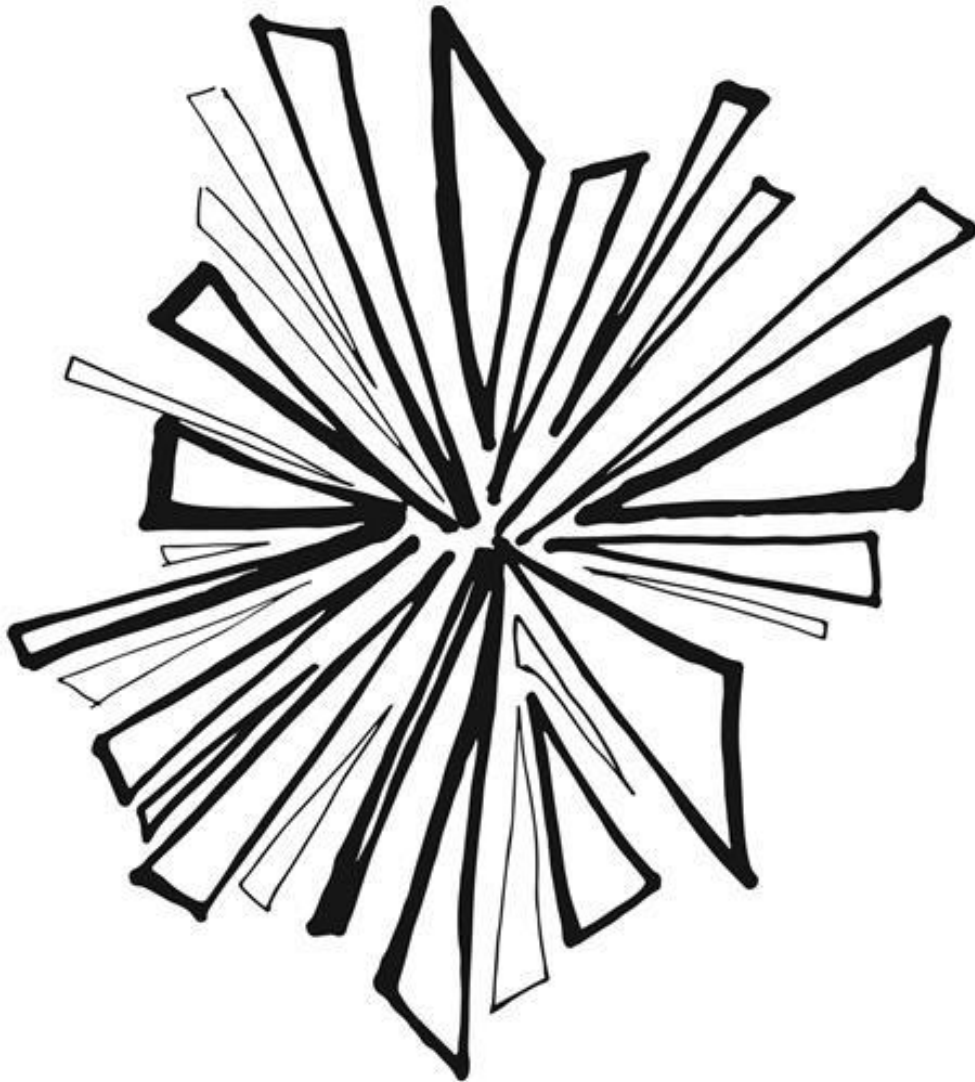


ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Sunday, January 5, 2025
The Second Sunday of Christmas
9:30am Worship Service**



**3900 Freemansburg Ave., Easton PA 18045
(610) 252-2258**

Sunday, January 5, 2025
Second Sunday of Christmas
9:30am Worship Service

Zoom link for Live Broadcast:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82677651018?pwd=d1NSZ2V4NTVtMnFJaGp0Mm5GdTZrQT09>

By phone: +1 646-558-8656 (New York) or +1-312-626-6799 (Chicago) TOLL CHARGES MAY APPLY.

Meeting ID: 826 7765 1018

Passcode: 454700

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader:	Steve Moyer
Worship Assistant:	Guy Ehler
Organist:	Mark Jonkman
Ushers:	Kathy Brandt and Ed Schaeffer
Greeter:	Ron Roth
Church Time Nursery:	Linda Trigiani and Deb Henry

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal #270

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

L A reading from Jeremiah, Chapter 31.

⁷ Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

L A reading from Ephesians, Chapter 1.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The first staff contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues with 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' and includes the instruction 'Repeat alleluia'. The third staff shows a simplified version of the melody with 'X' marks above the notes, likely indicating a simplified or alternative version of the acclamation.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

P [1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The First Noel

Hymnal #300

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.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING SONG *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

A O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials (*local leaders or governing bodies may be named*). God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness (*especially*). Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

A You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation (*specific ministry areas may be named*). Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

P We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C **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.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Hymnal #288

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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ELW 270 ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** Public Domain Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915 Mendelssohn

ELW 300 ***The First Noel*** Public Domain Text: English traditional

Music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901 Tune: The First Nowell

ELW 288 ***Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*** Public Domain Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866 Music: German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856 Tune: In dulci jubilo

BIRTHDAYS this week...Kathy Brandt, Maureen Brehm, Reeves Brehm, Ella Combi, Morgan Emery, Cynthia Frantz, Marion Guarino, Gabrielle Mariconda, Rhiannon Perry, Rob Reese, CJ Ward, and James Wolff.

Immediate Prayers: Ashley, Laura Azzalina, Chuck Bleice, Sharon Bleice, Carl, Gary, Jennifer, John, Kamilah, Krista and Robert, Karyn Israel, Rebecca and Mike Lepkowski, Matt, Nancy, Paul, Kaye Pittman, Frances Rankin, Mary Saville, Mike U., Wes Webber, and Zach.

Members Homebound/Nursing Home: Margaret Bennett, Shirley Curto, Lisa Detweiler, Carl Fisher, Theresa Lawhead, Irene Neel, Doris Neumeyer, and Doris Wanamaker.

Long Term Prayers: Jessica Arnoldi, Elaine Bobeck, Rodney Burda, Charlie, John Clay, Crystal DiLonardo, Michael DiLonardo, Debbie DiLonardo, Carol Ehler, Niklas Enblom, Maj-Britt Enblom, Pam Garity, Lori Gilbert, David Jackson, Keith, Ingvar Kjellberg, Laura Lee Laustsen, David Laustsen, Paul Laustsen, Barbara Lindner, Ethel Shive, Melissa Steckel, John Velekei, Doug VonNessen.

Service Members: MSgt Courtney Baskwell, Lt. Matthew Baskwell, Airman Levi Birchfield, Staff Sgt. Kyle Callantine, PV Anthony Duginski, Captain Vince Franchino, Lt. Elizabeth Gordon, Major Derek Hartman, Major Kristina Himmelreich, Sgt. Rhiannon Perry, Corporal Mark Pollard, and Seaman Recruit Joseph Suhr.

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S

Monday, January 6	Nursery School Returns Worship & Music Team, 7pm, Hope House Parent Partnership Support Group, 7pm, Social Room
Tuesday, January 7	Property Team, 7pm, Zoom Easton Musical Arts, 7pm, Worship Space
Wednesday, January 8	St. Andrew's Women, 10am, Social Room
Thursday, January 9	Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm, Worship Space Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Worship Space
Friday, January 10	Crossroads AA, 7:30pm, Social Room
Sunday, January 12	Worship Service, 9:30am

MONTH OF JANUARY

Altar Guild:	Debbie Ealer
Offering Counters:	Jean Pleiss and Janet Rhymer

ST. ANDREW'S HAPPENINGS

Please note that a mistake was made in our poinsettia dedications on Christmas Eve. One line should have read: "Poinsettias are given to the glory of God by Diane and David Laustsen in memory of our son, Daniel Matthew Laustsen, and our mother Josephine DiLonardo, and in honor of our grandchildren Josephine, Welles, and Collins." We apologize for the mistake.

Remember that in the case of **INCLEMENT WEATHER** preventing us from meeting in person, services will be held via Zoom. The bulletin can be found on the church's website and the link will be found in the Church Calendar on the website. Closings will be posted on WFMZ.com and our office voicemail. In the unlikely event that in-person services need to be cancelled at a time that Pastor Neel is away, there will be no worship.

BIBLE STUDY will begin again on Wednesday, January 29th at 7pm on Zoom. The class will be reading and discussing the book "Pontius Pilate" by Paul L. Maier. A few copies are available in Hope House, but the book is also available through multiple online sources, in both new and used editions.

NURSERY SCHOOL FALL REGISTRATION begins February 3rd for St. Andrew's Families, and those families already enrolled in the school. All others may apply for a spot beginning February 17. Registration forms can be found online.