



Sunday, December 24, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
9:00 am

**Welcome** Thank you for joining us today at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church! Our spiritual call is to "Worship Christ, Grow Together, and Serve Others."

**Guests** We would love to meet you and give you a gift at the Information Kiosk in the Gathering Space. We ask that you sign the Guest Register. You can learn more about our parish family at [www.standrewsvalpo.org](http://www.standrewsvalpo.org).

**Children** Our Children's Ministry, (ages 3 (potty-trained) thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades) meet Sundays at 9:15 am in the Children's Wing. We use the Godly Play program. Please contact ministry leader Jennifer Rodd at [sundayschool@standrewsvalpo.org](mailto:sundayschool@standrewsvalpo.org)

**Youth** For Youth Group information, please contact ministry leader Jennifer Rodd at [sundayschool@standrewsvalpo.org](mailto:sundayschool@standrewsvalpo.org)

**Prayer Ministry** Our Intercessory Prayer Team meets Tuesdays at 9:00 am. Please contact Katy Hamilton at [khamilton@standrewsvalpo.org](mailto:khamilton@standrewsvalpo.org)



### **Priest In Charge**

The Rev. Cathy Carpenter  
[ccarpenter@standrewsvalpo.org](mailto:ccarpenter@standrewsvalpo.org)

### **Contact Us**

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### **Church Office Hours**

**Tuesday - Friday 9am-4pm**

### **Worship /Bible Studies**

Saturday	5:30 pm	Rite II Service
Sunday	8:00 am	Rite I Service
	10:00 am	Rite II Service
Tuesday	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Wednesday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer w/Discussion

Welcome to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Fourth Sunday of Advent –Year B  
Sunday, December 24, 2023



*The flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sharon Beach in thanksgiving of her church family and in loving memory of her husband Dick.*

Greeter(s): *Kandyce Hannon*

EM: *Roy Shepard*

**From the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)  
Music in the Black Folder (FLD)**  
*(The advent candle will be lit prior to the service)*

*During the Lighting of the Advent Candle MHSO 59*

**FLD**

**Opening Hymn** *Hymnal 54*

**FLD**

**Opening Acclamation** *Blessed be God: ...*

BCP 355

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

**The Collect of Purity** Almighty God, to you ...

BCP 355

**The Magnificat** *Gather 14...*

**FLD**

**The Salutation** *The Lord be with you...*

BCP 357

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us pray.

**The Collect of the Day**

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the Readings.*

**The First Reading**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

*Jennifer Rodd*

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the peo-

ple of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

**The Psalm 89:1-4,19-26** *PP 58/59*

**FLD**

**The Second Reading**

Romans 16:25-27  
*Jennifer Rodd*

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! **Amen.**

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

**The Gospel Acclamation** *Hymnal 56*

**FLD**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

**The Gospel**

Luke 1:26-38

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your

womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God **will give to him the throne** of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Sermon**

*The Rev. Cathy Carpenter*

**The Nicene Creed** *We believe in one God.*

BCP 358

**The Prayers of the People** *For the advent of God's...*

*Leader* Let us pray to the Lord:.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

**The Confession of Sins** *Most merciful God...*

BCP 360

**The Peace** The peace of the Lord ...

BCP 360

*People* **And also with you.**

### **The Announcements**

#### **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**The Offertory Sentence**

BCP 376

**The Offertory Hymn** *Hymnal 265*

**FLD**

**The Great Thanksgiving** *The Lord be with you...*

BCP 367

**The Sanctus** *Hymnal S-114*

**FLD**

**The Lord's Prayer** **Our Father**, who art in heaven...

BCP 364

**The Breaking of the Bread** *Fraction Anthem Hymnal S-158*

**FLD**

**Invitation to Communion** *The Gifts of God...*

BCP 364

**Communion Hymn** *Gather 340 (Choir)*

**FLD**

**Communion Hymn** *NCH 107 v. 2-4*

**FLD**

**Communion Hymn** *VF 64*

**FLD**

**The Postcommunion Prayer** *Eternal God,...*

BCP 365

**Advent Blessing** *May the Sun of Righteousness,...*

**The Closing Hymn** *WLP 724*

**FLD**

**The Dismissal** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



*Isaac Anderson (12-24)*  
*Jim Murr (12-24)*  
*Owen Foster (12-26)*  
*Drew Cope (12-28)*  
*Michael McBride (12-28)*  
*John Parks (12-29)*

*Fr. Michael P. Ruggaber (2023)*  
*Wendy Casson Beres (2023)*  
*Dr. Joseph Potucek (2021)*  
*Robert Saxton (2018)*  
*Rev. James Mitchell (2018)*  
*Harry Colias (2016)*  
*Charlotte Ransom (2014)*  
*Shirley Rarick (2009)*  
*Phyllis Daines (1988)*  
*Richard Steele (1977)*  
*Marjorie Knarr (1975)*  
*Herbert Walker (1970)*

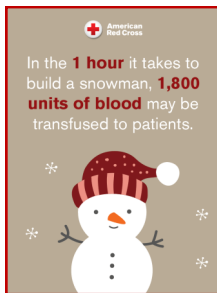
# Church Happenings



Please mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting. This will take place on **February 4, 2024**. More information will be forthcoming.



Please take a look at our new tables on either side of the columbarium. These are for memorial tributes such as flowers or greens. We ask that you now refrain from placing items in front of the memorial Celtic cross on the columbarium. Also please note that items will remain on the tables for 2 weeks, or until flowers are faded. Thank you for your cooperation. If you would like to retrieve your item after 2 weeks, please contact the office.



**Thursday, January 11, 2024** Red Cross Blood Drive in the Gathering Space from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StAndrewsValpo to schedule and appointment.



**December 30-31 Noisy Offering.** It is that time to find that loose change from pockets, purses and jars on your counter. Any leftover gold and silver bars are also accepted. The louder we make it, the better. Noisy offering funds the discretionary account used to give help to those in need.



The church office will be closed from **December 25 to January 1**. In case of a pastoral emergency you may contact Mother Cathy at 219-386-5394.



Christmas Eve – Dec. 24 – 7:00 PM  
Candlelight service with choir.

Christmas Day – Dec. 25 – 10:00 AM  
Festive service with music.

The First Sunday after Christmas Day – Dec. 31 Regular  
weekend services



## ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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