

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Website: www.standrewpresbyterians.org
Presbytery of Scioto Valley Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Founded March 10, 1963



December 8, 2019

10:30 AM

Ministers.....	All Members of St. Andrew
Lead Elder.....	Fred Vaughan
Liturgist.....	Beatrice White
Head Usher.....	Beatrice White
Greeters.....	Jorge and Miguel Alley-Freeman
Music Ministry.....	The Choirs
Director of Music Emeritus.....	Garry Cornell
Pianists.....	Melissa S. Robol and Susan Mild
Organist.....	Judith F. Willour
Director of Music.....	Stephen Smith
Transitional Pastor.....	Mark Johnson

The Gathering of God's People

PRAYER OF THE DAY (for silent meditation in preparation for worship)

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

RINGING OF THE HOUR AND INTROIT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

—Fred Vaughan

PRELUDE

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
Inspired by Bach’s “Prelude in C,” BWV 846

arr. Faye López

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

—Bev Green and Sue Keyser

Leader: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. As the Lord has promised, in days to come...

The nations 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 anymore.

People: **The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,**

Leader: the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,

People: **and a little child shall lead them.**

Lighting of two Advent candles

Leader: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

#82

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.

Pastor: And now, let us silently confess our sins to God.
(Silent prayer of confession.)

Pastor: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Pastor: The reign of God has come near; the repentant will be judged with righteousness. You are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe.

People: Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA**

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***THE PEACE**

Pastor: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

The Ministry of the Word

If you want to follow the Scripture lessons on your electronic device, our network is **Andrew2** or **Andrew3**; password: **calvinjohn**. A good website for the NRSV is www.devotions.net/bible/00bible.htm or the app Olive Tree.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

[pp. 640-641 (OT) in pew Bible]

ANTHEM

“Bring Us Hope”

Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram

*Bring us hope, bring us love; bring us peace from above.
Bring us hope, bring us love, peace and joy from above.
Bring us hope, bring us hope.*

*Bring us light, take our darkness away.
Bring us light, turn our night into day.
Bring us hope, bring us love, peace and joy from above.
Bring us hope, bring us hope.*

*Hope to replace our hopelessness, love to refill our emptiness,
Peace in the midst of our distress; oh, how we need Your joy!*

*Bring us hope, bring us love; bring us peace from above.
Bring us hope, bring us love, peace and joy from above.
Bring us hope, bring us hope.*

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SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:1-12
[pp. 2-3 (NT) in pew Bible]

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

—Dr. Mark A. Johnson

The Response to the Word

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison) The 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.

***HYMN** “Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice” #163

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: And now we pray as Christ Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Coventry Carol”
Susan Walsh, guest cellist

arr. Brad Nix

***RESPONSE**

“The Doxology”
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ all people here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
Praise Triune God whom we adore.*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Liturgist: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Liturgist: We give you thanks, Holy One, for all good things: for this universe and for Earth itself, for creatures and plants, for water and food, for light and darkness.

People: We thank you for Jesus, our brother, who enlarged our vision, setting himself before us as the bread and wine of abundant life, and for the Holy Spirit, who comes to us in baptism and moved in our midst with the power to lead us to you. Turn our offerings to your good will and turn us always to you in gratitude. Amen.

The Sending of God’s People

***HYMN**

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

#96

***CHARGE**

***BLESSING**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

VENI EMMANUEL

***POSTLUDE**

“See Amid the Winter’s Snow”
with “O Come Let Us Adore Him”

arr. Lloyd Larson

(* indicates that the congregation is invited to stand.)

If you wish to enjoy the postlude, please remain quietly in your seats.
Otherwise, consider it the final Alleluia on the day’s worship
and leave to honor God and serve in Christ’s name.

WE GREET YOU and are pleased that you have joined us for worship today. Whether you are a guest, member, or friend of the church, we hope you find a warm welcome here. After worship, you are invited and encouraged to enjoy a time of refreshment and fellowship.

GUESTS ARE INVITED to make a name tag so that we may greet you by name. Tags are located in the front hall beside the guest book on the lectern.

PERSONAL LISTENING DEVICES are available for use during the worship service. Please ask an usher for assistance.

FOR THE CHILDREN: **Activity sheets** (two sets: for ages 3-6 and for 7-12) related to today's service are on the oak cabinet in the back of the sanctuary. **Activity bags** with coloring books and crayons for younger children are on hooks underneath the bulletin boards in the front hall.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: Come help hang the greens and decorate the church on December 14 at 1:00 pm and then stay for cookies and conversation.

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP will be having lunch on Friday, December 13, at the Granville Inn. Mary Jane Matthews is coordinating the event.

THE FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY is provided by the Hospitality Committee.

THE FLOWERS TODAY are given by Beatrice White in honor of Virginia Terrill's birthday.

THIS MONTH'S CARD MINISTRY COORDINATOR is Amy Paulin.

THE LEAD ELDER NEXT WEEK is Chris Cvar.

MUSIC NOTES from Stephen Smith:

A recurring theme in the season of Advent is hope. This morning's anthem, **Bring Us Hope**, speaks to that theme in the form of a bidding prayer as we await the coming of the Savior. It is written by Ruth Elaine Schram, who is well-versed in the field of church choral music. Schram (b. 1956) wrote her first song at the age of twelve, and her first octavo was published twenty years later in 1988. In 1992, she became a full-time composer and arranger and now has over 2,000 published works. In addition to her choral music for church and school choirs, her songs appear on thirty albums (four of which have been Dove Award Finalists) and numerous children's videos. Her songs have also appeared on such diverse television shows as "The 700 Club" and HBO's acclaimed series "The Sopranos."



THIS WEEK

ST. ANDREW

December 9 thru December 15*

Monday	4:00 pm	PNC (Blue Room)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	Tai Chi (Blue Room)
Wednesday	10:30 am	Prayer Meeting (Blue Room)
	12:30 pm	Bible Study (Blue Room)
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
Thursday	10:00 am	Prayer Shawl (Blue Room)
Friday	11:00 am	Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon at Granville Inn (meet in church parking lot at 10:00 to carpool)
Saturday	1:00 pm	Hanging of the Greens (Sanctuary)
Sunday	10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)

***You may view the St. Andrew website for the complete calendar**

The Session

Dr. Mark Johnson, Moderator

Susan Mild, Clerk

Class of 2019

Debie Myers
Mark Stansbery
Fred Vaughan

Class of 2020

Chris Cvar
Mary Massey
Susan Mild

Class of 2021

Roxanne Bawidamann
Blaise Mvoa Olama
Kate Kerr