

First Sunday of Advent

KEEP AWAKE

MARK 13:24–37

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St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

November 29, 2026 Advent 1

~ *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 *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* Lani Smith

Introit *While We Are Waiting Come* Glory To God pg. 92

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Come, listen. **A thrill of hope is calling.**
Come, rejoice. **A weary world is healing.**
Come, watch. **A bright star is shining.**
Come, worship. **The Messiah is coming.**



*Hymn 2 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*Prayer of Confession



Lord God,
we confess our desire for control, that separates us from you.
We cling tightly to what we have, because we fear vulnerability.
We insist on our own way, because we fear the unknown.
We follow our own paths, instead of your own faithful leading.

Forgive us and guide us to your truth.
Lead us to Christ, who is our way and our life.

Silent Prayers

*Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the WORD

Coming to Christ as a Child — Setting the Advent Wreath

Leader: We gather at this table acknowledging the injustice and hurt all around us.

Students: What can we do?

Congregation: Where is our hope?

Leader: Be alert. Pay attention. There are whispers of hope all around you: in a meal delivered, a hand extended, forgiveness granted. As we live between the already and the not yet, we remember salvation doesn't happen when all is right in the world. *Can we do this?*

Students: We can do this!

Congregation: We will share the hope of Jesus Christ.

Leader: In this season of holy waiting and wholly longing, we light the candle of hope.

Light the first candle.

Leader: We look and welcome the coming of Christ.

All: May we hope in God-with-us.

Leader: Go into this week holding onto this light of hope, Christ gives us.

Children Invited to interactive worship, or are welcome to stay in the sanctuary.

Sung Prayer — *He Came Down* — Glory to God 137

He came down that we might have hope (repeat 2x)
Hallelujah forevermore.

Prayer for Illumination — Lorna Everhart

Holy God, as you draw near to us, may we draw nearer to you. Open our hearts to your ongoing story of salvation – for us and for all our weary world. Amen.

Isaiah 64:1-9

*Song — *Your Name (Christmas Version)* — 7005511

Mark 13:24-37

Meditation — *Re-Framing Hope* — Pastor Robin

Responding to the WORD

*Hymn 38 — *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

*Affirmation of Faith *from: Our Song of Hope, st. 3, closing prayer* Lorna Everhart

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 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* vs. 1



Presenting Our Offerings Lorna Everhart

Prayer of Dedication



Gracious God, as we wait for the Messiah, we offer not only ourselves but our tithes and gifts as well. May these offerings work to bring about healing, justice, belonging, and hope to a weary world. Amen.

Anthem *Our Hope Is In Emmanuel* Victor Johnson

Prayers of the People 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.

*Song *He Shall Reign Forevermore* 7050416



<u>Bearing the WORD into the World</u>

*Charge and Benediction

Sending Song

You are invited to pause and reflect. To sit with the music and consider what you will take with you, as you go out into the world.

<u>Ways to support the ministries of the church:</u>

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

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