

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Welcome to worship at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, where everybody belongs!

We are so glad you're here.

This service is live streamed on our YouTube channel.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship. We also have childcare available in our fellowship hall for children under 4 years old. Feel free to ask a greeter for help and directions.

Children in PreK through 2nd grade are invited to join our volunteers for Children's Church downstairs after the Word with Children and can be picked up after the conclusion of the service.

All are invited to gather in Fellowship Hall after the service for coffee hour and snacks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 7pm on December 24th | Worship will include communion, lessons and carols, and candlelight. All are welcome including children of all ages. We will also have childcare available for our youngest friends who prefer calm and quiet away from the sanctuary.

Gift Cards Due TODAY! | Don't forget to drop off your gift cards on or before December 21st. Thank you for supporting our community this holiday season!

Coffee & Carols | Join us for a casual and festive worship on **December 28th at 10am**. Grab a coffee or hot chocolate in the welcome area and head into the Sanctuary. You can even wear your PJs if you like! In lieu of a typical sermon, we will be adding extra carols into the service. So, bring your holly jolly voices as we continue the Christmas season together.

Coming in January: Inspired | This winter we're beginning a new sermon series exploring the stories, questions, and surprising beauty of the Bible through Rachel Held Evans' book *Inspired*. Together, we'll look at Scripture with fresh eyes-- engaging our doubts, our hopes, and our imagination as we seek a faith that is honest, courageous, and life-giving. Whether church is a weekly rhythm or an occasional visit, you're invited. There's a place for your questions, your curiosity, and your story. **Join us January 11 - February 15**.

Holiday Hours | The church office staff will be working flexible and remote hours from December 22nd to January 2nd. Time-sensitive requests should be emailed to Pastor Amanda (amanda@standrew-pres.org)

CALENDAR

December 21	9:00 am	Coffee & Crafts (Fellowship Hall)
	9:30 am	Pageant participants meet downstairs!
	10:00 am	Worship & Christmas Pageant!
	6:00 pm	MS/HS Youth Group Christmas Party! Bring \$5 fGift for White Elephant Exchange
December 24	7:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
December 25		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
December 28	10:00 am	Coffee & Carols Worship Service



Scan the QR code to access our LinkTree.

Here you'll find the link to give financially to St. Andrew. You will also find all the information you need as you engage with our community, including volunteer opportunities and links to sign up for our e-news and monthly newsletter.

THIS WORSHIP SERVICE WAS CURATED BY REV. AMANDA KEMERY WITH LITURGIES ADAPTED FROM ILLUSTRATED MINISTRIES "THE WILL TO DREAM" ADVENT RESOURCES
ART BY SHARON McGINLEY

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

711 W MAIN STREET • PURCELLVILLE, VA
WWW.STANDREW-PRES.ORG

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – LOVE

DECEMBER 21, 2025

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

"What Child is This?"

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

PIPER HAYMAN

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather together in this place:
All: **prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,**
One: we who dare to imagine a world renewed;
All: **we who dare to dream God's dream.**
One: God has remembered us in mercy,
All: **and remained faithful to us in love.**
One: Because of God's tender compassion,
All: **the dawn from on high will rise over us.**
One: Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.
All: **We have come to wonder and praise.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*HYMN 105

People Look East

THE KIRK LOSER FAMILY

BESANÇON

INVITATION TO THE CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, you teach us songs of praise and call us to proclaim justice. We confess the ways that we instead use our words and voices in ways that cause harm. We share half-truths, spread gossip, and speak unkindly. We fail to speak up for the vulnerable. We pay lip service to our faith instead of taking risks in the name of love. Help us to love you and our neighbors with courage and conviction, in word and in deed. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: God looks upon us with favor and redeems us with mercy. You are forgiven and you are set free, through the saving love of Jesus Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High — *Refrain*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD

THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

HEIDI SHIELDS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ELI SEIPT

HEIDI SHIELDS

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

“The Friendly Beasts”

presented by the SAPC Children and Youth

Adapted from Illustrated Ministry and old English carol by Lisa Massey

Narrators — Tucker Egee, Erik Gillispie, Eli Seipt, Sam Seipt

Mary — Hailey Shields

Joseph — Jacob Burel

Poet — Mia Burel

Storyteller — Hannah

Donkey — Sophie Read

Cow — Drew Sassak

Sheep — Emerson Kohl

Dove — Garrett Fike

Mouse — Aiden Read

READING

Isaiah 7:14-15 and Luke 2:1-5

HYMN #129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
verses 1 & 2

SONG

“Away In a Manger”
SAPC Children

READING

Luke 2:6-7

HYMN #118

While Shepherds Watched Their Flock
verse 1

READING

Luke 2:13-14

HYMN #124

Still, Still, Still
verse 2

READING

The Story of the Poinsettia

SONG

“The Friendly Beasts”
SAPC Children

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF LOVE

TUCKER EGEE

We believe in the power of love, a love that not only comforts but liberates.

A love constructed with care, compassion, and courage, providing shelter and safety for all God's children.

We believe in love's guardrails of grace and mercy. Love does not demand or wait for perfection, but scoops us up in arms of unconditional care, where we are, as we are.

We believe, with gratitude, in a legacy of love, a long thread of memory recalling who we are and whose we are, stitching us into its tapestry of belonging.

We believe love is not earned. Love is not control. Love is care and connection.

We believe love holds no secrets. Love does not shame. Love speaks up. Love makes space.

Because God's love doesn't give up on us, we will not give up on ourselves or each other.

We will remember and bless.

We will fix what is broken.

We will look for the dawn of God's love in and around us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Hear our prayers, Lord.

All: May your gentle love make us brave and kind.

OFFERING OURSELVES, OUR TIME, AND OUR TALENTS

BECKET EGEE

ANTHEM

“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

DOXOLOGY

Sung to the tune of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

BRING A TORCH

*HYMN 110

Love Has Come

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

