

**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.

**A Minute for Stewardship**

**The Church Goes Forth to Serve**

**The Hymn #140** "Once in Royal David's City" *(Glory to God)*

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew;  
he was little, weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

**The Benediction Postlude**

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**Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church**

**December 13, 2020**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**10:30 AM**

**The Church in Preparation**

**The Prelude**

Welcome and Announcements

**The Introit and Time of Centering #155** "Raise a Song of Gladness" *(Glory)*

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.  
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

**The Call to Worship**

Leader 1: God calls us to come away.  
Leader 2: Come away to watch and to wait.  
Leader 1: Come away to listen.  
Leader 2: So we may hear what the Spirit is speaking to us.  
Leader 1: So we may receive God's message of great joy.  
Leader 2: Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
Leader 1: And he shall be called Emmanuel—"God is with us."

**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 Opening Prayer *(In Unison)***

**Loving God, thank you for this season and the joy that you offer in all seasons. Help us to look to you in seasons of gladness and lean on you in seasons of sorrow. Empower us to cultivate the joy that does not depend on earthly ease or material blessings but springs forth from an awareness of your loving presence and boundless grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Opening Hymn #100** “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” *(Glory to God)*

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

*Refrain:*

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

*Refrain:*

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember what holds us fast:

God’s mercy must deliver us from the conqueror’s crushing grasp.

This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

*Refrain:*

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

**Shepherding God, guide us back to the paths of your promise. When we doubt, restore our trust. When we fear, restore our courage. When we feel alone, restore our awareness or your presence. Help us to be A Christmas people—a people who hear when the angels sing. Help us to be an Easter people—a people who trust your promise of new life. Help us to be an Emmanuel people—a people who believe in your constant presence. In hope and trust, we pray. Amen.**

**A Time of Silent Confession**

**The Assurance of Pardon**

**Musical 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**

**Scripture Readings**

Isaiah 11: 1 - 10

Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Leader: The word of the Lord Thanks be to God

**Special Music**

“Welcome to Our World”

Vocalist Deanna Golden

Pianist Melinda Ripper

**The Micro Message**

**Musical Response #145**

“What Child Is This”

*(Glory to God)*

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste, to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

**The Sermon**

Rev. Merry Meloy

**The Hymn ##127**

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

*(Glory to God)*

Hark! the herald angels sing. Jesus, the light of the world.

Glory to the newborn King, Jesus, the light of the world.

*Refrain:*

We’ll walk in the light, beautiful light. Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.

O, shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus, the light of the world.

Joyful all you nations, rise. Jesus, the light of the world.

Join the triumph of the skies. Jesus, the light of the world.

*Refrain:*

Christ by highest heaven adored; Jesus, the light of the world.

Christ, the everlasting Lord; Jesus, the light of the world.

*Refrain:*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Jesus, the light of the world.

Hail, the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the light of the world.

*Refrain:*

## Matthew 1: 18 - 25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah<sup>[a]</sup> took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;<sup>[b]</sup> and he named him Jesus.

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### Happy Birthday



December 14  
December 16  
December 18

Chuck Manos Sr  
Ansu Benjamin  
Mary Lindenberg

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### Pictures Needed



We would like to include your picture in this year's virtual Christmas Eve service. Please send two or three digital photos to Deanna at [DeannaDGolden@gmail.com](mailto:DeannaDGolden@gmail.com). Our new deadline is tomorrow, December 14th. Thank You!!

## Scripture Readings

### Isaiah 10: 1 - 10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
<sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.  
<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the  
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.