

**\*The Congregation Sings in Response** #7 "Praise God,..."  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**\*The Prayer of Dedication**

God of Advent, whose messengers appear in strange places and unexpected times, keep us from missing the voices that speak your Word. Whether of warning or assurance, challenge or encouragement, your message is one we long to hear. Empower us to embody the good news of your peace and grace. Help us to prepare the way so that our world may become a more just and loving place for all people. Amen.

**The Church Goes Forth to Serve**

**\*The Closing Hymn** #10 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (Presby Hymnal)

**\*The Benediction**

**\*The Benediction Response** "Amen" Chancel Choir

**\*The Postlude** ~~~~~

**~Welcome to Saint Andrews~**

The Church Nursery is available for children through kindergarten age

**Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church**

201 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001 Phone: (724) 287-4777  
Website: [www.standrewsupc.org](http://www.standrewsupc.org) Email: [office@standrewsupc.org](mailto:office@standrewsupc.org)

Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church  
December 10, 2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 10:30 AM

**The Church in Preparation**

**The Prelude**

The Lighting of the Candles Ben Grossman  
Announcements and Exchange of Greetings

**Introit**

"With Open Hearts" Chancel Choir

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Peace Candle**

We gather around the Advent wreath this morning knowing that we are not perfect. We all make mistakes; we all sin. That sin separates us from each other and from the God who loves us. So God sent Jesus into our world to break the chains of sin and death, and to open the way back to God. In Christ, we are reconciled to God and each other. In Christ's forgiving, healing grace, we find peace. As we light the candle of peace, we give praise and thanks for Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace

**The Congregation Sings in Response** "The Candle of Peace"  
(Sung to the tune of "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above")

The candle of hope we light in this hour  
Proclaims that the Lord is coming in power.  
We wait for a future, now hidden from view,  
When Christ in his glory will make all things new.

The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan;  
The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb.  
Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war,  
Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.

**The Call to Worship**

Carol Israel

Leader: Rejoice in the coming of Jesus the Savior,  
For there is good news on the way.  
**People: Good news for the down-trodden and weary?**  
Leader: Good news – peace is coming.  
**People: Good news for the broken-hearted?**  
Leader: Good news – joy is coming.  
**People: Good news for those captive and imprisoned?**  
Leader: Good news – freedom is coming.  
**People: Good news for the hard of heart?**  
Leader: Good news—love is coming. Jesus our Savior is on the way!

### The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Eternal God, we thank you for the gift of your son, our Savior. We thank you for the peace he brings—a peace that passes all understanding, a peace that calls us to paths of mercy, justice, and compassion. In this Advent season, keep our hearts and minds close to you. Empower us to be instruments of your peace in all that we say and all that we do, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

\*The Opening Hymn #13 “Prepare the Way” *(Presby Hymnal)*

(Ushers will collect prayer requests. Please pass them to the center aisle.)

### The Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Patient and loving God, you call us to lead faithful, loving lives. Yet we are slow to change our ways, even when we know they do not please or glorify you. Forgive us, Lord. Straighten our crooked paths and smooth the rough places of our hearts. Help us to live to your glory and honor, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### A Time of Silent Confession

### The Assurance of Pardon

The Congregation Sings in Response “Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.

### The Church in Proclamation

The Scripture Reading Isaiah 40: 1 – 11 O.T. p. 667  
Mark 1: 1 – 8 N.T. p. 34  
Leader: The word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks be to God**

The Anthem “And All on Earth Rejoiced” Canticleer Ringers

The Micro Message Susan Race

\*The people will rise in body or spirit

The Congregation Sings in Response “Wait for the Lord”

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near,  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!  
*(Repeat)*

The Sermon “Where to Begin?” Rev. Merry Meloy

The Hymn #3 “Comfort, Comfort You My People” *(Presby Hymnal)*

### The Church Responds

\*The Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed *(In Unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers of the People and 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.

### The Offertory Invitation

God invites us to show our love for Christ through our service to the church and the world. God calls us to nurture peace, to protect the vulnerable, to share the good news of the Gospel. Our offerings today are a sign of our faithful response.

Please sign and pass the Friendship Registers located near the center aisle.  
Thank you!

The Offertory “Behold a New Joy” Canticleer Ringers  
Tambourine: Ben Grossman

**This Week at Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church**

**Sunday, December 10, 2017**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

9:15 AM – Sunday School  
10:30 AM – Worship

**Monday, December 11, 2017**  
**Poinsettia Orders Due**

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous



**Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous

**Wednesday, December 13, 2017**

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous  
5:00 PM – Community Dinner – Hill  
5:15 PM – Youth Program  
TBA – Chancel Choir  
8:00 PM – Narcotics Anonymous

**Thursday, December 14, 2017**

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous  
6:15 PM – Canticle Ringers

**Friday, December 15, 2017**

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous

**Saturday, December 16, 2017**

**Next Sunday, December 17, 2017**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

9:15 AM – Sunday School  
10:30 AM – Worship

Worship Attendance for December 3, 2017: 74

**Worship Leadership**

**Ushers:** Scott Hazlett      Mary Ann Hazlett      Carol Landis      Dave Landis  
**Acolyte:** Ben Grossman  
**Liturgist:** Carol Israel  
**Micro Message:** Susan Race  
**Flower Delivery:** Shari Manos  
**Open the Church:** Paul Perry  
**Close the Church :** Dan Mulneix

**Next Week:** Kyle Hawks  
**Next Week:** Nate Grossman  
**Next Week:** Dawn Grossman  
**Next Week:** TBA  
**Next Week:** Paul Perry  
**Next Week:** Dawn Grossman

**The Flowers** today are given by the Mowery family in memory of Theresa Nowakowski.

**Prayer Requests** can be made by using the purple prayer request cards found in the pew racks. Pass your requests to the center aisle during the Opening Hymn. They will be distributed to our Prayer Team to be included in this week's prayers.

**Restrooms:** From the front of the sanctuary, use the left entrance (by the piano) and follow the hallway to the right. The restrooms are down the hall on the left. From the rear of the sanctuary, turn left and go downstairs. The restrooms are at the end of the hallway.

**Child Care:** The Church Nursery is available for children through kindergarten age. To find the nursery, please go to the left front entrance of the sanctuary and follow the hallway to the right. The nursery is on the left. If your child would like to be rocked during worship, a rocking chair is available on the left side of the sanctuary.

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**Happy Birthday**



December 10      Marian Cunningham  
December 10      Ronald Braun  
December 13      Charles Manos  
December 16      Ansu Benjamin

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**Join Us for Worship on Christmas Eve**

Our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service begins at 7:00 pm on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Bring the family and come early! Special music begins at 6:30 pm.

## “Peace on Earth, Good Will to All!”

Do you chew on more than turkey at your family holiday gatherings? Does a large helping of frustration get dished out sometime between the mashed potatoes and the pie? Do differences in daily experiences, politics, or lifestyles rob you of the joy of being together? Are you missing the “Peace on Earth” part?

This December, Samaritan Counselor Ellen Knox is leading a three part series on how to have difficult conversations. In our polarized world, it’s often hard to have opposing views without sparking personal opposition. Join us as we explore ways to remain connected even in our differences.

Ellen holds a Masters Degree in Counseling from Geneva College and provides individual, family, and couples counseling through the Samaritan Counseling Center. She and her husband live in Butler and serve as foster/adoptive parents. The series will run through December 17<sup>th</sup>. We meet at 9:15 in the church library. There’s a seat waiting for you!

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## Toys for Tots Box



Every year, U.S. Marines collect and distribute Christmas gifts to needy children through the Toys for Tots Program. To date, the marines have given over 500 million toys to 237 million children. If you’d like to help families in our community, just bring a new toy (unwrapped) to church no later than tomorrow, December 11, at noon. A Toys for Tots Collection Box is in the narthex. Together, we can make Christmas a little brighter for children in Butler.

## Calling All Carolers and Choristers

Do you like to sing? Have you ever thought about joining the choir, but can’t make a full year commitment? Then this opportunity is just for you! Please consider joining the Chancel Choir for the Christmas Eve service. **NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.** We are not looking for soloists, just more voices to fill out the sound. We’ll have 2 more evening rehearsals. They’ll be on:



Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 6:15 pm  
Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 pm



We also have a rehearsal tentatively scheduled for Saturday morning, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Rehearsal recordings will be available.

Questions? Please contact Deanna at 724-504-9853. Come and join the fun!

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## Upcoming Music Events



**The Pittsburgh Symphony and Mendelssohn Choir** (and Deanna Golden) are currently preparing several performances that may be of interest. The Promo Code PSOMCP will grant you a 20% discount on tickets at [heinzhall.com](http://heinzhall.com).

**Holiday Pops:** Friday, Dec. 15, at 8:00 pm  
Saturday, Dec. 16, at 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm  
Sundays, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17, at 2:30 pm

**The Trinity Music Group Big Band** (and Kyle Golden) will be performing on:  
Monday, Dec. 11, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Butler at 7:00 pm

The concerts are free but there will be a free-will offering. Everyone is invited!

## Poinsettia Order For Christmas 2017



If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, please complete this order form and return it with payment to the church office (201 E. Jefferson St., Butler, PA 16001) no later than **TOMORROW**. It is important for us to have your information by this date so that we can include your poinsettias in our order and your information in the bulletin. Thank you!

(Note: Poinsettias will be red, 6 ½” pot).

*The poinsettias you order are yours to take with you following the Christmas Eve worship service. The Deacons will take any poinsettias left after the service to our homebound members. Please note which option you prefer:*

- I will be taking my Poinsettia(s) home.  
 The Deacons may deliver my Poinsettia(s) to a Homebound Member

Number of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.50 per plant

Amount of payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For the Bulletin: *Please print*

Given in:

“ memory” \_\_\_\_\_

“honor of” \_\_\_\_\_

“celebration, thanksgiving, appreciation, etc.” \_\_\_\_\_

“other” \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder: Payment must accompany order.**



## New Church Directories

Updated Church Directories are now available. To pick up your copy, just see our volunteers in the narthex before or after worship. Thanks!

## New Worship Helper Schedules



Our January through June 2018 schedules for worship helpers are now available. If you volunteer as a liturgist or usher, please pick up your copy. They're on the table in the narthex.

## 2018 Giving Envelopes Now Available



To save on postage, we are asking you to pick up your giving envelopes for the new year. They are displayed alphabetically on the pew in the narthex. Please be sure to use the new envelopes starting January 1, 2018. If you use 2017 envelopes in 2018, your giving could be credited to someone else's account.



## New Flower Calendar for 2018

Would you like to donate the chancel flowers for one or more worship services? The Flower Calendar for 2018 is in the narthex. Please sign up for a Sunday or two. Don't forget to tell us if the flowers are in honor or in memory of someone, or if they are to commemorate an important date. The flowers you donate are yours to take home after the worship service, or you may leave them and a Deacon will take them to one of our homebound members. The cost is \$40. Thank you!