

St. Andrew Worship

Sunday, November 26, 2023 at 10:30 AM

"Christ the King" - Advent Begins

Congregational Meeting

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.aptopresbyterianchurch.org

Service Online

Join on Zoom:

Dial: 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 831 688 4211

Password: 9850

Use *6 to unmute your
phone

Live Streaming on YouTube:

@standrewpresbyterianchurch4863

Welcome and Announcement

Minute 4 Mission

"CASA Children Christmas Gifts"

Dee St. Clair

Lighting the Advent Candle

Pam Arnsberger & Sandy Schmidt

... "Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come."

Congregation: We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom all around us.

Sing Hymn 88

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs. 1)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom
captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile
here until the Son of God appear.*

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

He was in heaven with God.

He was one with the Father.

In fact he was God.

But he and the Father loved us so

That he humbled himself

And came into our world

To be born a helpless infant

In a crowded backwoods town.

And laid in a manger

Hope was born.

The hope that all people, every race and color and culture and creed,

Can be saved from sin and death,

Forever.

Glory to God. Hope has come.

*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)

*Loving and Merciful God,
today we light the candle of hope,
a beacon of light that shines in the darkness.*

*Today, we confess the ways we have caused others to feel hopeless.
Some feel the hopelessness of hunger because of our greed.
Others feel the hopelessness of violence because of our apathy.
Still others feel the hopelessness of racism because of our ignorance.*

Forgive us, gracious God.

*Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.*

This we pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Friends, all the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and righteousness.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus, that our sins are forgiven.

Alleluia! Amen.

Response: Gloria Patri (Unison)

Anthem

"Il Est Ne (He is Born)" arr. by J Muir

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(Please unmute to signal you want to share a prayer request)

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"



O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me.

*The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth,
when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth.
My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land
and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.*

*The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one,
when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.
Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear,
for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.*

*The days are surely coming when we will know at last
the fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass.
Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land
and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.*

Prayer of Illumination

Lord, it is the most familiar of stories. We have heard it so often that it no longer strikes a fresh chord. It no longer astounds or amazes us. It seems routine, even boring. Shine the light of your hope through all the darkness in our world and our lives that we might hear anew the amazing truths that we begin to celebrate this Sunday. We ask it in the name of incarnate God. Amen.

First Lesson:

Isaiah 64:1-9

(P. 694 OT)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!³ When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴ From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.⁵ You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸ Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

This is the word of the lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson:

Mark 13:24-37

(P. 50 NT)

²⁴“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the

ends of heaven. ²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

This is the word of the lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Story of Hope”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison) by Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison

*We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.*

*For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.*

*We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.*

Even so, we are not a naïve people.

*We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.*

We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.

We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.

*But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.*

*The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.*

*And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever.*

Doxology

Offering Prayer (Unison)

God of hope, we come today bringing our gifts, and dedicating them to your service. Bless these gifts and use them to serve the needs of the many who need to know your presence. We bring them with joy in our hearts, and songs of hope and praise on our lips. Amen.

*Hymn 39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.*

*Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

Refrain { *Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!* }

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.*

Refrain

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!*

Refrain

Benediction

Congregational Meeting

(After Service. In Hubler Hall)

Congregational Meeting

November 26, 2023

After Church Service in Hubler Hall

First order of business is to elect the corporate officers:

President: Anne McAnelly

Treasurer: Steve Young

Secretary: Eileen Mihm

Second order of business is to elect Elders and Deacons for Class of 2026, and Nominating Committee for 2024.

The Nominating Committee presents the following for approval:

Elders:

Pat Manning

Shari Gallegos

Pam Arnsberger

Deacons:

(None)

2024 Nominating Member at Large:

Sandra Petznick

Third order of business is to approve Pastor Anne's Housing Allowance:

Approve \$50,000.00 for the 2024 Housing Allowance.