The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026



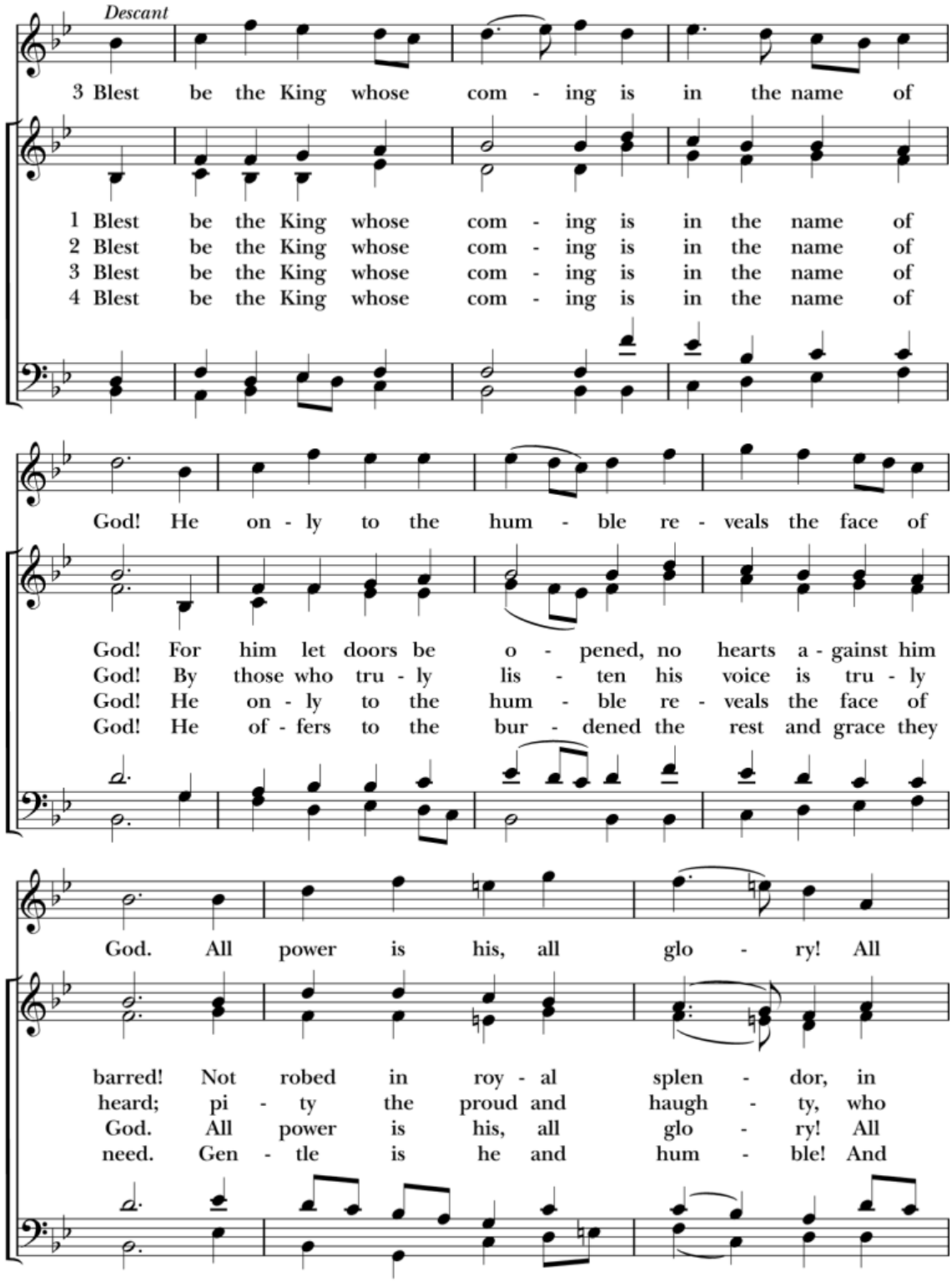
Saint Andrew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
& CHILDREN'S CENTER

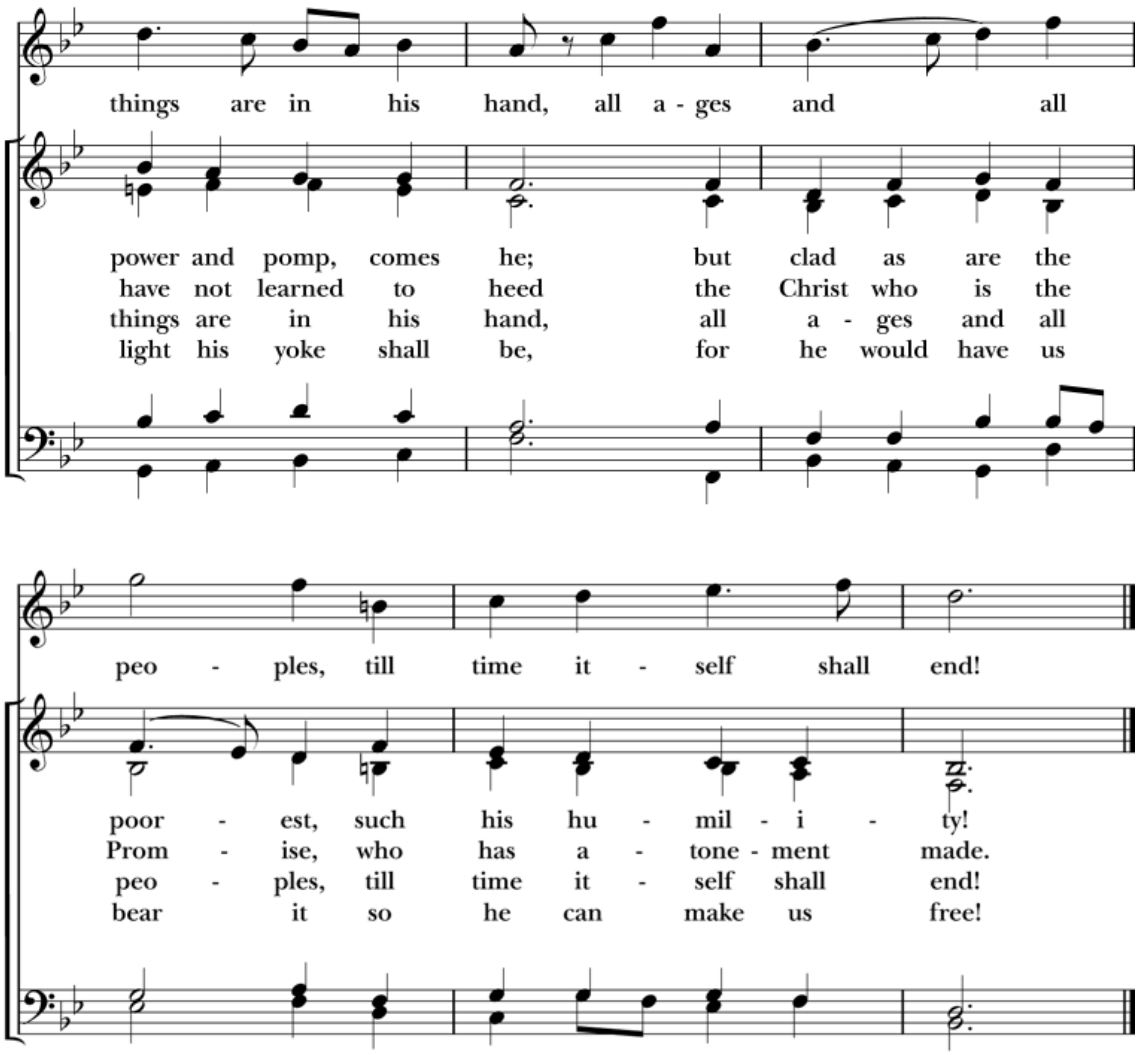
A nurturing community of faith, serving Christ,
and open to all...wherever you are in your journey with God.

4400 Barranca Parkway, Irvine, CA 92604
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PRELUDE
Veni redemptor gentium Gregorianisch, Satz & Christoph Dalitz

OPENING HYMN
Blest be the King whose coming Hymnal 74





Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnatt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930).

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Reader One: When I look around, I see shadows of hunger. So many neighbors, nearby and around the world, will go to bed hungry tonight…

Reader Two: When I look around, I see shadows of injustice, the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer — and someone somewhere will fall asleep under a bridge tonight…

Reader One: In the face of hunger, we light a candle of hope…

Reader Two: In the face of injustice, in the face of despair, we light a candle of hope… *(Light the first candle in your Advent wreath.)*

Reader One: May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

Reader Two: May the light from this candle say to all that God's hope is coming, on earth as it already is in heaven.

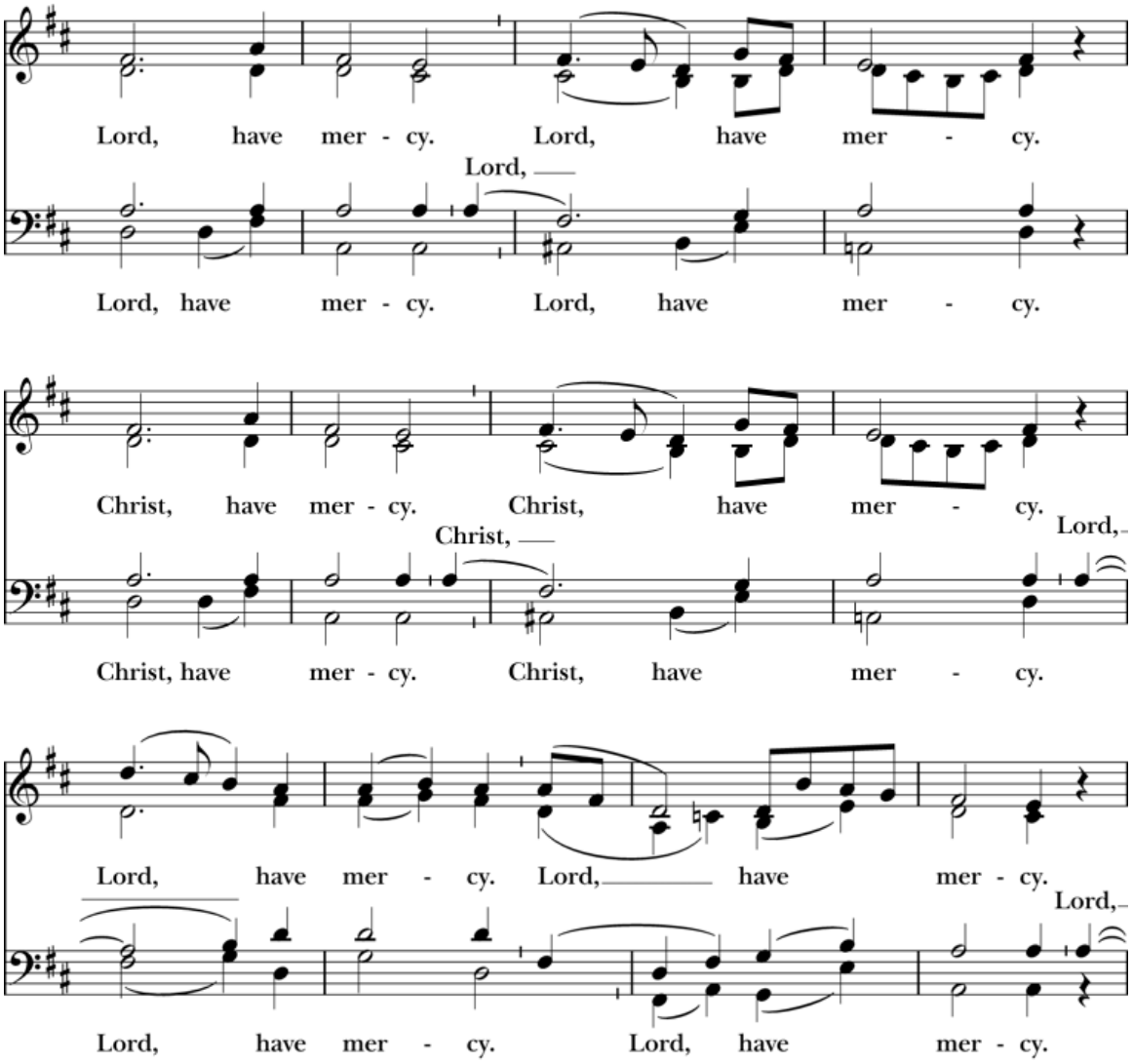
Reader One: Friends, be not afraid, God's hope is at hand!

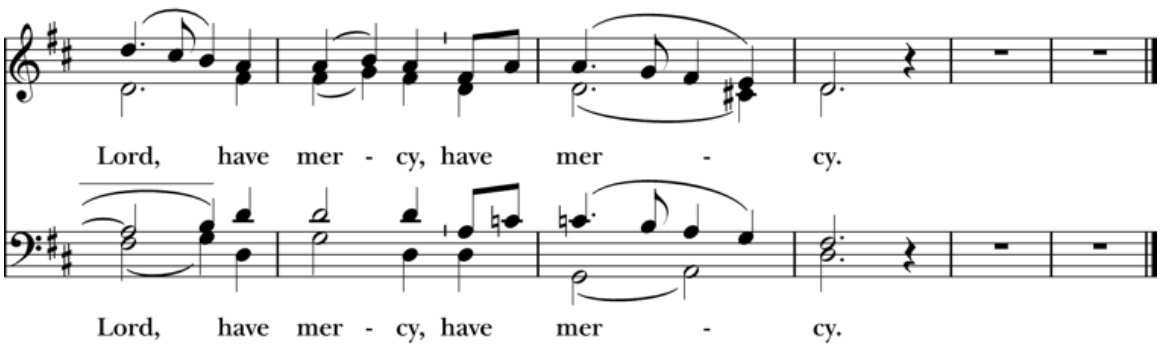
OPENING ACCLAMATION

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People ***You come to your people and set them free.***

TRISAGION *(8AM SAID, 10AM SUNG)* S96





Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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

Isaiah 64:1-9

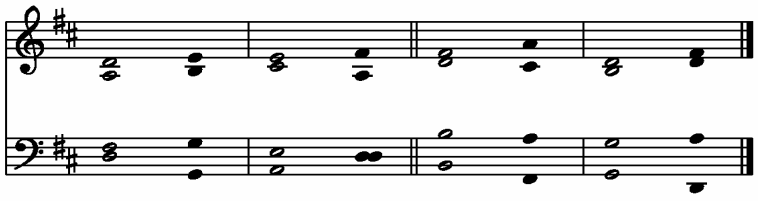
All sit.

A Reading from The Book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 80:1-7,16-18



1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a ***flock***; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the ***cherubim***.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma***nasseh***, *
stir up your strength and come to ***help us***.

3 Restore us, O God of ***hosts***; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be ***saved***.

4 O Lord God of ***hosts***, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your ***people***?

5 You have fed them with the bread of ***tears***; *
you have given them bowls of tears to ***drink***.

6 You have made us the derision of our ***neighbors***, *
and our enemies laugh us to ***scorn***.

7 Restore us, O God of ***hosts***; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be ***saved***.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right ***hand***, *
the son of man you have made so strong for your***self***.

17 And so will we never turn away from ***you***; *
give us life, that we may call upon your ***Name***.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of ***hosts***; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be ***saved***.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

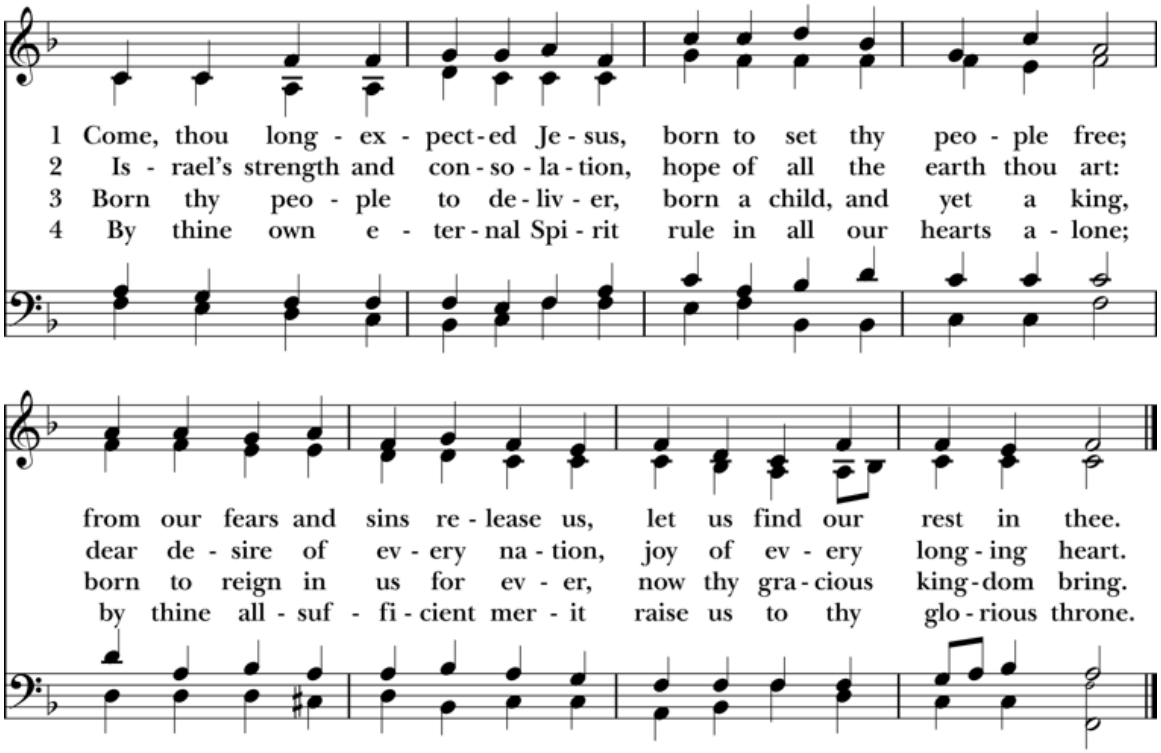
God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

SEQUENCE HYMN

All stand.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus Hymnal 66



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

All stand.

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no

one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

SERMON The Very Rev. Peter Browning

NICENE CREED

All stand and together say

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 became truly human.
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 is worshiped and glorified,

He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

At the beginning of this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying;

Lord, have mercy.

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of God's presence, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray to the Lord for ourselves and on behalf of others, and let us offer our thanksgivings.

For our sister parish, St. John's Paengseong: That we may be united in shared communion, uplifted by mutual encouragement, and strengthened for your service.

Lord, have mercy.

Other intercessions may now be offered.

The Celebrant continues

Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ. ***Amen***.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Ministers and People together say

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen***.

PEACE

All stand.

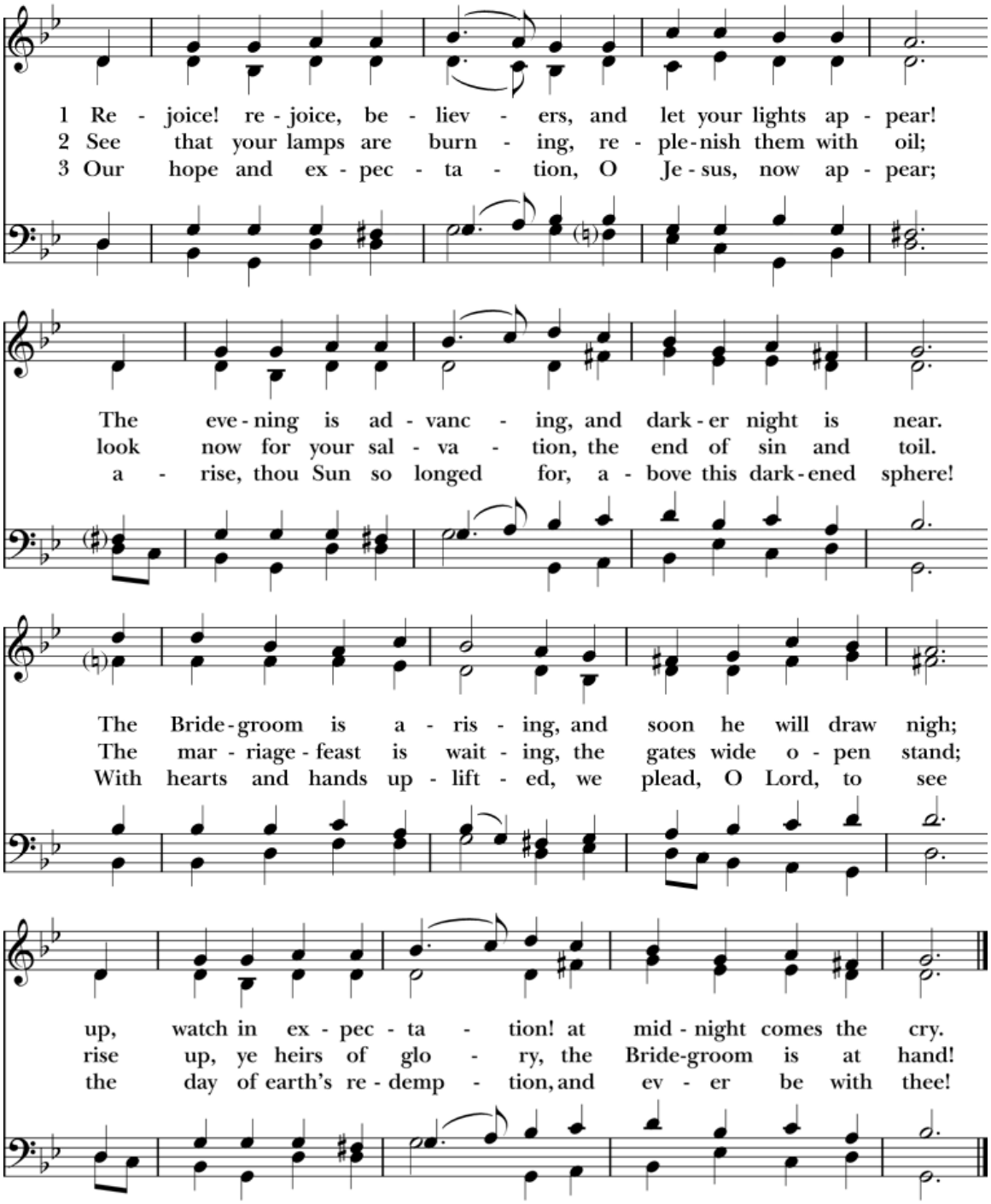
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *See back of bulletin for announcements.*

OFFERTORY HYMN

Rejoice! rejoice, believers Hymnal 68



Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Your gifts sustain the mission and ministry of St. Andrew's. You may give in the offering plate or by scanning the QR code on the last page of this bulletin by donating using Zelle (through your bank app) or using Venmo (through your Venmo app).

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 3

The people remain standing.

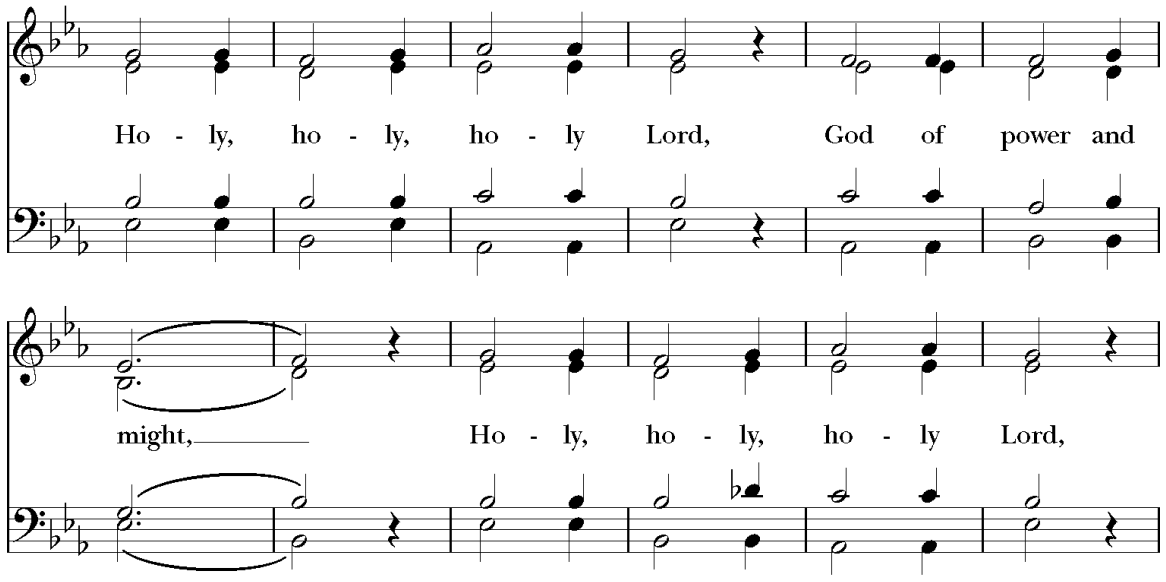
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	***And also with you.***
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	**We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

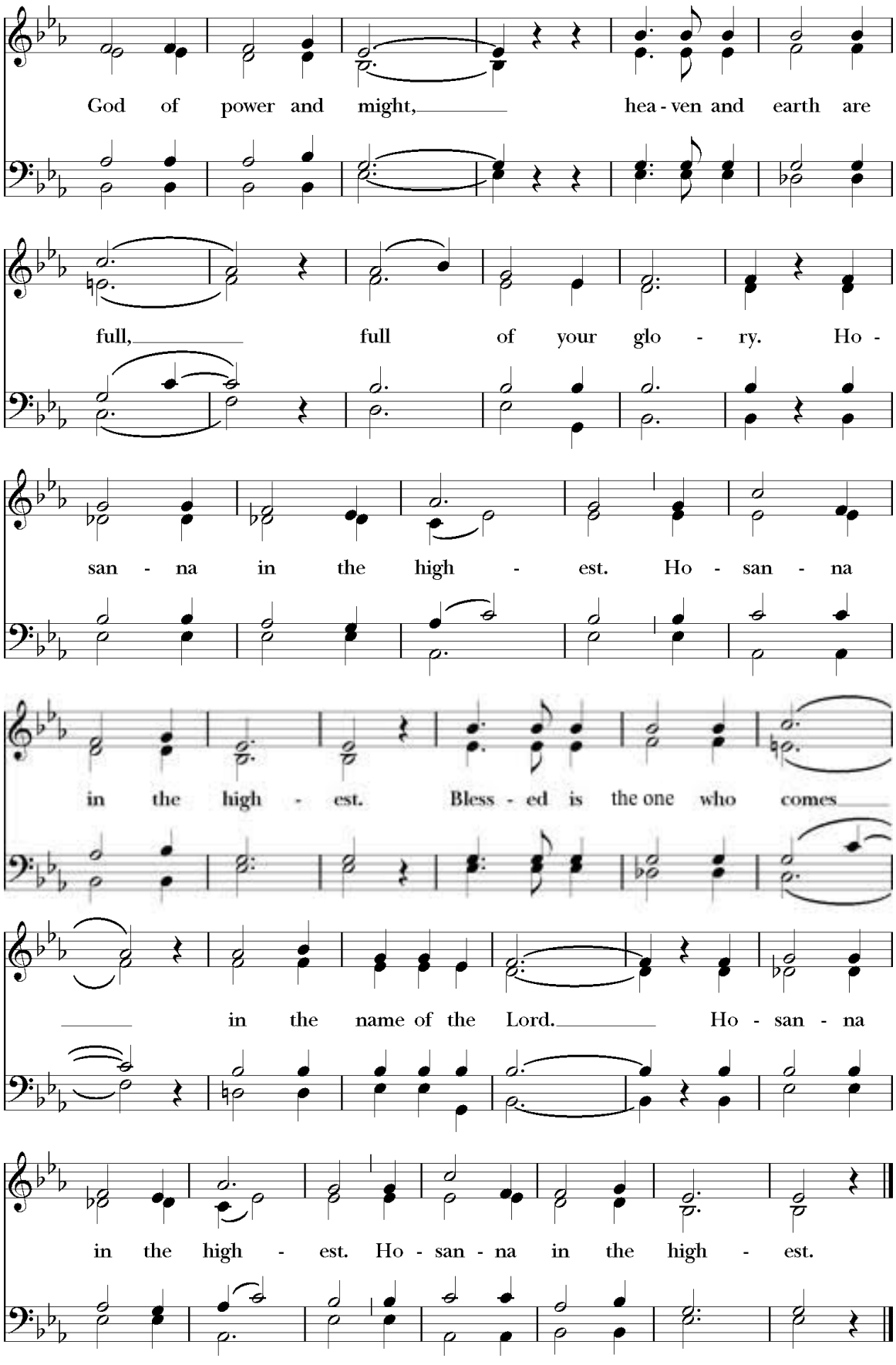
Celebrant continues

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS *(8AM Said, 10AM Sung)*

S130




God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

The Celebrant then continues

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

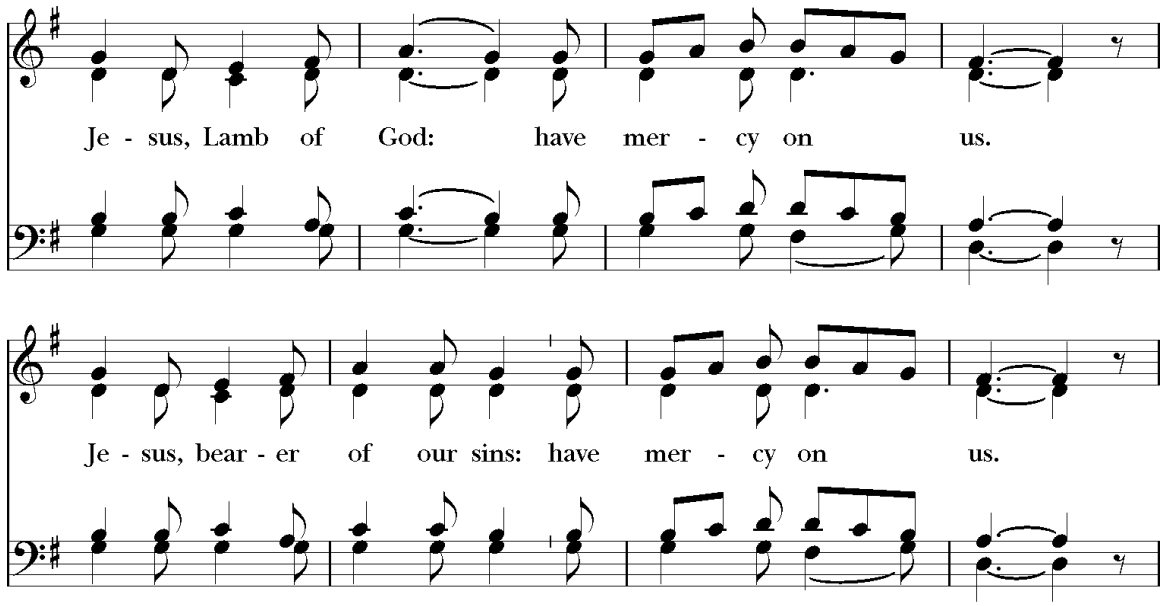
A period of silence is kept.

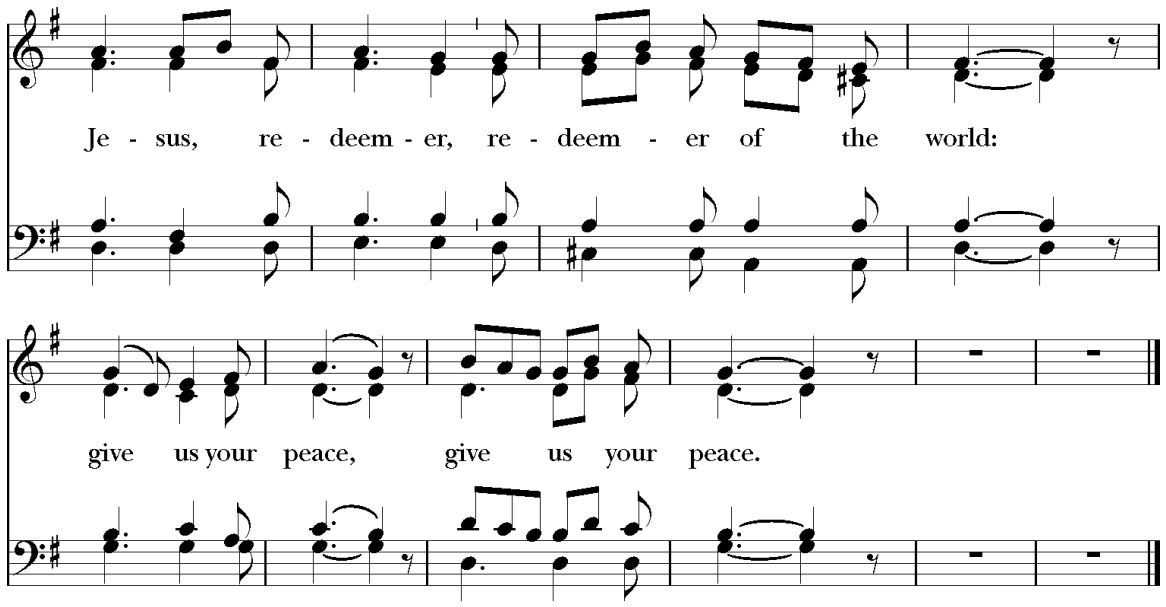
FRACTION ANTHEM

8 AM

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.

10 AM *S164*





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.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We love you above all things, and long for you in our souls. Since some of us are not able now to receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into all of our hearts. As though you have already come, we embrace you and unite ourselves entirely to you; never permit us to be separated from you. Amen.
(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787; from Bishop Curry)

Everyone is invited to come to the altar. If you do not wish to receive either bread or wine, simply cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

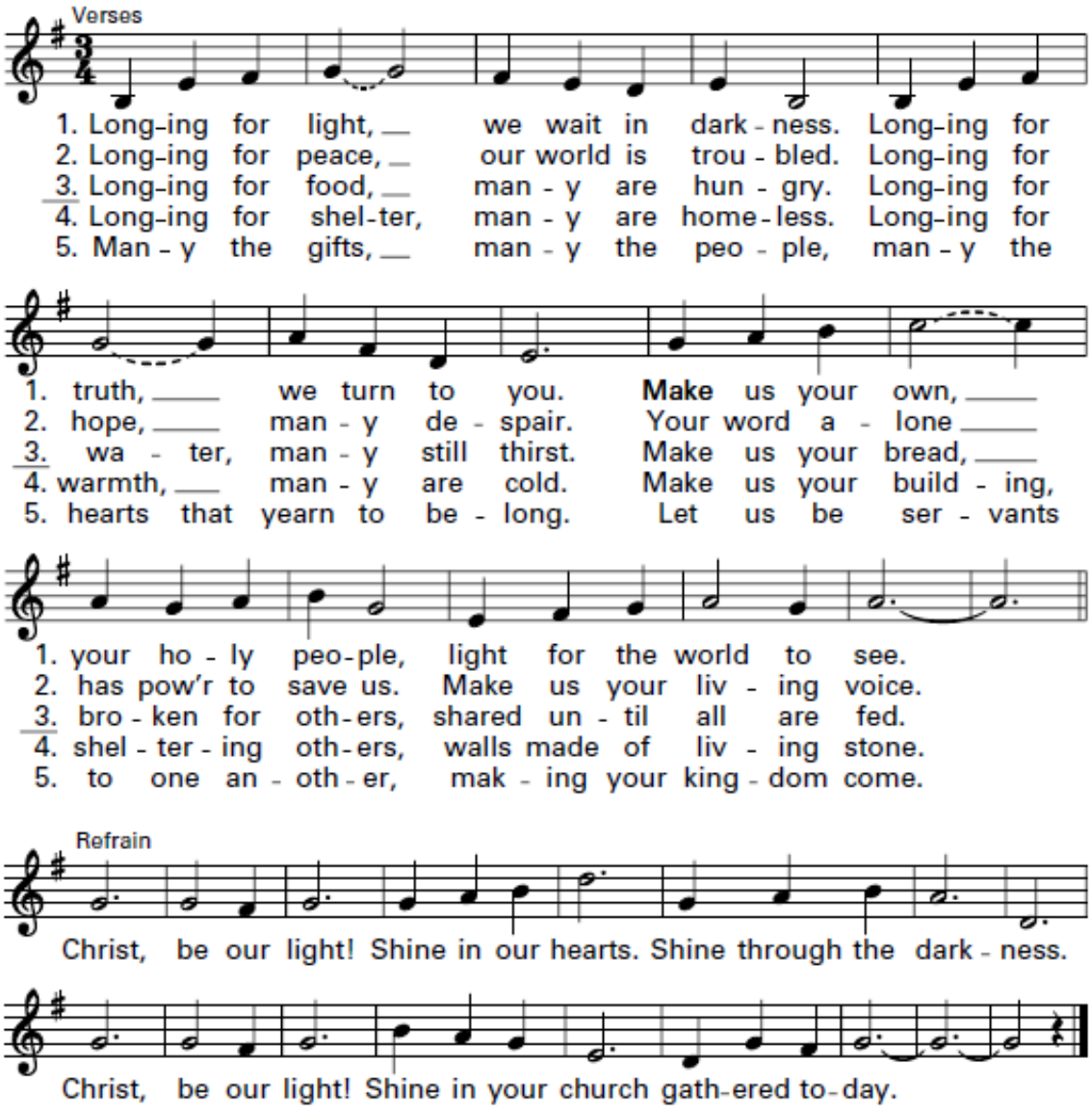
COMMUNION ANTHEM

Veni, Jesu, Amor Mi Luigi Cherubini

Come to me, oh Jesus, my love.

COMMUNION HYMN

Christ, Be Our Light



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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life
and cup of salvation;
you have united us

with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

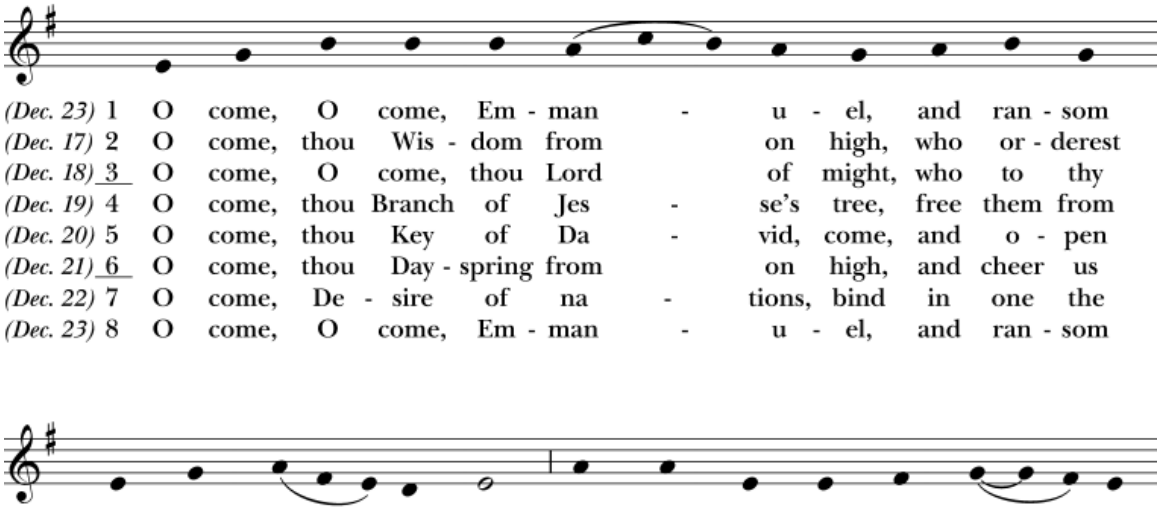
BLESSING

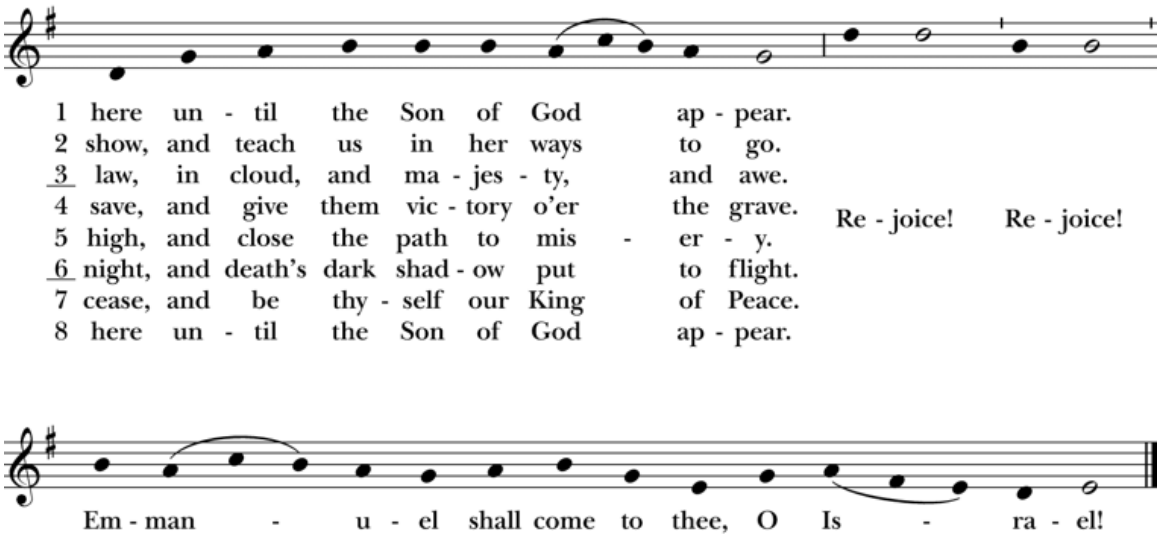
The priest blesses the people, saying

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***.

POST COMMUNION HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel Hymnal 56
Verses 1, 2, 3, 8





The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

DISMISSAL

LEM Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B

Welcome to our Church. The season of Advent begins today. The name of the season means "coming," and it celebrates God's coming to us in the birth of Jesus and looks toward Christ's return at the end of history as Savior and Judge.

The first reading from Isaiah reflects the intensity of the prophet's hope for the Messiah. In a period of Israel's history when confidence in the people's own efforts to build God's Kingdom had collapsed, Isaiah expresses that hope in a passage that has been a part of the Advent liturgy since the earliest days of the Church: "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down…"

In the second reading we hear Paul's greeting in his first letter to Corinth. Recognizing the many spiritual gifts of the Corinthian church (a source of their strength, but also a source of the controversy which caused him to write) he says that those spiritual gifts are given to prepare us to greet the return of Christ.

Jesus' message to his followers is an assurance that he will return and that our lives should be lived in preparation for that return. This theme of watching for his return is always central on the first Sunday of Advent. Today's reading from Mark is the parable of the door-keeper. It reminds us that we are always to be on the watch for Jesus' return.

The liturgy is the way the Church lives in the time between Jesus' first coming and his second coming. In word and sacrament he comes to us again and again, veiled, but present to eyes of faith. In the Eucharist and in ministry to others we are continually being prepared to greet him when he comes again in glory.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

Prayer List *Please take this list home to remember those who need your daily prayers.*

For the Church
Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury
Sean, Presiding Bishop
Antonio, Bishop of the Diocese
Hosam E. Naoum, Archbishop of Jerusalem

For the Vestry
Kathy, Tom, Wardens
Peter, Priest
Ministry of Canterbury Irvine
Saint Andrew's Children's Center

For the Government and the Nations of the World:
Donald, our President
Supreme Court of the United States
Congress of the United States
Gavin, our Governor

For Those in College: Aidan, Matthew, Emma, Haven, Catherine, Bryce, Elise, Tyler, Benjamin, Kate, Maya, Brooke, Jackson, Isaac, Micah

Guidance: Andrea, Jacob, Rebecca, Jose, Dominick, Alex Andrade

Healing
Corinne Lakes
Mitsuye
Sandy Wilson
Bernice
Judi Matthews
Louise
Mary Baker
Lisa Rotchford
Staci DeNatali
Heather Harris
Wendy
Dana Hollinger
Cyrene Pellegrino
Cynthia Morse
Tim K
Christine Shaver
Terry Manhardt
Suzanne Wheeler
John Goff
Michelle
Kelsey Stefanik-Sidener
Tess
Janelle
Greg and Linda
Steve Haiman
Martha Olvera
Yoko Murao
Helen
Eric Heusinkveld
Wendy Barton
Sharon Lee
Amethyst Sison
Terri Mitchell
Denny
Madge Parker
Judi Matthews
David Peterson
Bill Lewis
Catherine Sharbaugh
Elaine Whelan
JoJo Caprini
Sarah
Shelly Percival
Lucy Franco
Linda King

Long Term Needs
AA Groups
Chris Bennett
John Selman
Merrilee Gardner
Patti
Lyle Menzel
Carl Barton
Our Refugee family
Tyler Hudson
Mike Catalano
Dominick Pellegrino
Rich & Libby Cook
Lynne Raftery
Peggy E.
Patsy
Sharon Brooks
Berkel & West families
Kwesi
Mary Dennis
Dillon-Harris family
Muriel
Frances Fosnaugh
Jan Cannon
Rick
Barbara Jacobson
Susan Berkel
Jayne Baldwin
Wanda
Scott Perrin
St. John's Paengseong
Agnes Funke

Pets: Luna, Shiso, Roxy, Stanley, Jane Austen, Henri

Repose of the Soul: Kate Campbell, The Rev. Loren Weaver, John Funke

Comfort for: the Campbell, Short, Ward, and Duprieu families, the Weaver family, the Funke family

For those in the Military:

Celebration of Birth: Nora Minsaengsay Browning

Ongoing Scheduled Activities

Monday

10:30 a.m. ***Volunteer at Woodbridge Manor***
St. Andrew's volunteers staff a Food Bank for approximately 85 residents at this apartment complex for low-income seniors and disabled adults. We receive food donated by local grocers, unpack it and organize it on tables for the residents to "shop" for their groceries. We have a group of loyal volunteers, and we can always use more help. If you can help, we'd love to have you join us. We meet every other Monday at 10:30 a.m. except for federal holidays. It takes about 2 hours. Contact Catherine Sharbaugh for more information. We can always use empty 1 dozen cardboard egg cartons (not plastic) and small plastic fruit boxes (like the ones blueberries and raspberries come in). Please bring what you can to the church.

Wednesday

The ***Virtual Book Group*** meets every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. followed by noonday prayer. Scroll down to Events and Activities on our website home page for the current reading and contact the office to be added to the Zoom invitation.

Thursday

6 p.m. ***Virtual Evening Prayer*** livestreamed via Facebook.

Monthly

First Tuesday of the Month

- ***The Grief Support Group*** will not meet on the first Tuesday of the month in December. Instead, we will plan to attend Saint Andrew's Saturday, Dec. 19 Blue Christmas service, and then go out as a group for dinner following the service at Mimi's Cafe at 4030 Barranca Pkwy, Irvine. We will return to our regular schedule in January.

Second Tuesday of the Month

- ***Prayer Shawl Ministry*** will meet at 2 p.m. in the fellowship court the second Tuesday of the month. Those ministry members who cannot attend the monthly meetings produce shawls and prayer cloths at home. If you are a newcomer to Prayer Shawl contact Sharon Brooks at sharonemi99@gmail.com. If you are in need of a prayer shawl send a message to Sharon or ask any Prayer Shawl member.

Third Saturday of the Month

- ***Men's Group*** will meet at 8:30 a.m. at Strawberry Farms for breakfast and fellowship. All are welcome. Contact Peter if interested.

Community Groups

Al-Anon - Mon 7 p.m., Fellowship Court

Brothers in Sobriety - Fri 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Court

Sunrise Sobriety - Daily 6:30 a.m., Fellowship Court

Korean Orchestra - Saturday 6 – 8 p.m.

Pneuma Chapel - Sunday 12:30 p.m., Church. Saturday 6:00-7:00 a.m.

Announcements

Sunday School News

Day care for infants and children 4 yrs old and younger during the 10 a.m. service will be provided by Samira Sameni, a preschool teacher at our Saint Andrew's Children's Center. Sunday School is designed for children in grades K-6 and is led by Tammy Smecker-Hane during the 10 a.m. service. Drop off for both is in the Kangaroo Room of the Children's Center (follow the sign). We will bring the children to you in church during the Announcements. If you have any questions about Sunday School, please email Tammy Smecker-Hane at tsmecker@cox.net.

In Sunday School over the next few weeks we'll be celebrating Advent and adopting the theme of "The Thrill of Hope". We'll be making a little coloring book each week to set the stage for the story of Jesus' birth. This Sunday we'll be learning about what the Jewish people were longing for at the time of Jesus' birth, a savior to deliver them from oppressive rule by the Romans. In addition, we'll be learning about the Christmas Story and preparing for the Christmas Pageant. If you child will not be here for the Christmas Pageant at 5 p.m. on Dec 24, please let Tammy know. If you plan to have your child here for the Christmas Pageant, please have them attend Sunday School at least once in December beforehand so they can choose a part and be fitted for a costume.

Alternative Gift Fair



Leave room in your Christmas shopping for the Alternative Gift Fair at Saint Andrew's on Sunday, Dec 6 and Dec 13! We'll have beautiful hand-crafted items from **Concern America** that are made by craftsmen in Guatemala, Mexico and Colombia and provide health care, clean water, education and income generation to impoverished communities. You can also buy their products on-line at https://ConcernAmerica.org. We also will give you the opportunity to donate to **Episcopal Relief and Development** (ERD) in the name of a friend or relative, and you'll receive a Christmas card to give to them to acknowledge the gift. ERD partners with locally-led organizations around the world to advance lasting change in communities impacted by injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change. ERD focuses on four interconnected priorities: early childhood development, women and girls, climate resilience and disaster response. For example, you can purchase chickens for a family to raise as food or to supplement their income or buy mosquito nets for a family in need. You can also make your purchase on-line at https://support.episcopalrelief.org/gifts. Checks, credit cards or cash can be used for Alternative Gift Fair purchases. If you have questions, please email Tammy Smecker-Hane (tsmecker@cox.net).

Dear St. Andrew's Family,

As we conclude this year's Stewardship Campaign, *Plenty Good Room*, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your participation, generosity, and commitment to our St. Andrew's community. Whether you shared your time, talents, resources, or personal reflections, each of you has played a meaningful role in making this campaign a success. There's still time to turn in your pledge cards or donate online by going to: https://forms.gle/tYGQdDB5JRNTjKyAA.

Our stewardship journey ends where it began, with gratitude. Psalm 100 invites us to enter God's presence with thanksgiving and praise, reminding us that everything we have is a gift from God.

Throughout this campaign, *Plenty Good Room* has reminded us that stewardship is about more than financial giving. It is about creating a community where everyone feels welcomed, valued, and connected. It is about recognizing the abundance of God's blessings and sharing them generously with others.

As we bring this campaign to a close, we encourage each of us to carry the spirit of abundance, welcome, generosity, and belonging beyond these past weeks and into our daily lives. Stewardship is not simply a decision we make once a year. It is a way of living in grateful response to all that God has given us.

Thank you for helping make St. Andrew's a place where there is always *Plenty Good Room* for everyone. May we continue to grow together in faith, fellowship, and service.

With heartfelt gratitude and blessings,

Peter Browning, Rector

Sue Ha, Stewardship Chair

Outreach News: Friendship Shelter Request

During the month of November, we will be collecting monies to purchase hygiene kits as Christmas gifts for the residents at the Friendship Shelter.

Each kit consists of shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothpaste, deodorant, plus a few miscellaneous items. We need 35 kits which will cost approximately $300. Any funds collected above that amount will be donated to the shelter.

In addition to the necessary hygiene items, the Prayer Shawl ministry is busy working on prayer cloths to add a touch of God's spirit to each of their gifts.

There are several ways to contribute…a check written out to St. Andrew's and place Friendship Shelter in the memo; or you could Zelle the monies to the church indicating Friendship Shelter; or place cash in an envelope with Friendship Shelter on it and drop in the plate during the Offertory.

Thank you for continuing to support the residents at the Friendship Shelter by giving them a little bit of joy this Christmas.

If you have any questions, please contact Grace Marcotrigiano at: gmarco1121@gmail.com.

United Thank Offering



If you have not yet turned in your filled **UTO Box**, you have until Sunday, Nov 29, to put it in the plate so it is included our Ingathering for this year to fund Episcopal and Anglican Communion groups doing innovative mission and ministry projects. You can still turn boxes in later, but it will go toward our UTO offering for next year. If you want to donate by check please make it out to Saint Andrew's Church with "UTO" on the memo line. Or you can donate directly to UTO on-line at https://unitedthankoffering.com/give. For more information about UTO, please see their website at https://unitedthankoffering.com.

Adopt-a-Family Outreach



As part of our Annual Adopt-a-Family Outreach, we will be providing gifts for **4** families associated with our Children's Center. In the Thursday newsletter you can click on the link to see the list of items we are requesting or by following this link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13Pc8eiWFOFL4zweB_hgsgrOYRpSTVc_2GmK7tAa5XQA/edit?usp=sharing

There are clothing items, toys, books, and gift cards for groceries or department stores to select from. Once you have selected the gift you would like to donate, please enter your name and email on the form. **All gifts need to be returned to St. Andrew's by December 13th** so that we can ensure that the gifts are distributed to the families before Christmas. Please wrap the gifts and provide a tag on the gift that designates the family number & boy/girl and age. You may give gift cards to Carolyn Ybarra or put them in the offertory plate. If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Ybarra at ybarra2004@yahoo.com .

Women's Advent Gathering



On **Wednesday, December 16** at 5:00 p.m. we will be gathering in the church for a program led by Susan Garrett and then share a potluck together. If possible, please bring your favorite dish or dessert to share! Please go to:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12flZp6MMvYAm_EndOuqQwPV67d90XlRb/edit?gid=448597679#gid=448597679 to R.S.V.P.

Please contact Melissa Browning at jonocrow2@cox.net if you have any questions.
Hope you can make it.

New Executive Director of St. Andrew's Children's Center



November has been an eventful month for St. Andrew's Children's Center. After 17 years of service, Carolyn Jones had to leave as our Director of the Children's Center. She decided that the commute was too long for her to put in the hours that were needed to run the Center.

We are excited to announce that Sheila Rafat-Saint is the Executive Director of St. Andrew's Children's Center. She has 14 years of experience as a director, during which she successfully developed high-quality, educationally rich, childcare programs. We believe her leadership and skill set will be invaluable as she builds community working with both staff and families to continue to improve upon and sustain a warm, secure learning environment for our young children.

Carolyn Ybarra
Children's Center Board Chair

Christmas Poinsettias



If you would like to donate toward Christmas poinsettias, please fill out a flower envelope and put it in the offertory. Envelopes are in the pews and in the narthex.

2027 Member Directory

It is time to start working on our 2027 directory. We'd like to start getting photos of newer members and update any that were taken years ago. Nick Baldasari will take a photo, or if you have one you'd like to include, you can send it to the office at office@standrewsirvine.org and note that it is for the directory. If you'd like Nick to take the photo, let him know on a Sunday you attend church. Thank you for helping us keep the directory current.

Coffee Hour Composting

We are continuing our coffee hour composting. Please note the posted signs for disposing of organic waste.

We have compostable cups for coffee, tea, and cold drinks. Napkins and uncoated plates can be composted.

- Utensils and coated plates cannot be composted.
- We ask that you put all the compostable waste in cardboard boxes and/or the Waste Management organics bin.
- You are also welcome to bring your own commuter cups.

If you are bringing snacks, please use the compostable or reusable materials we have provided. Many of the items supplied by restaurants or bakeries are coated and cannot be composted.

Look Ahead…

DECEMBER

- 12/ 6 – Alternative Gift Fair
- 12/13 – Alternative Gift Fair
- 12/16 – Women's Advent Gathering 5 pm – 7 pm
- **12/19 – Blue Christmas 5 pm**
- 12/20 – Advent 4, Greening of the Church
- 12/24 – Thursday-Christmas Eve–5 pm Holy Eucharist w/Choir / Children's Pageant
- 12/25 – Friday - Christmas Day (Service: 10 am Said Holy Eucharist)

JANUARY

- 1/ 3 – De-greening of the Church
- 1/17 – Annual Meeting at 10:30 am

Saint Andrew's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
& CHILDREN'S CENTER

Clergy & Staff

The Very Rev. Peter Browning, Rector
Steven Van Wye, Minister of Music
Tammy Smecker-Hane, Sunday School Leader
Samira Sameni, Nursery Coordinator
Hank Caprini, Youth Group Leader
Kim Jensen, Office Manager
Office Administration Hours:
In-office: Monday & Thursday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Remote: Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Vestry

Kathy Cartelli, Senior Warden
Tom Pietryga, Junior Warden
Bill Langsdorf, Treasurer
Merrilee Gardner, Clerk
Sue Ha
Stirling Hunter
Kimberley Lakes
Erin Lockwood
Larry Wheeler

Today's Service

8:00 A.M.

Celebrating: The Very Rev. Peter Browning
LEM: David Hatton

10:00 A.M.

Celebrating: The Very Rev. Peter Browning
LEMS: Nick Baldasari, Mike Caprini
Lectors: Sharon Lee, Rich Seto
Acolytes: Micah Char, Jude Samaan and Ezra Char
Video Producer: James Kay

Welcome to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Our service will be video recorded. If you do not wish your image to appear in the livestream, please ask an usher for assistance.

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