

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Smithtown, New York 11787
www.standrewsofsmithtown.org
Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director

Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day + December 25, 2023 10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Christmas Proclamation

P: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

All: By day and night he shines for all to see.

P: Jesus is the light of the world.

All: Jesus is the light of our lives

P: Sing to God a new song!

All: A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

P: For unto us a Savior is born!

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.

GATHERING HYMN #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful vs 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.**

HYMN #289 Angels We Have Heard on High vs 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

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** Let us pray. All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:6-12

A reading from Isaiah.

The prophet invites the people to give God no rest until God reestablishes Jerusalem. In turn, they will receive names full of promise: Holy People, the Redeemed of the Lord, a City Not Forsaken.

6Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, 7and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. 8The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; 9but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. 10Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples.

11The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth:
Say to daughter Zion,
"See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

12They shall be called, "The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the Lord";
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken."
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 97 (spoken responsively)

¹The Lord reigns; let the | earth rejoice; let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness sur- | round the Lord, righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's throne.

³Fire goes be- | fore the Lord, burning up enemies on | every side.

⁴Lightnings light | up the world; the earth | sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains | melt like wax before the Lord of | all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O Lord, and all the peoples | see your glory.

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods! Bow down before the Lord, | all you gods.

⁸Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice, because of your judg- | ments, O Lord.

⁹For you are the Lord, most high over | all the earth; you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

¹⁰You who love the | Lord, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of the wicked.

¹¹Light dawns | for the righteous, and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

¹²Rejoice in the | Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to God's | holy name.

SECOND READING: Titus 3:4-7

A reading from Titus.

God saves us not because of what we do. Rather, God is a God of mercy and salvation who graciously cleanses us in baptism and renews our lives through the Holy Spirit.

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN #270 Hark the Herald Angels Sing vs. 1 and 2

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, incarnate deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Refrain

GOSPEL: Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

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

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

[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. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN#270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing vs 3

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY#275 Angels, from the Realms of Glory vs 1, 2 & 4

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4 All creation, join in praising
 God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
 evermore your voices raising
 to the eternal Three in One.
 Come and worship, come and worship,
 worship Christ, the newborn king.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

Christ is born and your Spirit is poured out upon us. Renew your church through the gift of baptism. Unite your faithful people across both distance and denomination. Teach us to live by your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You reveal your presence over the heights of the mountains, through the cloud and lightning, and beyond the trembling of the earth. Still the storms that threaten the lands and send relief to all places and peoples experiencing natural disasters, extreme temperatures, or famine. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let all the ends of the earth know the promise of your reconciliation and renewal. Make beautiful the work of peacemakers, community organizers, and advocates who work to ensure that all people flourish in safety and dignity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God, be our comfort and our redemption. Seek out all who feel forsaken or forlorn, especially those who are marginalized because of their race, sexuality, gender expression, or immigration status. Heal all who struggle in any way especially Laura, Jennifer, Lucy, Rachel, and Mary Ellen; those serving in the military, all on the prayer list; all people affected by COVID-19, for the victims of the ongoing violence in Ukraine and the Middle East, and those we name before you now (pause). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Following the example of Mary and Joseph, let all our families, whatever their configuration, reflect your holy and life-giving love. Bless adoptive families, foster families, and guardians. Hold in mercy all who are childless, by choice or by life circumstance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

As you have guarded the lives of the saints, so shield us from evil and danger. Teach us by their example to serve you with joy and honesty of heart, that we live as heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(Pastor) Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **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.

OFFERING HYMN: #296 What Child Is vs. 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

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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



EUCHARISTIC 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.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

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, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, 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

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION HYMN #276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

COMMUNION HYMN #300 The First Noel vs 1 and 2

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! 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*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

This morning we welcome Pastor Bruce Kaifler.

New Year's Eve Services

December 31st St Thomas of Canterbury, Smithtown

9:00 am New Year's Eve Service

St Paul's Lutheran Church, Port Jefferson Station

8:30 am, 10:30 am & 7:30 pm New Year's Eve service with Holy Communion

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

December is St. Andrews month for volunteering at the Smithtown Food Pantry! Volunteers are still needed Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30am-12:30pm. Please contact Julie Francis at 303-898-2511 with any questions. *COVID vaccinations are required to volunteer.

The food pantry is currently in need of basic non-perishable foods, such as:

Laundry detergent, cereal, peanut butter, mac and cheese, tomato sauce, tuna fish, canned chicken. We thank you for any donations.

Community Outreach and Ministry St. Andrew's is collecting the following items to support Trinity Lutheran Church, Wyandanch:

Toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, small hard candy (ex. Jolly Ranchers), travel size lotion, sanitizer, maxi pads individually wrapped tampons, travel size shaving cream, razors wrapped, men and women deodorant, bandaids, lip balm, packs of tissues.

Please bring these items to the office or to the collection box located in the Narthex. Thank you for your donations!

Pastor Paul Downing of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Port Jefferson Station serves as our coverage pastor. He can be reached anytime for pastoral care and emergencies at cell# 347-423-3623. If he is unable to answer, please leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible. He can also be reached by email at <u>pastorpauldowning@yahoo.com</u>. Questions about meetings and day to day activities at St. Andrew's should still be directed to the office at 631.265.2288 or <u>info@standrewsofsmithtown.org</u>.

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 thanksgiving of our children by Art & Helen Fortin

In thanksgiving of our grandchildren by Art & Helen Fortin

In memory of our parents by Art & Helen Fortin

In memory of Marion & Carl Schwabe by Priscilla & Don Schwabe

In memory of Mary & Kenneth Cooke by Priscilla & Don Schwabe

In celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary by Priscilla & Don Schwabe

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 honor of our grandchildren Henry, Camryn and Kyra, Lorelei and Crosby

by Gary & Laura Gustavsen

In memory of Caroline & Richard Mengert by Carolyn & Ken Gableman

In memory of the Acker and Mathieson Families by Leslee & Steve Mathieson

In memory of Hermann Hahn by Martha Hahn & family

In memory of Chris, Sal & Marguerite Raineri by the Raineri family

In memory of Jack Schoen by the Raineri family

In memory of Herbert Ahrens by the Raineri family

In celebration of our grandchildren, Leah, Johnny and Callen by John and Lynn Hewitt

In memory of Ethel & Herbert Hendrickson by Ronald Hendrickson

In memory of our dear friend Herbert Ahrens by Joyce & George Rilke

In memory of Oma & Opa Keil by the Ahrens family

In memory of my husband, Herbert Ahrens by Anita Ahrens

In memory of Elsie & Walter Dorer, Mom & Dad by Viola Giovinco

In memory of Mom & Dad Deluca, Dad G, Nanny & Poppop by Liz, Al & Brian

In memory of all our departed relatives By Lydia & Bill Moser

In thanksgiving for our sons Adam & Eric, our daughter in law Holly, grandchildren

Megan, Bridget & Tommy by Dotty & Jim Clavell

In memory of our parents Celia & Tony Clavell, Elizabeth & Gottlieb Arthofer

by Dotty & Jim Clavell

In memory of Anna & Mary Gross by Dotty & Jim Clavell

In memory of Joann Drew Johnson, Archie & Thelma Drew, Tim Council

by Dotty & Jim Clavell

In memory of my cousin Agnes Tessitore and Robert Arthofer by Dotty Clavell

In memory of Anita Grube, Hildegarde Henning, Hermann Hahn and Leslie Budke by Dotty & Jim Clavell

In memory of my husband Roland and loved ones by Violet Lahann

In memory of our parents Archie & Thelma Drew by the Drew, McKittrick & Council

families

In memory of our sisters & brother Karin Elizabeth, Joanne (nee Drew) Johnson &

Kenneth Drew by the Drew, McKittrick & Council families

In memory of our grandparents, William & Margaret Cooper and Archer & Ada Drew

By the Drew, McKittrick & Council families

In memory of our brother & sister-in-law Charles (Tim) Council & Maria Drew by the

Drew, McKittrick & Council families

In celebration of our family by Grete Kraus & Jane Samuelsen

In memory of Penny Kraus by Grete Kraus & Jane Samuelsen

In memory of Leo Fisco Jr. by Stephanie Roehrig

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Pat Gasparo [requested by Meystrik family]

Mary Ellen Tiffany, John Grube, Richard Klouda, Teresa Caliguiri [requested by the Klouda Family]

Eddie Hope [requested by Jane and Paul DeRosa]

Noam Gilbert Lieberman [requested by Eve Overton]

Jeff Taylor [requested by Fred Swanson]

Richard Angelo, Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Lucy Harris and her family, Sara Larson [requested by the Francis family]

Jeff Hanson, Jennifer Meisenkothen, Rachel Boccio Chris Kelly, John Sullivan [requested by Dorothy & Jim Clavell]

Carolyn Bennett [requested Jill Spage]

Arthur Schaeffler [requested by the Poulos Family]

Mary Ellen Sconzo [requested by Grabrielle Sconzo]

Pam Provetto [requested by Joe & Margie Costello]

Brett D, Bill Michalski, father in law of Jessica Davis Michalski [requested by Cindy Davis]

Robert & Pat Richards [requested by Mary Fjellstad]

Bob Blagriff, Bill Davey [requested by Tom & Pat Pernice]

Barbara McCanlis, Patty DeGoveia [requested by Jill Breimann]

Ellen Bell [requested by Dorothy Graf]

Gavin Lahann [requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]

Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cyndie & Kathy]

Laura Hicks, Andrew Madarasz, Gerard Tuohy [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]

Alex Hegarty, Bob Widmer, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]

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

Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]

Kerri Swanson [requested by Linda & Jud Taylor]

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

David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]

The family of Elaine Robinson [requested by Deborah Cella]

Viola Giovinco [requested by Liz DeLuca]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky

Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin]

Corporal August Detting

Major William Fortin

(Please advise the office of any updates in your prayer requests.)