when a branch from David shall come forth to execute justice and righteousness in the land.

What shall it be called?

The Lord is our righteousness.

OPENING PRAYER

*Hymn 367

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Prayer of Confession

We confess, O God, to forsaking your ways and seeking our own ways. We have come to believe that we know what is best for our lives; that we can shape the future of the world better than you can; that we do not need you to come in Christ because we have found so many other gods that satisfy us. Forgive us our self-centeredness and open us to being shaped by you into disciples who not only welcome Christ into our lives, but follow him into the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. (Time of silent confession).

Declaration of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

(Adapted from Isaiah 43)

Hear the words of the voice crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. "

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia! Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination Leigh Kitchens

First Scripture Lesson Luke 21: 25-36 New Testament, page 80

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

Anthem Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain Carolyn Jennings

Chancel Choir with Daeun Kim, piano

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Old Testament, page 694

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Looking for God in the Future Richard B. Culp

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn 89 For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

(The Confession of 1967)

Out of Israel God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. Amen.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory From Messiah- G. F. Handel

2. Comfort Ye

3. Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted Ben Johnson, Tenor, with Daeun Kim, Piano

*Sung Response Hymn 137, He Came Down

He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy; hallelujah forevermore.

THE SEALING OF GOD'S WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.....

.....You have come toward us and initiated your love and covenant (Congregation sings)

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (Hymn 91, Come, Come, Emmanuel)....

....you are a God who continually returns to your people to save them (Congregation sings)

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (Hymn 91, Come, Come, Emmanuel)....

....as we await the day of his coming (Congregation sings)

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (Hymn 91, Come, Come, Emmanuel)....

....send us out to be the body of Christ in the world (Congregation sings)

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (Hymn 91, Come, Come, Emmanuel)....

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Lifting of the Cup

When communion is served by intinction: You are invited to come to one of the stations at the front of the sanctuary, back of sanctuary, or the balcony (if you are unable to come forward, please send word with someone or notify an usher, and the elements will be brought to you). At each station, you may tear a piece of bread off and dip it into grape juice (red) or wine (white). As you take the bread and the cup, responses include "Thanks be to God!" or "Amen." As you move back to your pew, notice those who have come to the Lord's Table with you and be reminded that as we seek the Risen Christ, we do so with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*Benediction

Postlude

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Traditional French melody)

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Bold Text indicates congregational participation. *Those who are able are asked to stand.

The rosebud in the chancel announces the birth of Zoey Ann Aubrey on Friday, November 22, to Samantha Guerrero and Zac Aubrey, grandparents Heather and Tony Guerrero, and great grandparents Reca and AW Oliver. Congratulations!

Sarah Barnett is serving in today's worship service as acolyte.

THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS

Words of Preparation

There are varieties of gifts.

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways for serving God.

But it is the Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way,

But it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift by the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination and Installation

We are called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit. This is our common calling, to be disciples and servants of our servant Lord. Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as ruling elders, as teaching elders, and also as ministers of Word and Sacrament. Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us, providing for our ministries of caring and compassion in the world, ordering the governance of the church, and preaching the Word and administering the sacraments.

Presentation of Candidates

Ruling Elder Darhyl Ramsey: Representing the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, the Session of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Denton, Texas, now ordains and installs Brenda Crawford, Steve Danbom, Teresa Golden, Lauri Goldston, Caia McCullar, Lynda Schupp to the ordered ministry of Deacon and Sara Armstrong to the ordered ministry of Ruling Elder.

The Session also installs Sylvia Hobdy and Jim White to active service as Deacons and Kirsten Brown, Karen Dower, Ed Hiler, and David McCullar to active service as Ruling Elders.

We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's particular call to our brothers and sisters.

In baptism, you were clothed with Christ, and now are called by God through the voice of the church to enter into ministries of service and governance, announcing in word and deed the good news of Jesus Christ.

Constitutional Questions

To the Candidates
To the Congregation

Prayer of Ordination

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eternal God, we give you thanks for your steadfast faithfulness to us. For your servants in every age and for the church of Jesus Christ, we give you all thanks and praise.....

Prayer for Deacons

God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on Brenda, Steve, Teresa, Lauri, Sylvia, Caia, Lynda, and Jim that they may be faithful deacons in the church. Give them openness to the Holy Spirit's leading that they may see and serve wherever there is need. Train them in the school of prayer that they may express the compassion of Christ for the poor and the friendless, the sick, the grieving, and the troubled. Equip them with courage to bear the gospel into the halls of power, and to communicate your presence and might among those who are powerless. In everything, give them the mind of Christ, who did not grasp at greatness but emptied himself, to become a servant of your reign. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.

Prayer for Ruling Elders

God of grace, pour out your Holy Spirit on Sara, Kirsten, Karen, Ed, and David that they may be your faithful ruling elders in the church. Give them prudence and sound judgment, wisdom and courage to order the life of the church in obedience to your Word. Nourish them in the life of the Holy Spirit, that they may exercise the ministry of discipline with humility and compassion. Guide them in governance on this Session and in every court of the church, that they may be servant leaders following Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life to set others free. Give them joy in their walk of faith and a sure sense of your abiding presence for their work of ministry.

(Unison) Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church that we may be for you a holy people, baptized to serve you in the world. Sustain this congregation in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another. Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news of Christ Jesus our Lord. In his name, we pray. Amen.

Declaration and Charge

You are now deacons and ruling elders in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

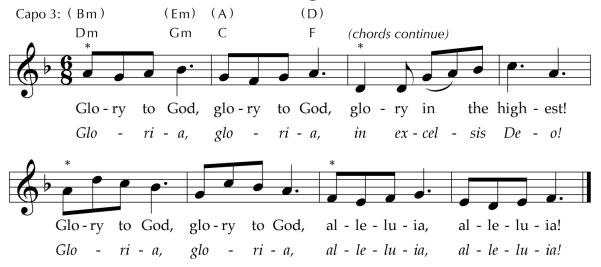


Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria



^{*}May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

My Soul in Stillness Waits



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.



- 1 O Lord of Light, our on ly hope of glo ry,
- 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up on our spir its;
- 3 O Root of Life, im plant your seed with in us,
- 4 O Key of Knowl edge, guide us in our pil grim-age;
- 5 Come, let us bow be fore the God who made us;
- 6 Here we shall meet the Mak er of the heav ens,



your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your word; come, make us in your ad - vent, draw us all our hope reand you, we ev - er seek, yet un - ful-filled re - main; o - pen to heart be o - pened to the let Lord, for ev - ery we are the moun-tains and the the Cre - a - tor of seas, Lord of



hearts of all in dark and shad - ow. whole, be com - fort to our hearts. ris - ing. born dy - ing and us the path-way of your peace. all peo - ple of God's hand. stars. and pres - ent us now.

With a paraphrase of Psalm 62:5 as a refrain, this Advent text adapts four of the "Great O" antiphons (all of which can be seen in no. 88), combining them with a paraphrase of Psalm 95:6–7 and an echo of a medieval hymn. This rich blend yields a wealth of imagery and meaning.



Additional stanzas:

- ... that we may have light
- ... that we may have peace
- ... that we may have joy

Because this traditional Cameroon piece begins with the refrain, it does not initially reveal that it is cast as a call-and-response song. Assigning the answers to the congregation rather than to the leader is a notable affirmation of the corporate wisdom of God's people.

TEXT: Cameroon song

MUSIC: Cameroon melody: transcr. and arr. John L. Bell. 1986

LM

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵"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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴"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, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be 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."

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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."

Advent Adventure Wednesday, December 4

5:30pm, Dinner at Super Wednesday Prices 6:30pm, Advent Crafts and Adventure for All Ages Come and enjoy a meal with the church family and begin the Advent season as a community of faith. Register on Realm!

Prime Time Friday, December 6

Prime Time is a group for our older adults that gathers over lunch for fellowship and as an opportunity to meet other people. We will next gather on Friday, December 6 at 12:00pm (noon) at Greenhouse Restaurant in Denton. This is a popular local lunch spot with parking located at 600 N Locust Street in the central Denton area. We hope you can join us there for lunch and conversation. Please RSVP to Brad Dunn (acapulcosunset@gmail.com) by December 5.

Save the Date
Holiday Tree Lighting
Saturday, December 7
4:15pm-5:45pm, Front Lawn

Market for Mission Sunday, December 8, 2024 9:00am-10:30am

This year's long-established Market for Mission will be held in Fellowship Hall, Sunday, December 8, starting at 9:00am and concluding at 10:30am. At this event, local-area agencies are participating providing information about their various missions. There will also be goods for sale by church groups, local artists, and SERRV. So please mark your calendar to make plans to attend to learn about these local area agencies' capabilities as well as to do some of that much needed Christmas shopping.

Parents' Night Out Saturday, December 14

Parents' Night Out is a program for the young families of St. Andrew. The program has a two-fold purpose: it gives parents an opportunity to spend quality time together without their children and it gives the children an evening of fun, age-appropriate activities with their friends at St. Andrew. The evening runs from 4:00pm to 8:00pm for infants-5yrs old in the Nursery. In the Rec Center, Kindergarten-elementary age will meet 4:00pm to 9:00pm, with pick-up from the media room in the main church building. Registration is required on Realm or email Karen Raabe at karen@standrewdenton.com.

Treehouse Angel Tree

The Treehouse Angel Trees will be available in the Narthex beginning Sunday, December 1. Gift tags are available to purchase either clothing or books for one of our 14 Treehouse students. When you choose a tag, be sure to sign the list on the table to indicate which gift tag you chose. Wrapped gifts, including the gift tag from the tree, should be returned to the church office no later than Sunday, December 15. Contact Stephanie at tree-house@standrewdenton.com or 940-297-9261 if you have any questions. Thank you for continuing to support our Treehouse families.

Advent Music and Flowers

You are invited to be a part of the Advent and Christmas season through making a donation in honor or memory of someone important in your life. All donations will be used to purchase poinsettias for the sanctuary and to help support the music ministry of St. Andrew. Donations may be dropped off in the church office or online in Realm. Questions? Ask Lou Korom at lou@standrewdenton.com.

Advent wreath frames and candles available!

Do you need an Advent wreath and the candles to go with it for Advent? The church has some and will set one aside for you, if you let us know. Please send <u>lisa@standrewdenton.com</u> your reservation for a wreath and candles. Want to decorate it with evergreens provided by the church? Come to Advent Adventure on December 4th to the wreath making table for all of your supplies. Pick up your wreath frame at the church office or at Advent Adventure. Please let us know you need a wreath and candles, so that we can reserve it for you, while supplies last.

Give-a-Meal - \$2.29

St. Andrew donated \$413 to the Give-a-Meal program in September! Thank you for supporting the needs of those who are experiencing food insecurity during this time. A monetary donation of \$2.29 feeds a person in need for a week. Donations can be made by mail or online.

Volunteers Needed for After Worship Fellowship

We're looking for a few more people to provide treats after worship on Sunday mornings! Isn't it great to see children rush out of the sanctuary to see what goodies will be on the table? Come to think of it, the treats and conversations with friends are a real highlight of Sunday mornings, right? Feel free to make treats as complex or as simple as you like! Treats can be homemade or store bought, sweet or savory, healthy or divine. Contact Lisa Dorr for more information: DORRLL@yahoo.com, (630) 803-3074.

Prayer Requests

Kurt Dorr
Kayla Swenson
Ann Barnett
Karissa Sims
Gina Anderson
Diann Arthur
Ray Speir
Clarice Luce

Sarah Barnett Lynn Carrico Steve Davis Norma Rockenbach Jan Lewis Hudson Barnhill Phillip Young

Carol Syverson, mother-in-law of Karen Raabe Craig Pickett, cousin of Steve Pickett Peter DiClenti, cousin of Steve Pickett Jessica Belcher, niece of Margo Bean and Mark Freeman Nancilou Jones, mother of Aaron Jones Laura Bruening, mother of Lisa Dorr Nancy Anderson, aunt of Margo Bean and Mark Freeman Mary Stream Soderstrom, friend of the Culp family John Tillman, brother of Russ Tillman Debbie Kyzer, mother of Dan Kyzer Eddie Grier, friend of Jan Lewis Angela Selvidge, daughter of Liz Whitaker Ed Simpson, brother of Jan Lewis Ryan Landes and Family, son of Kathy and Gary Landes Karen Whitson Ansley, niece of Lynn Carrico Norma Watts, mother of Jill Richmond Thom Holbrook, friend of Linda Heilig Rylen Lewis, grandson of Mark Lewis Ben Reynolds, relative of Clarice Luce Carolyn Brown, sister-in-law of Janette Hindman Lynn and Charlie Davis, friends of Chuck Smith Margie Ball, mother of Marissa Glasschroeder and Michael Ball Megan Terry Crawford, friend of Betty Sue and Mike Grandey Kim Hundley Owens, niece of Barbara Sims Sophia Lilley, mother of Lisa Haddad Family of Gorman Wiseman

Welcome!

The proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

If you wish to join St. Andrew today, please contact one of the ministers.

Children's Chapel

During the worship service, children ages three years through kindergarten are invited to go to chapel immediately following the Children's Sermon.

Advent 2

Robin Hines and Jacy Williamson

Godly Play seeks to tell the stories of the faith so that children hear and remember these stories and become engaged in them. It also provides a place and opportunities for children to begin exploring the purpose and meaning of worship. Parents may come upstairs to the Children's Chapel to pick children up following the worship service.

By the Numbers: As of 9/30/24

Income (pledges + other income)\$772,173.00Expenses\$775,028.00Difference-\$2,855.00

Give online at: standrewdenton.com/give

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

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Richard B. Culp, Senior Pastor
Lisa Patterson, Associate Pastor
Stephanie Raesz, Youth Director
Kirsten Trachsel, Director of Children's and Handbell Choirs
J. Christine Le, Director of Music
Daeun Kim, Organist



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).



Let us know you're here! Ritual of Friendship Online

Use the QR code to fill out the Ritual of Friendship on your phone! The online form has options to show whether you're in person, at Good Samaritan, or online!



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing situations such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Please contact Richard Culp or Lisa Patterson to connect with Stephen Ministry.