



SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 17, 2023 · 8:30 AM
The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Called to **Worship**. Sent to **Witness**. Led to **Welcome**.

A special welcome to all visitors. We are delighted you have joined us for worship!



Saint Andrew's is a parish of the **Episcopal Church within the Diocese of Upper South Carolina**. Over time, our identity as a parish has come to be defined by our commitment to **worship** in the distinctive splendor of Anglo-Catholic tradition, to **witness** through word and deed to the life changing implications of Jesus Christ's reconciling love, and to **welcome** unreservedly all God's children into Christ's Body, the Church.

If you are not familiar with Episcopal Church worship, we have tried to make our worship bulletin easy to follow. All of the prayers and responses for the congregation are printed in the bulletin. Page numbers that are prefaced by "**BCP**" reference pages in the **red Book of Common Prayer** found in the rack on the back of the pew in front of you. Hymns are referenced by hymn number and can be found in the **blue Hymnal** also in the pew rack.

As you depart worship, we hope you will enter your name and contact information in our **visitor's book** located on a stand in the narthex (the little room that you pass through on your way in and out of the main doors of the church). We would also love to have you join us for **coffee hour** in the Parish Hall immediately after the 10:30 AM mass. Thank you for blessing us with your presence!

Restrooms

are located on the first floor of the Parish House.

Use the door to the left of the church,
closest to the parking lot.

Nursery

is available during the 10:30 AM Mass
on the second floor of the Parish House.

Link for Online Donations:

www.standrewsgreenville.org/giving

The Rt. Rev'd Daniel Richards, Bishop

The Rev'd Gary Eichelberger, Rector

rector@standrewsgreenville.org

The Rev'd Tyler Proctor, Curate

curate@standrewsgreenville.org

John Gilbert, Organist/Choirmaster

choir@standrewsgreenville.org

Marie Ridolfo, Parish Administrator

office@standrewsgreenville.org

Jane Babb, Nursery Coordinator

Members of the Vestry

Scott Chastain, Senior Warden (2023); Riley Owens, Junior Warden (2024) John Rhodes, Clerk (2023); Charles Shields (2023); Allison Giambrone-Wilson, Kelly Proffitt (2024); Phil Buck, Lee Gray, and Jenny Peer (2025)
Vestry elect: Linda Fitzsimmons, Gilberto King-Huerta, Leigh Randall (2024)

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Upon the ringing of the sanctuary bell, the people stand.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant 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.**

Kyrie

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

After the Collect, the people sit.

First Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126 (*said responsively by whole or half verse, as announced*)

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| 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream. | 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, * like the watercourses of the Negev. |
| 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy. | 6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy. |
| 3 Then they said among the nations, * “The Lord has done great things for them.” | 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. |
| 4 The Lord has done great things for us, * and we are glad indeed. | |

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand for the proclamation of the Gospel.

The Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Gospeller The Holy Gospel ☩ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev'd Fr. Gary Eichelberger

After the Sermon, all stand and say together the words of the Creed.

The Nicene Creed

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.

After the Nicene Creed, the Assisting Minister introduces the prayers as follows.

Prayers of the People, Form I

Minister Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

The people kneel.

Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."
For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; Gary, our Rector; Tyler, our Curate; Tommy, our Seminarian; John, our Nominee; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord;

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Joseph, our president; Henry, our governor; and Knox, our mayor; for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For Bob, Charlie, Charles, Chuck, Clara, Dick, Duane, Emily, Gordon, Holly, Jacob, Jane, Jim, Jodi, Leigh Ann, Linda, Lucy, Margaret Lee, Marvin, Mary, Mary Beth, Millie, Nancy, Patt, Peggy, Sandy, Shawn, Steve, Sylvia, and Weesie, as well as those whom you are invited to name now, either silently or aloud [*pause for people to add names*], let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For all who have died ✠ in the hope of the resurrection, especially those whom you are invited to name now, either silently or aloud [*pause for people to add names*], and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

After any additional prayers of intercession and thanksgiving, the Intercessor continues with the following commendation.

Intercessor In the communion of Blessed Mary, Mother of God; Blessed Joseph, her spouse; Blessed Andrew, our patron; and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

After a moment of silence, the Celebrant says a concluding collect before the Assisting Minister introduces the Confession.

The Confession and Absolution

Minister Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is observed.

All **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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Following the Absolution, the people stand for the Peace.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

After the Announcements, the Celebrant invites those celebrating their birthdays or anniversaries to come forward. If anyone comes forward, the Celebrant invites the people to join in the following prayer

All **Almighty and gracious God, we give you thanks for each of these your servants as they celebrate their special day. Watch over them as they begin another year, and give them grace to keep the vows and promises they have made. Bless and guide them wherever they may be; strengthen them when they stand; raise them up if they fall; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; and may your peace which passes all understanding abide in their hearts all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Commissioning of New Vestry Members

Holy Communion

The Offertory

After the commissioning, the Celebrant says an Offertory Sentence and returns to the altar. Then, after the people's offering of bread and wine are brought forward, the people sit as the altar is set and other offerings are collected from the people. (An offering can also be made by placing it in the offering plate located on the table in the aisle by the font or online at www.standrewsgreenville.org/giving.) After the altar is set, the people stand again as the other offerings are brought forward and remain standing for the opening of the eucharistic prayer.

The Great Thanksgiving Rite II, Prayer B

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues

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/Benedictus

All **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 or remain standing, and 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,

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

Celebrant 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 Blessed Mary, Mother of God; Blessed Joseph, her spouse; Blessed Andrew, our patron; and 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.

All **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept before the following is said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant then faces the people and says the following Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God ✠ for the People of God.

After the ministers and the server have received, all are welcome to come forward to the altar rail. At the altar rail, all baptized Christians are invited to receive the Blessed Sacrament, and those who are not yet baptized are invited to indicate a desire to receive a blessing by crossing their arms upon arrival at the altar rail. (Our rector is always eager to speak with anyone who is not yet baptized about preparing for and receiving the sacrament of Baptism.)

For those receiving the Blessed Sacrament, a wafer will be placed in the palm of your hand or upon your tongue after which the chalice is offered. If you need a gluten-free wafer, you may request one from the priest at the altar rail. Should you wish to receive wine by intinction (dipping), allow the chalice bearer to take the wafer from your open palm and intinct for you. Should you be unable to manage the steps, please notify the usher so that Holy Communion can be administered at your pew.

Postcommunion Prayer

Upon the Celebrant's invitation to prayer, the people kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Advent Blessing

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father ✠, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

After the Blessing, the people stand.

Dismissal

Minister Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. You are invited to either take your bulletin home or to place it in the recycle bin in the narthex.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory and celebration of Barbara and John Wright, and, in thanksgiving for Emily and Lauren Dunlap, with grace and love, by Deborah.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Gaudete Sunday Today | This is the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, which is one of two Sundays in the church year when we use rose-colored vestments in the Mass. The name “Gaudete” is derived from the Latin opening words of an introit antiphon, “Rejoice [Gaudete] in the Lord always,” which was traditionally used on this Sunday. The theme, the vestments, and the flowers on the altar help express the joy of anticipation at the approach of the Christmas celebration and reflect a lifting of the penitential tone of our Advent observance.

Vestry Meeting | Today | 12:30 PM | Our monthly vestry meeting will take place in the upstairs of the Parish House following today’s 10:30 AM Sung High Mass. The outgoing and incoming members will participate in today’s meeting as we offer gratitude for the faithful service of our outgoing members, Scott Chastain, John Rhodes, and Charles Shields.

Thank You to Everyone Who Supported Our 2024 Annual Pledge Campaign - Less Than 10 Pledges needed! | If you have not turned in your pledge yet, please place your completed pledge card in the offering plate or turn it into the Parish Office as soon as possible. **We have exceeded our pledge goal of \$320,000 but are shy just 4 pledges of our goal of 120 pledges!** Thank you to all who have already submitted their pledges! The pledge card can be found online at www.standrewsgreenville.org/pledge

Clergy-Led Weekly Bible Study: Book of Romans | Tuesdays at 4 PM | Sign up here: www.tinyurl.com/clergyledbiblestudy

Parish Office Christmas Season Schedule | Our Parish Administrator, Marie Ridolfo, will be out off the office December 22-January 1. Office volunteers will be in the office from 9 AM to 1 PM on December 22, and December 27-29. The Parish Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 25-26.

ECW Drive for Greenville’s Gift | As their Christmas project, ECW is sponsoring a donation drive for Greenville’s Gift, seeking clothing and/or money for newborns in need. A collection box is in the church narthex. Items (all seasons) needed: clothing (size 0-12 months), baby blankets, socks, hats, bibs, and burp cloths.

Ordo Kalendars Available | The 2024 Ordo Kalendars are available in the Parish Office for \$5 each. Reserve yours today by emailing office@standrewsgreenville.org or calling 864-235-5884.

2023 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM Low Mass with Hymns, Rite I
(Combined Service)

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

4:00 PM Creche & Carols Family Service, Rite II
10:30 PM Sacred Music
11:00 PM Solemn High Mass, Rite I

Monday, December 25

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

12:00 Noon Low Mass, Rite I

Sunday, January 31

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

8:30 AM Low Mass, Rite II
10:30 AM Sung High Mass, Rite I

Services Beyond Christmas:

- **The Feast of Epiphany | Saturday, January 6 | 4:00 PM**
The Feast of Epiphany, one of the Principal Feasts of the Church Year, is when we remember the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child. At our afternoon mass, we will include the Blessing of the Chalk, an Epiphany tradition.
- **The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord (Baptismal Opportunity) | Sunday, January 7** | On January 7, we will celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, where we remember Our Lord’s baptism by John in the River Jordan. Anyone desiring to be baptized or to have a child baptized, please speak with or e-mail Father Gary (rector@standrewsgreenville.org).

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8:30 AM, Low Mass, Rite II
10:30 AM, Sung High Mass, Rite I (also via livestream)
*Note: 12/24 - 9:30 AM Low Mass with Hymns, Rite I
(One Combined Service)*

Tuesdays

8:30 AM Morning Prayer, Rite I

Wednesdays

5:30 PM, Healing Mass, Rite II

Thursdays

8:30 AM Morning Prayer, Rite I

Every Third Wednesday of the Month

5:00 PM Rosary in Church

Every Fourth Wednesday of the Month

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
follows Healing Mass