



## ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DENTON, TEXAS

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2024

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### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

#### PRELUDE

Christmas Carols

arr. Steve Winstead

Xiachu Song, Violin 1; Kevin Fu, Violin 2; Qianqian Fu, Viola; Tyler Aguillard, Cello  
Xiachu Song, Kevin Fu, Qianqian Fu,

#### WELCOME

#### INTROIT (5:00 p.m.)

"O Come, O Come Emanuel"

arr. James Curnow

Westminster Youth Ensemble

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Betsy and Bob Halbach (5:00 p.m.)

Liz and Dwain Thiele (7:00 p.m.)

#### 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

On this holiest of nights, we come looking for God.

**Find us, O God, like Mary and Joseph, ready to follow where you lead.**

On this most silent night, we come looking for God.

**Find us, O God, like the shepherds, stunned by wonder at the news of the birth of Christ.**

On this night of carols and candlelight,

**Find us, O God, as we join with the choir of angels singing of your glory.**

#### OPENING PRAYER

Lisa Patterson (5:00 p.m.)

BL Jordan (7:00 p.m.)

#### \*HYMN 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, this most holy of nights find us full of gladness, grief, and joy. Gladness, because you left the splendor of heaven's glory to come to a dark and cold world to bring the light and warmth of your kingdom to a world desperately in need of your love, your peace, and your joy. Grief, because you came into the world, yet the world did not receive you. You came to your own, and your own did not welcome you. Even today, people turn away from you; I turn away from you. Sin still scars your creation and the hearts of your own people. Joy, because you offer perfect forgiveness and full cleansing to all who acknowledge their need of you. Cleanse our heart tonight, O God, so that we may welcome the Christ-child into the world and our lives. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

..

## DECLARATION OF PARDON

Friends, the Christ child arrives bringing us good news of great joy for all the people.

**The Christ-child comes to save us from our sins. Thanks be to God!**

## CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

(John 1: 1)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

## \*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 132, Vs. 3)

IN DULCI JUBILO

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2: 1-7

New Testament, page 54

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### ANTHEM

(5:00 p.m.)

Advent Prayer

Mark Patterson

Noel and Covenant Choirs with Daeun Kim, piano

(7:00 p.m.)

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter

Chancel Choir with String Quartet and Daeun Kim

*How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the stars in the sky? How can you measure the love of a mother? Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?*

*Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn. Gloria In Excelsis Deo Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.*

*Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him, Seraphim round him their vigil will keep, Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour, But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.*

*Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger, Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay, Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation, A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.*

#### SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2: 8-20

New Testament, page 54

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

"Looking for God? Found God!"

Richard B. Culp

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

#### \*HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

## SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

The Christmas Eve offering will support the **Emergency Relief Fund of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.**



The offering at this year's Christmas Eve worship service offering will be devoted to the Emergency Relief Fund. In 2024, 19 fund awards were made for a variety of needs including recovery from the Valley View tornado, rent assistance, and vehicle repair. Donations can be submitted via the St. Andrew web site using the QR code.

### OFFERTORY

(5:00 p.m.)

Sing We Now of Christmas/ God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen  
Andersen Trachsel, alto sax & Daeun Kim, piano

(7:00 p.m.)

"O Holy Night"  
String Quartet  
Zhihui Pang, tenor

arr. Adolphe Adam

### \*SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 143, Vs. 4 *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

*All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:  
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!*

## 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 truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise....we beheld your glory, Emmanuel!

**(People sing: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel. - Hymn 147, refrain)**

You are holy, O God of majesty...new covenant by water and the Spirit.

**(People sing: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel. - Hymn 147, refrain)**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit....body of Christ in the world.

**(People sing: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel. - Hymn 147, refrain)**

Lord's Prayer

**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 take a piece of bread and dip it into the chalice of wine or juice. The wine chalice has three rings and will contain white wine; the juice chalice has no rings and will contain red grape juice. As you move back to your pew, notice those who have come to the Lord's Table with you and be reminded of those with whom we share the journey to meet and follow Christ.

Communion Music

Prayer

\*HYMN 122

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

Noel and Covenant Choirs, rainbow bells & handchimes (5:00 p.m.)

*Please remain seated as ushers assist the congregation in lighting candles. Receive light from the center aisle and pass to the side aisle. The lighted candle should remain upright and the unlighted candle tipped for lighting. To assure the safety of everyone, please extinguish all candles before moving from your seat.*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

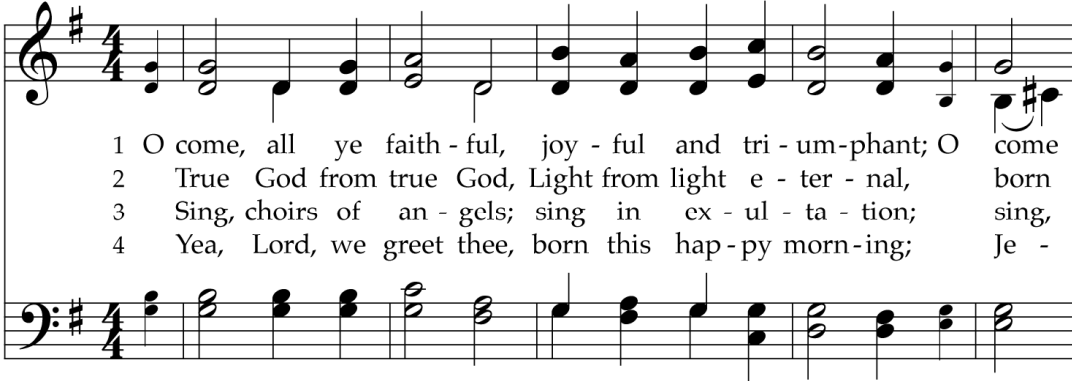
Silent Night

arr. Winstead

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

*The Prayer of Confession used tonight is adapted from a prayer written by Rick Lindholtz as shared on the blog,  
re:Worship,re:Worship: Confession for Christmas Eve*

# O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

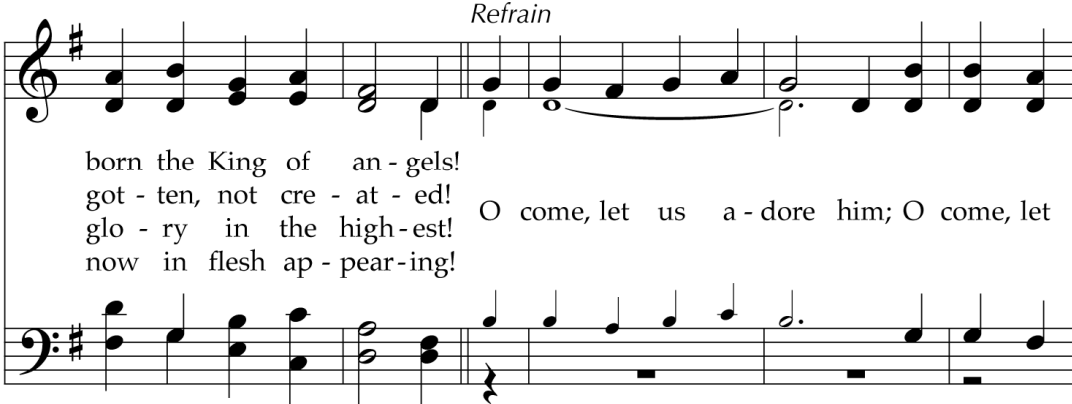


1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come  
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,  
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -  
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all  
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

*Refrain*



born the King of an - gels!  
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let  
 glo - ry in the high - est!  
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

# 132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.  
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

# 134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

# 143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions  
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;  
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,  
 you have seen his na - tal star:  
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."



147

The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor  
 2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the  
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men  
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing  
 east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave  
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their  
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.  
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord  
 full reverently upon their knee, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
 and offered there in his presence that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
 their gold, and myrrh, and and with his blood our life hath bought.  
 frankincense. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

# Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
 ra - riant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*  
*Alles schläft, einsam wacht*  
*nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.*  
*Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,*  
*schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,*  
*schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

KOREAN

1 고요한밤 거룩한밤  
 어둠에 묻힌밤  
 주의부모 앞서서  
 감사기도 드릴때  
 아기잘도 잔다  
 아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*  
*Todo duerme en derredor,*  
*entre los astros que esparcen su luz,*  
*bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,*  
*brilla la estrella de paz,*  
*brilla la estrella de paz.*

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

## **Luke 2: 1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

## **Luke 2: 8-20**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## ADVENT MUSIC AND FLOWERS

### In Memory of

Donna Lynn Speigel Jones	Van and JoNell Kent
Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Speigel	Christi Kent
Lois C. Williamson	John Steger
Hal H. Williamson	Dan and Jean Heilig
Ralph B. Culp	Barbara Smith
Helen Culp Schutts	George Heilig
Ray Janes	Vickie Armstrong
Deborah Kilgore	Willis and Catherine Mitchell
Ed Moorehead	Nancy and Robert Brown
The parents of Darhyl and Jonny Ramsey	Hazel Powell
Jim Chaplin	Linda Fite
Aileen Lowry-Allison	Jeanie Fite
Larry and Betty Schwoyer	Johannes and Sophie Bogevold
Melvin Swenson	Jim Cornelius
Phil and Cynthia Hooper	Marian and Doug Heil
Jim and Janet Widmer	Beth Wells
Tim and Norma Burgess	Patsy and Fred Patterson
Randal and Laura McCullar	

*Those who donated a poinsettia are invited to take one following the worship service on December 29, 2024.*

## **ADVENT MUSIC AND FLOWERS**

### **In Honor of**

Evangel Odei

Rachel Odei

Monroe Culp McGaffin

Noelle Culp and Adam McGaffin

Rachel Culp and Chandler Molpus

Caitlin Culp and Charles Okpala

The family of Betty Culp

Will, Jessie, Kacen and Karson Hooper

Katie Raabe

Bailey and Carol Whilden

Laurie LaMonica and Jackson Cheatham

The children and grandchildren of Bob and Terry Widmer

Kimberly Cole Luevano

Jackson Fite

James Fite

Charlotte Fite

Andrew Fite

Benjamin Lindsey Boeck

Sophia Lindsey Boeck

The children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Bob and Ruby Crouch

The Widmer Family

The family of Gayle Strange

Barbara and Barry Coleman

Drs. Leslie and Richard Culp

Will, Walker, and Ann Patterson

The children of Susan and Steve Danbom

*Those who donated a poinsettia are invited to take one following the worship service on December 29, 2024.*

## Prayer Requests

Harriet Laney  
Tim Bergan  
Kurt Dorr  
Kayla Swenson  
Gina Anderson  
Diann Arthur  
Ray Speir

Clarice Luce  
Lynn Carrico  
Steve Davis  
Norma Rockenbach  
Jan Lewis  
Hudson Barnhill  
Phillip Young

Bill Tilley, uncle of Sara Armstrong  
Keren Billyack, friend of Connie Charat  
Richard Gascoyne, friend of Chuck Stoughton  
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



*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!

## WELCOME!

**W**e proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. 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

Children's Chapel will not meet December 24.  
During the worship service, children ages three years through kindergarten are invited to stay in the pews with their parents.

### By the Numbers: As of 11/30/24

Income (pledges + other income)	\$943,561
Expenses	\$957,974
Difference	-\$14,413

Pledged income is at 91% of expected giving.

Give online at: [standrewdenton.com/give](http://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.).



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.