

The Offertory Invitation

In thanks for all God's gifts, and in response to the needs of so many of God's children, we now gather all that we have brought to share, praying that these resources will accomplish much good among us and far beyond our individual reach. Let us bring before the Lord our gifts and offerings.

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

The Offertory "Organ Offertory" Chuck Davey

***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**

Loving God, we give you our best, knowing that you have given your best to us in the gift of your son, Jesus. May these offerings, and the witness of our lives, proclaim Christ in ways that will be received with joy. Amen.

The Church Goes Forth to Serve

***The Closing Hymn** #170 "Once in Royal David's City" *(Sing to the Lord)*

***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 Email: office@standrewsupc.org

The Church in Preparation

The Prelude

The Lighting of the Candles Kyle Hawks
Announcements
Exchange of Greetings

Introit "With Open Hearts" Chancel Choir

The Call to Worship

Leader: Do not be afraid. The Lord is with you.
People: God strengthens the weak and comforts the lonely;
Leader: God looks with favor on the humble and lowly.
People: Let us sing of God's steadfast love for all people.
Leader: Let all the earth rejoice in Christ's coming!

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Joy Candle

As we gather around the Advent wreath, we are reminded of Christ's gift of joy—the joy of salvation, the joy of service, the joy of Christ's abundant, everlasting love.

Jesus says, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

As we light the pink candle of joy, we give thanks for the abiding joy of Christ's life and love.

The Congregation Sings in Response "The Candle of Joy"
(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.

(Continued on next page)

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 candle of joy reminds us to sing,
For God is at work to do a new thing.
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.
God's kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Gracious God, we thank you for showing us the depth of your love for all people—for young and old, rich and poor, sick and strong, saint and sinner. Join us in this hour of worship and empower us to open our hearts to you and to one another, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

***The Opening Hymn #157** "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus" *(Sing to the Lord)*

(Ushers will collect prayer requests. Please pass them to the side aisles.)

*The people will rise in body or spirit

The Prayer of Confession

God of surprises, you call us by name but we don't always hear you. You beckon us to follow but we look away. We cannot believe that you would trust us to bear your Son into the world. We silently wish you would choose someone else. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to respond to your call with the courage and faith of Mary. Pour your Spirit into our hearts and our lives so that we may live for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. 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

2 Samuel 7: 1 – 11, 16
Luke 1:26 - 38

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

O. T. Page 281

N. T. Page 56

The Anthem

"Prepare the Way"
Soloists: Dan and Kendra Mulneix

Chancel Choir

The Micro Message

Dawn Grossman

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

"Let It Be"

Rev. Merry Meloy

The Hymn #101

"No Wind at the Window"

(See Insert)

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.

This Week at Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 17, 2017
3rd Sunday of Advent

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

Monday, December 18, 2017

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous
5:00 PM – Community Dinner – Meridian
TBA – Youth Music Rehearsal
8:00 PM – Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, December 21, 2017

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous
6:15 PM – Canticle Ringers
7:30 PM – Chancel Choir

Friday, December 22, 2017

11:00 AM – Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, December 23, 2017

9:30 AM – Christmas Eve Service Rehearsal

Next Sunday, December 24, 2017
4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

No Sunday School
10:30 AM – Worship
6:30 PM – Special Music
7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service



Worship Attendance for December 10, 2017: 53

Worship Leadership

Ushers: Travis Grossman Ben Grossman Karen Pressler Andrew Ripper
Acolyte: Kyle Hawks **Next Week:** Lily Hawks
Liturgist: Nate Grossman **Next Week:** Denise Hawks
Micro Message: Dawn Grossman **Next Week:** Susan Moon
Flower Delivery: None **Next Week:** All Deacons
Open the Church: Paul Perry **Next Week:** Paul Perry
Close the Church : Dawn Grossman **Next Week:** Janice King

The Flowers today are given by Dan and Kendra Mulneix in honor of living parents.

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.

Happy Birthday



December 18	Mary Lindenberg
December 19	Margy Tebay
December 23	Karen Pressler
December 23	Stephanie Arienzo

Office Holiday Schedule



The church office will be closed on Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th and Monday, January 1st. Pastor Merry will be visiting her family for a few days after Christmas. While she is away, Rev. Jim Swanson will be available in case of emergencies. If you have a pastoral care need or concern, please call Danielle at our church office or Rev. Swanson at Covenant (724-712-1407).



Join Us for Worship on Christmas Eve

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

If you are unable to attend the service in person, please join us electronically. We'll be streaming the service live on Facebook. To watch, log on to our website at www.standrewsupc.org. Scroll to the bottom of our homepage and click on the Facebook icon. (The top one of two icons located there.) This should take you to our Facebook page, where you can watch and listen to the service that evening or later in the week. The bulletin will also be posted on the website.

Please share this information with friends or family who may be interested. Thanks!

11th Annual Chili Cook-Off

Join us for a Mid-Winter Warm Up in the Bethany Room

Saturday, January 27, 2018
5 pm —7 pm

Vote for your favorite chili made by various local restaurants and chefs

**Tickets are Now Available
\$6 Presale or \$10 At the Door**

Please note: Tickets must be paid for when purchased

★ Basket Auction

★ Great Fellowship

★ Bake Sale

Benefits: Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church and Operation Spay Neuter of Butler County

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!



Christmas Cookie Walk Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Christmas Cookie Walk! Over 270 dozen cookies were sold. Those sales plus several generous donations brought our total earnings to \$1,400.00.

Special thanks to everyone who baked. We had an amazing variety of mouth-watering goodies! Thanks also to everyone who cheerfully served customers, restocked trays, and helped set up and clean up. The money you all helped raise will go to Saint Andrews' General Fund and the Scholarship Fund of Forman Christian College in Pakistan. Again, thank you!!

A Personal Note of Thanks

We want to thank everyone who helped with the Cookie Walk this year. It was a great success due to all of the wonderful bakers, all who helped setup and takedown, all of the busy hands filling the trays, and those who helped the public with their choices. Your time and hard work is greatly appreciated. Now take a deep breath, relax and enjoy the Christmas season knowing we all put our best into something very special and rewarding!

*We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas,
Kendra and Dan*



Save the Date

The Nurture Team is hosting a "Reach Out to Hold a Hand and Warm a Heart" luncheon after worship on Sunday, January 14, in the Memorial Room. We hope you'll stay and enjoy a lunch of soup, finger foods, drinks and desserts to symbolize and celebrate our church's goal of increasing our outreach. We'll take care of everything – just bring a friend and come!