

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2024 First Sunday of Advent

~ Our Values ~ Christ First - Inviting - Joyful - Open-Minded

~ Our Mission Statement ~ Inspired by the love of Christ, we are building a community that invites our neighbors into a relationship with God and each other.

Welcome to St. Andrews—we're glad to have you worship with us.

Visitors, please fill out a blue "Welcome" card – we'd love to get to know you!

You will find yellow prayer cards in the pews if you have a request or a celebration you would like to share...an usher will come by to collect them.

Please sign the friendship register (on the center aisle) to record your attendance with us.

Children's
Bulletin
Pictures

Gathering Around the WORD

Prelude

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

by Jason Payne



Children Gather around Advent Wreath

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Advent means coming.

We are preparing for the full coming of God's kingdom:

—Isaiah 11:6, NRSV

Sung prayer

Hymn 9 vs. 2

Oh come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn 12

People, Look East



*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, always with us, always coming:

We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.

We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;

we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;

we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.

Forgive us, God.

Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the

Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them

to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for Christ's coming.

Silent Prayers



*Assurance

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the WORD

Coming to Christ as a Child

Rob Cochran

Prayer for Illumination

Penny Samuelson



God of all heaven and earth, through the writings of the prophets and the preaching of John the Baptist, you have called us to prepare our hearts for you. Ready us now to hear your Word and to respond as faithful servants, in the hope of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Malachi 3:1-4 NRSV



*Song *For Unto Us A Child Is Born/Open the Eyes of My Heart*



Luke 1:1-25 ESV



Meditation

A Life Changing Message

Pastor Robin



Responding to the WORD

*Hymn 13

Prepare the Way



*Affirmation of Faith from: *Our Song of Hope*, st. 3, closing prayer Penny Samuelson
Our only hope is Jesus Christ. After we refused to live in the image of God, he was born of the virgin Mary, sharing our genes and our instincts, entering our culture, speaking our language, fulfilling the law of God.

**Being united to Christ's humanity, we know ourselves when we rest in him.
Come, Lord Jesus: We are open to your Spirit.
We await your full presence. Our world finds rest in you alone.**

*Song *Hark the Herald Angels Sing Vs. 1* Praise Team



Presenting Our Offerings

Penny Samuelson

Prayer of Dedication

O Mighty One, you have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you—ourselves, our time, and our possessions— that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.



Anthem

Voice in the Wilderness (Prepare the Way)

Pepper Choplin



Sealing and Bearing the WORD into the World

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Prayers around the Table and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.



Words of Institution

Communion of God's People

*You are invited to come forward and receive communion.
If it is best for you to stay at your seats, let the ushers know
and communion will be brought to you.*

If you are at home, please find something to be the bread and the cup for you.

Prayer After Communion

*Song

Glory (Let There Be Peace)



*Charge and Benediction

*Sending Song

Ways to support the ministries of the church:

1. Mail a check. If you have offering envelopes, they're self-addressed & just need a stamp.
2. Online giving. <https://onrealm.org/standrewslebanon/-/give/now>
3. Text a gift: *SAPC* \$ _____ to 73256

All services are in the sanctuary and streamed @ www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 600 S. 12th St., Lebanon, PA 17042
717-272-9933 - office@standrewslebanon.org - www.standrewslebanon.org

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREWS

- Sun. Dec 1** 9AM Sunday School for all / 10AM Worship/Stewardship Sunday
11AM Adult Sunday School
2-4PM Story Time With St. Nicholas
- Mon. Dec 2** 7PM Follow-Ship Group
- Tue. Dec 3** 9AM Sew & Sew
1:30PM Band Together & 1:30PM Staff Meeting
7PM Session Meeting
- Wed. Dec 4** 6PM Praise Team Rehearsal
6:45PM Handbell Rehearsal
7PM WEBS Bible Study
7:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. Dec 5** 2PM Follow-Ship Group
- Fri. Dec 6** 7:30PM Hershey Handbell Concert in Sanctuary
- Sun. Dec 8** 8:45-11:30 Alternative Gift Fair
9AM Sunday School for all / 10AM Worship /
4-6PM EPYC/Trailblazers Youth Groups



Mission Spotlight Dec:
Shampoo & Deodorant
(men's & women's)

The Chancel Poinsettia reminds us that Christ's birth is the reason for this joyous season.

Hershey Handbell Concert Fri. Dec 6, 7:30pm (*Cookies needed!*)

Postcards in the Narthex—Invite your neighbors!

Alternative Gift Fair: December 8, 8:45am-11:30am in the Gathering Area.

New Era Event: Thurs. Dec 12th, 11:30AM - Christmas Caroling "Reboot" with Carole/Lisa – Starting with lunch—Soups, Bread, Salad & Dessert - \$5 per person

Advent Devotionals There are a few that will follow along with the sermon series in Luke. There are also devotionals available for family devotions and for Youth and younger children as well. Avail. In the Gathering Area.

Christmas Joy Offering will be collected in December. Envelopes are in the pews.

Angel Tree is up! In the Gathering Area – Return UN-wrapped gifts by Dec. 15th

Men's Group (newly reorganized!) First meeting Sat. Dec. 21 at 8:30AM. Coffee, donuts and discuss the Theology of the Peanuts (Charlie Brown Christmas)