

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

Advent Festival | Stick around after worship **on Nov 30th!** We will have activities for everyone to kick off the Advent and Christmas season. Enjoy cookies and hot cocoa, make an ornament or wreath, and help decorate the church for the holidays.

Bring your GIVING TREE GIFTS by DECEMBER 7th | This is the last day to drop off your giving tree gifts. But don't worry — gift cards will be accepted through December 21st

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS | If you would like to provide poinsettias for our Christmas Eve service, please sign up on the form in the church entryway. They are **\$15 each** and available to take home after the Christmas Eve service. You may pay by check (payable to St. Andrew) or online with notation of "Poinsettias". **If you have any questions, please contact Nancy at nancy.gilmore@standrew-pres.org.**

Calling all Friendly Beasts! St Andrew's Children and Youth are taking us to the manger on **December 21st** during worship! We'll meet some of the animals who were there to welcome Jesus into the world. Rehearsals will happen primarily during worship at Children's Church culminating in a dress rehearsal on December 20th at 3pm with dinner provided after. We'd love to have your children and/or youth of all ages join us! **Please let us know you'll be joining us by filling out the form in the LinkTree (available with the QR code below).**

CALENDAR

November 30

ADVENT FESTIVAL & GREENING OF THE CHURCH

9:00 am Coffee & Crafts (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 am **Worship**

10:15 am Children's Church and Minis (PreK - 5th Grade)

December 7

GIVING TREE GIFTS DUE

9:00 am Coffee & Crafts (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 am **Worship**

10:15 am Children's Church (PreK - 2nd Grade)

6:00 pm MS/HS Youth Group — Cookie Exchange!
& Pageant Worship Planning



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 ADAPATED FROM ILLUSTRATED MINISTRIES "THE WILL TO DREAM" ADVENT RESOURCES

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — HOPE

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

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: We proclaim expectation with Isaiah!

All: God's redemption is near!

One: Through tears and through trials,

All: we hold fast to our hope.

One: Do not fear, for God is faithful.

All: Our redemption rises with the dawn.

One: Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.

All: We have come to wonder and praise.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

KIRSTEN, JOSH, HAILEY, AND HEIDI SHIELDS

*HYMN 104

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

INVITATION TO THE CONFESSION

MARCIA OWENS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of hope, we confess that we too often seek salvation from that which will not save us. We cling to our own comfort, rather than being generous with our gifts and privilege. We are complicit in systems that benefit us, rather than challenging the exploitation of neighbors and creation. We act from fear rather than faith. Transform our hearts with your mercy. Forgive us and renew us. Make us restless for justice. Teach us again to be people of courage and hope. We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Heaven and earth may pass away, but God's faithfulness is sure. You are forgiven and forever claimed as beloved of God, 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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MARCIA OWENS

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2: 1-5

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, and for the Word of God within us...
All: We give thanks to God.

SERMON

More Than Waiting

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 791

For You, My God, I Wait

SPRINGTIME

Verses 1-3 — Choir & Soloist
Verses 4-6 — Congregation

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

MARCIA OWENS

We believe in a strong and sturdy hope—a hope which fully sees the world’s pain, while refusing to accept life must be this way.

We name false stories and lament shallow optimism, idealism, or wishful thinking.

With the Spirit’s compassion and imagination, we believe things can and will get better, committing all we have and all we are into making a new reality—God’s dream—come true.

We give our creativity and courage, our prayers and perseverance, remembering that “hope is what we do.” What we practice, we will become.

Like Isaiah, we remember what God has done before, and the truth that nothing new comes without someone, somewhere, first imagining what others could not yet see.

As God’s family, we believe hope lives and moves in a communal way. We will hold in our hearts and minds’ eye the presence of those who’ve embodied hope before us as we carry forward the dream.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

One: God of our hope...
All: ...hear our prayers and shape us ever more into people of hope.

OFFERING OURSELVES, OUR TIME, AND OUR TALENTS

ANTHEM

“Tambouring Noel”
by Gordon Young

DOXOLOGY
PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 100

Canticle of the Turning

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN
REV. AMANDA KEMERY

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE



“The right panel visualizes the fulfillment of Isaiah 2:4: ‘ . . . they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.’ All the machinery of war—tanks and fighter jets, guns and bullets—lies in a garbage heap at the base, and shovels emerge overhead as the weapons are transformed into farming tools.”
by Victoria Emily Jones, Art & Theology

ART | Mordecai Ardon (Israeli, 1896–1992) (designer) and Charles Marq (French, 1923–2006) (fabricator), Right panel of Isaiah’s Vision of Eternal Peace, 1982–84. Stained glass. Old National Library of Israel building, Givat Ram campus, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
Photo: Hanan Cohen.
<https://artandtheology.org/tag/swords-into-plowshares/>