Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Smithtown, New York 11787



Info@standrewsofsmithtown.org Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director

Second Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion February 25, 2024 ± 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS who sends us the Holy Spirit that we might continue to live in faith and love. St. Andrew's is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. We joyfully w elcome all of God's people to worship with us regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability or socio-economic circumstance. Those with us for the first time are kindly asked to introduce themselves to the pastor and greeters and are welcome to sign our guest book in the narthex.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands as they are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

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*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

*GATHERING SONG #667 Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

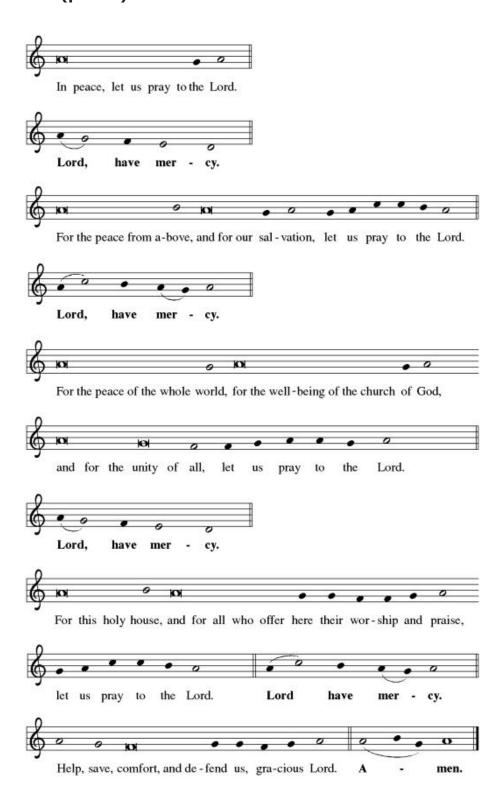


GREETING

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.**

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KYRIE (p. 147)



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you! And also with you!

Let us pray. O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake 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.**

ANTHEM (CHOIR)

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A reading from Genesis.

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's I line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- I spring of Israel.

 $^{24}\mbox{For the LORD}$ does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- 1 den from them;

but when they cry out, I the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the ^I great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who I fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!

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- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹ to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.
 - ²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD, who rules o- | ver the nations.
 - ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow I down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be-I fore the LORD.
 - ³⁰Their descendants shall | serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.
 - ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people I yet unborn, saying to them, "The I LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

A reading from Romans.

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

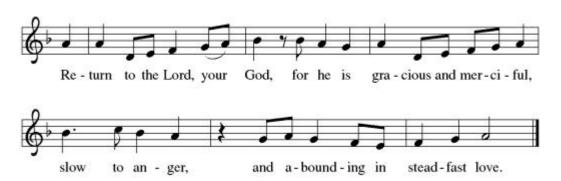
¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

SERMON

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HYMN OF THE DAY #799 Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved especially Ilse, Judy, Susan, Sam, Jennifer, 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.

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(*Pastor*) Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

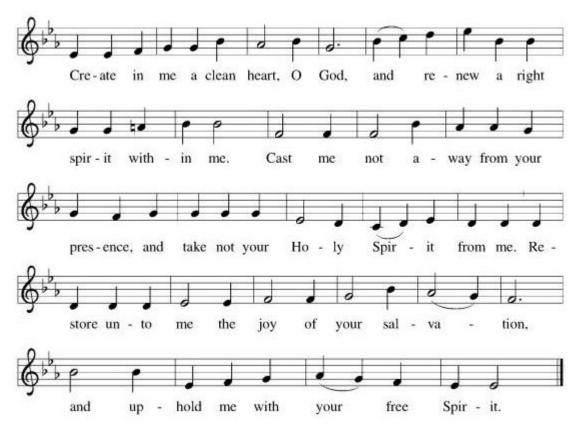
MEAL

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OFFERING

Thank you for your generous financial support of the ministries of Saint Andrew's, you may give in person, by mail or by visiting our website for online giving. Donations: standrewsofsmithtown.org/donate

OFFERTORY HYMN # 188 Create in Me a Clean Heart



*OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

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

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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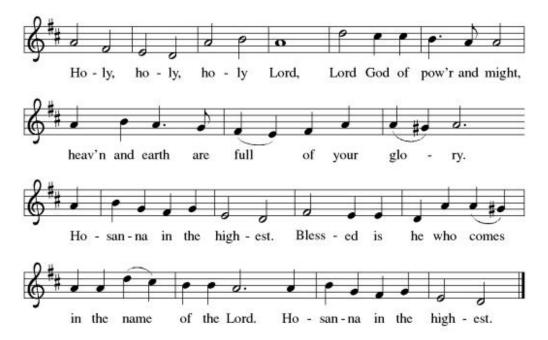
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Amen.**

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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.

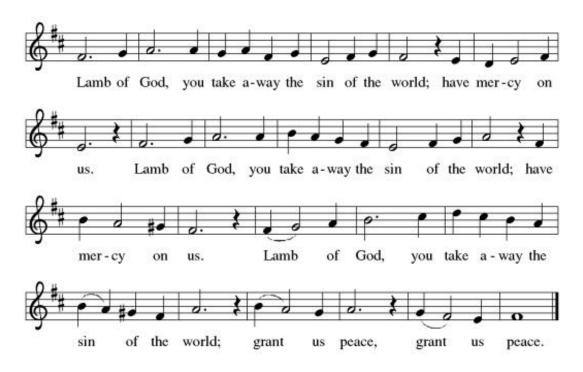
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

LAMB OF GOD



Body of Christ, given for you. Blood of Christ, shed for you.

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COMMUNION HYMN #468 Around You, O Lord Jesus



*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace.

Amen.

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SENDING HYMN # 802 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

This morning we welcome Pastor Nancy Rakoczy

Today is Commitment Sunday. If you have not mailed in your pledge card that was included in our recent stewardship letter, please bring it to church and put it in the pledge box in the narthex. Pledge cards are also available in the Narthex.

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Please join us for coffee hour immediately following worship. Thank you to Donna and Frank Meystrik, our hosts this week.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL!

The St. Andrew's Church Council has voted unanimously to recommend that the congregation approve a call for a new pastor. The candidate will be at St. Andrew's on **Sunday, March 3rd** to be formally introduced and lead us in worship at the service. It is with great joy that we announce that the candidate is our sister in Christ, Vicar Jean Dougherty.

At 11:30 that day there will be a congregational meeting in the church sanctuary at which time members will be asked to vote on the call. Please join us to vote on this very important matter.

As a reminder, voting members are those:

- 1. Confirmed members who are 18 years old and over.
- 2. Have communed during the current or preceding calendar year and made an offering of record.
- 3. Finally, they must be present for the congregational meeting.

Remember that all of us are stewards of God's church. Together we must open ourselves and allow the Holy Spirit to work through us as we decide on calling a new pastor to lead our beloved church.

Lenten Night Prayer

A special Lenten Night Prayer Service with meditation will be held 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 28 at St Thomas of Canterbury 90 Edgewater Ave, Smithtown. All St. Andrew's parishioners are welcome. Stay tuned for the March dates.

Contemplative Night Prayer Fr. John Jeffrey of St. Thomas of Canterbury would like to invite our congregation to Wednesday evening *Contemplative Night Prayer* at *7 p.m.*, the first Wednesday of each month through 2024. This is a liturgy of prayer, meditation, and sacred silence.

90 Edgewater Ave. Smithtown, NY 11787

Phone 631-265-4520

E-mail: <u>stthomasofcan@optonline.net</u>

Food Pantry Donations of the following are still welcome and needed: Any non-pershiable foods, including canned ravioli/chili with protein, cereal, canned tuna and chicken, canned fruits and veggies, and soup. Toiletry items, laundry detergent and toilet paper are also needed. These donations can be placed in the marked basket in the Narthex of the church. Thank you so much for all of your continued support of the food pantry!

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!

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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 pastorpauldowning@yahoo.com. 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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Cathy English, Laurie Saraco, Jeanne McCurdy, Stephanie Byrne, Margo Naranjo, John Hochuli [requested by Barbara English]

Family and friends of Viola "Vi" M. Giovinco, who has been called home to Christ [requested by Liz DeLuca and family]

Melissa Zimmerman and her family [requested by Janice Raineri]

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]

Mary Fjellstad, Karen McDonough, Don Spagna, Rose Marie Peragine, Amy Jane McGlynn, Richard Lewis, Richard Angelo, Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]

Sam Scheer [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]

Susan Zanni, Pam Provetto [requested by Joe & Margie Costello]

Judy Zimmerman, 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]

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]

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]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin] Corporal August Detting Major William Fortin

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