

# St. Andrew Worship

## 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Advent

November 27, 2022

Dial: 669 900 9128  
Zoom Meeting ID: 831 688 4211  
Password: 9850  
Use \*6 to unmute your phone

**Meeting Time**  
Sunday at 10:30 AM Worship

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: [www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org)

### A Word of Welcome and Ritual of Friendship

Minute for Mission  
Minute for Mission

“Feeding the Homeless”  
“Lions & Friends Toy Drive”

Michele Pomroy  
Kathryn Adkins

### Lighting the Advent Candle

Carolyn Crocker and Eileen Mihm

#### \*Hymn 314

“Christ Be Our Light” v. 1

Leader: We wait for the coming of Christ, the light of the world

All: ***Come Lord Jesus***

Choir: Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

All sing: ***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.***

Reader: The true light, which enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

All: ***Come Lord Jesus***

Reader: O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

All: ***Come Lord Jesus***

Reader: The true light, which enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

All: ***Christ, shine in your church today***

#### \*Call to Worship (Responsive) Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

***Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.***

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

***For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.***

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and security within your towers.”

***For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.”***

#### \*Hymn 82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.***

***Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.***

***Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.***

***By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.***

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

***Great God of Presence and Promised Coming, We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to fulfill your desire for us to love one another. We have not followed the paths you have given us, Choosing instead to follow our own. We have broken relationships, We chase consumer desires, We treat those who wait on us as less than human. We have not loved our neighbors, we spend time With family and friends out of obligation rather than sincere love. We have not heard the cry of the needy, The mouth of the poor is still hungry for mercy, The cause of the oppressed is still thirsty for justice. Free us for joyful obedience, through the Advent of Christ, Our Lord, Our Messiah, Our Hope. Amen.***

*Time for Silent Reflection.*

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Good News! Good News! Good News! God so loved the world that he gave Sinful and broken humanity a gift: Emmanuel, God with us. This proves God's love toward us! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

***In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.***

Gloria Patri

Anthem

*“Come To Us, Oh Promised One”*

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People

*“Lord Listen to Your Children Praying”*

Prayer of Illumination (by Rev. Andy James)

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. ***Amen.***

\*Hymn 89

*“For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits”* (vs. 1,2,3,4,5)

***Refrain:***

***For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you.***

***O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you; come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.***

***Refrain:***

***Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits; our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word; come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.***

***Refrain:***

First Lesson:

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they 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 any more. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Second Lesson:

Mathew 24:36-44

<sup>36</sup>“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

*We believe that God has come to us; that God brought us into being, that this God gave us breath and purpose, that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others, that we have fallen short of this commandment but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness. We believe that God is coming to us; that God is not happy to leave us alone, that this God will come to us as a particular human being, that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours, that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy, that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete. We believe that God will come to us; that God will have the final word and that Word will be good, that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work, that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth, that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more, and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect “Alleluia!”*

Offertory

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Responsive*)

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in hope.

*And we give in hope.*

Hope for your coming reign;

*Hope because of your presence with us even now.*

Receive these generous offerings,

*And use them for your work of healing and hope in our world. Amen.*

\*Hymn 757

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

*Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,  
to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,*

*To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,  
to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.*

*God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race to live  
as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.*

*But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.*

*Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,  
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.*

*For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,  
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.*

*May we in service to our God act out the living word,  
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.*

*As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord  
to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.*

Congregational Meeting

Benediction

Q & A with Pastor Anne: about her trip to the Holy Lands