



Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Smithtown, New York 11787

www.standrewsofsmithtown.org

Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director • Jean Dougherty, Seminarian

Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve

✝ December 24, 2022

4:30pm

GATHERING

PRELUDE

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

The assembly stands as comfortable.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

Blessed are you, O God of darkness and light.

For you lift up the lowly and strengthen the meek:

you are a God full of goodness, wholeness, and surprises.

We have waited for you.

Now open our hearts to receive you!

As Mary and Joseph welcomed you into their home, and their hearts,
we too shall sing lullabies of your joy to every new generation.

For unto us a Savior is born!

Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth!

GATHERING SONG "O Come, All Ye Faithful" verses 1 and 3

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Angels We Have Heard on High" verses 1 and 3

1 Angels we have heard on high,

sweetly singing o'er the plains,

and the mountains in reply,

echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see

him whose birth the angels sing;

come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

A reading from Isaiah.

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

2The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

3You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

4For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

5For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

CAROL "O Little Town of Bethlehem" verses 1 and 4

**1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**
**4 O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

***GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-14 [15-20]**

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph 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. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And 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.

8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

15When 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." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CAROL "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

Refrain

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

**2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, th'incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain***

**3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain***

MESSAGE AND BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

HYMN OF THE DAY "Away in a Manger"

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. Bring peace to Ukraine. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children, and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain, heal the sick and speed their recovery, especially Bill M., Leslie H, Andrew, Bill F., Bill D., Luke and Emilie; those serving in the military, all on the prayer list; all people affected by COVID-19; and those we name before you now (pause). Shelter refugee families and those who have no home. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your loving kindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving, especially the families of Ruth Aiello, aunt of Cindy Davis and Robert Kohlhoff who were both called home to Christ this week.
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

(Pastor) Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.
Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING

Thank you for continuing to make your contributions in support of the ministries of Saint Andrew's by mail or by visiting our website to set up online giving.

HYMN "What Child Is This?" verses 1 and 3

**1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!**

**3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!**

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,
your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

MEAL

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel, one God, now and forever
Amen.

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 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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,
come, see what God makes known for you.

COMMUNION SONGS

"The First Noel" verses 1, 2 and 3

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.**

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. Refrain

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. Refrain

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" verses 1, 2 and 3

1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

3 And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

**1 Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

SENDING SONG "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!**

**1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain***

**2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain***

**3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

This evening we welcome Pastor Bruce Kaifler.

Thank you to Brian Roehrig for playing baritone horn and providing us with special music tonight.

December 25th 10:00am Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion in person and lived streamed at St. Andrew's.

**St Thomas of Canterbury, Smithtown invites
St. Andrew's to worship with them on New Year's Day 1/1/2023 at 10am.**

Pastor Paul Downing invites St Andrew's to worship with the St. Paul's community at:

**St Paul's Lutheran Church
309 Patchogue Road
Port Jefferson Station New York 11776-1003**

New Year's Eve service of Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday 12/31/2022.

**Name of Jesus, First Sunday of Christmas, services of Holy Communion
at 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. on Sunday 1/1/2023.**

***Please note there will be no services on 12/31 or 1/1 at St. Andrew's.**

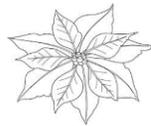
As Pastor Susan Shelhart has retired and is no longer available for pastoral care or church work at St. Andrew's, Pastor Paul Downing of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Port Jefferson Station will serve as our coverage pastor. He can be reached Monday through Saturday for pastoral care and emergencies at Cell #347-423-3623. Questions about meetings and day to day activities at St. Andrew's should still be directed to the office at 631-265-2288 or info@standrewsofsmithtown.org

Pastor Paul Downing invites you to join him and the St. Paul's community for weekly Bible Study and/or Prayer Group.

Bible Study : 9:30am Wednesday mornings on Zoom (meeting ID 977-887-967)

Bible Study : 10:30am Wednesday mornings In Person at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port Jefferson Station

Prayer Group: 10:30am Friday mornings In Person and via Zoom (meeting ID 800-555-016) at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Poinsettia Flowers
Many thanks to all who contributed poinsettias
to beautify our altar for Christmas.

- ❖ *In memory of Caroline & Richard Mengert by Carolyn & Ken Gableman*
- ❖ *In memory of Herbert and Karin Markmann by the Roccisano's*
- ❖ *In memory of Leo Fisco, Jr. by Stephanie Roehrig*
- ❖ *In memory of Judy Ressmeyer Hinsch by John Hinsch*
- ❖ *In thanksgiving for all God's gifts by Lydia & William Moser*
- ❖ *In memory of Marion & Carl Schwabe by Priscilla & Donald Schwabe*
- ❖ *In memory of Mary & Kenneth Cooke by Priscilla & Donald Schwabe*
- ❖ *In memory of Elsi & Henry Keil, by Janis and Marc Raineri*
- ❖ *In memory of Chris, Sal & Marguerite Raineri by Janis and Marc Raineri*
- ❖ *In memory of Hermann Hahn by Martha Hahn & Family*
- ❖ *In memory of our parents, Lee & Al Acker and Emilie & Bill Mathieson by Leslee & Steve Mathieson*
- ❖ *In memory of Carl & Eleanora Schoenebaum by Art & Helen Fortin*
- ❖ *In memory of Arthur & Lucie Fortin by Art & Helen Fortin*
- ❖ *In memory of Gay & Harold Peeders by Art & Helen Fortin*
- ❖ *In thanksgiving of our children & grandchildren by Art & Helen Fortin*
- ❖ *In memory of our parents by Anita & Herbert Ahrens*
- ❖ *In memory of our beloved mother & Oma, Anita Grube by the Klouda & Dilena Family*
- ❖ *In memory of Mildred Gustavsen by Grant and Gary Jr. Gustavsen*
- ❖ *In memory of Gus Gustavsen by Grant & Gary Jr. Gustavsen*
- ❖ *In memory of Emma Doxsee by Gary & Laura Gustavsen*
- ❖ *In thanksgiving of our grandchildren; Henry, Camryn and Kyra, Lorelei and Crosby by Gary & Laura Gustavsen*
- ❖ *In memory of Elsie & Walter Dorer by Vi Giovinco*
- ❖ *In memory of Nanny & Pop, Dad & Mom and Dad DeLuca by Liz, Al & Brian*
- ❖ *In thanksgiving of our sons Adam and Eric, daughter in law Holly and grandchildren Megan, Bridget and Tommy by Dotty and Jim Clavell*
- ❖ *In memory of our parents Elizabeth & Gottlieb Arthofer and Celia & Tony Clavell by Dotty & Jim Clavell*
- ❖ *In memory Anna and Mary Gross by Dotty & Jim Clavell*

- ❖ *In memory Archie and Thelma Drew, Joann Drew Johnson and Tim Council by Dotty & Jim Clavell*
- ❖ *In memory of Anita Grube Hildegard Henning, Herman Hahn and Leslie Budke by Dotty & Jim Clavell*
- ❖ *In memory of my cousin Agnes Tessitore by Dotty Clavell*
- ❖ *In memory of Stanley Ulc by Marianna Ulc*
- ❖ *In loving memory of my husband Roland and loved ones by Violet Lahann*
- ❖ *In beloved memory of our parents Archie and Thelma Drew by the Drew, McKittrick and Council Families*
- ❖ *In loving memory of our sisters and brother; Karin Elizabeth, Joanne (nee Drew) Johnson and Kenneth Drew by the Drew, McKittrick and Council Families*
- ❖ *In loving memory of our grandparents; William & Margaret Cooper and Archer & Ada Drew by the Drew, McKittrick and Council Families*
- ❖ *In loving memory of our brother and sister-in-law Charles (Tim) Council and Maria Drew by the Drew, McKittrick and Council Families*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER (24 December 2022)

THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

The family of Ruth Aiello, aunt of Cindy Davis, who has been called home to Christ [requested by Cindy Davis]

Ellen Bell [requested by Dorothy Graf]

Gavin Lahann [requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]

Luke Meyveci [requested by Dana Sanzone]

Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cindie & Kathy]

Sara Larson [requested by Julie & Michael Francis]

Danielle Lloyd, Leslie Hansen, Andrew Madarasz, the family of Harald Peeders, Gerard Tuohy [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]

John Stabile [requested by Lydia Moser]

Amy Gabelman, Chris Peck, Bob Widmer, Lex Stolle, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]

Tracey Parisi, Margo Naranjo, John Hochuli [requested by Barbara English]

Norma Martin [requested by Sue Rorke]

Brenda Dugan & granddaughter Chanelle, Robert & Pat Richards, Don & Marianne Spagna [requested by Mary Fjellstad]

Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]

Nicholas Mauceri and Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Richard Wiles [husband of Joan Wiles]

Stefanie Spath [requested by Marianna Ulc and family]

Chris Kelly, John Sullivan [requested by Dottie & Jim Clavell]

Kerri Swanson [requested by Linda & Jud Taylor]

Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther, Ralph Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]

Zach Hills [requested by Brian & Diane Marley]

Bernadette Uneberg [requested by John Hinsch]

Pete Gambitsky, the Rilke family, Sharon Wolf, Dana Stankevitz, Pastor Roger Schleef, Carol Pascale, Walter Henning Sr., Pastor Frank Modr, Gary Weymer [requested by Pastor Shelhart]

David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

Carolyn Martin [requested by Linda Overton]

The family of Elaine Robinson [requested by Deborah Cella]

Bill Feigin [requested by Jessica Michalski]

Bill Davey [requested by Tom & Pat Pernice]

Suzie DiSanza [requested by Donna Ihlen]

Viola Giovinco [requested by Liz DeLuca]

Amy Kitay [requested by Diana Smiloff]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky

Captain Zachary Hinsch [nephew of Judy & John Hinsch]

Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin]

Corporal August Detting

Major William Fortin

