



## ORDER OF WORSHIP *First Sunday of Advent* December 3, 2017



*\*indicates a time to stand if you are able*

### THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TOGETHER

**MUSIC TO REFLECT ON**

**MUSIC TO ENGAGE**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

*Dr. Christopher Davis*

*St. Andrew's Choir,*

*Evan Schindler, directing*

*The Padden-Rubin Family*

*Dr. Brett Becker*

**LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

**WELCOME & NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**GREETING**

**PASTOR:** This is the day that the Lord has made!

**PEOPLE:** We will rejoice and be glad in it!

### THE COMMUNITY WORSHIPS GOD TOGETHER

**WE CALL THE COMMUNITY TO WORSHIP**

*Rev. Judith Muller, parish associate*

\* **WE SING TOGETHER** “We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”

*Sing the Faith, #2031*

\* **WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

**ONE:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**OTHER:** And also with you.

**WE PRAY TOGETHER**

**WE CONFESS TOGETHER** *unison*

Caring God, it is easy for us to get confused about who you are. Some parts of the Bible make you out to be vindictive, jealous, and punitive; other portions of it lift up your grace, love, and forgiveness. Which is it? If it's both, then you are inconsistent, untrustworthy, and vacillating. If it's the former, then we are left to live as scared children. However, if it's the latter, then we are reminded how great and wide is your mercy and how valuable we are to you! We don't want to see you as merely human, Lord – subject to precarious whims and violent swings of emotion. So we confess your higher qualities: the love, mercy, and peace that so accurately reflect your character and relationship to humankind. You treat us with the utmost care and concern. Your faithfulness and compassion are unmatched. Your lovingkindness is supreme! These are the Godly characteristics that we confess and celebrate today. Our Creator, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**WE PROCLAIM GOD'S GRACE**

**WE SING TOGETHER** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Hymnal, #2; Glory to God, #82

## THE COMMUNITY LISTENS AND DISCERNs TOGETHER

THE EPISTLE READING	II Timothy 2: 14–15	
MISSION FOCUS	St. Andrew's Preschool	<i>Cindy Oliver, Director</i>
TIME WITH THE CHILDREN OF GOD		<i>Julie Sommers</i>
ANTHEM	"Bread of Life" (by Joel Raney)	<i>St. Andrew's Choir, Evan Schindler, directing</i>
A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS	Acts 18: 24–27	
MESSAGE	<u>Accessing Acts</u> "Teachable!"	<i>Dr. Brett Becker</i>

## THE COMMUNITY GIVES TOGETHER

* WE OFFER OUR VOICES	"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"	Hymnal, #392
WE PRESENT OUR MONETARY GIFTS		
WE PRAY TOGETHER		

## THE COMMUNITY SHARES A MEAL TOGETHER

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE *responsive*

MINISTER: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

CONGREGATION: **People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

MINISTER: This is the Lord's Table.

CONGREGATION: **It is not the Presbyterian table.**

MINISTER: Neither is it the Lutheran table, the Baptist table, or the Methodist table.

CONGREGATION: **All are welcome here. Anyone who has been called by God is invited to come and put their trust in Christ.**

MINISTER: According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, just as we, ministering in his name, now give it to you. And when the disciples received it, their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus! Lift up your hearts!

CONGREGATION: **We lift them to the Lord.**

MINISTER: Give thanks, for God is good.

CONGREGATION: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

MINISTER: Everlasting God, we thank you for making us in your image to live with each other in love, and for the breath of life and the freedom to choose your way.

CONGREGATION: **Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God Almighty. Your ways are just and true. With people of faith from all times and places, we lift our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy.**

MINISTER: Holy God, we thank you for your son Jesus, who lived with us sharing joy and sorrow. He told your story. He healed the sick and was a friend of sinners. He stood against the institutional powers and was killed because of his influence.

CONGREGATION: **We praise you that he is not dead, but is risen to rule the world! We trust him to overcome every power that would hurt or divide us, that we might meet him again in glory.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION** *(by intinction)*

\* WE INVITE TO FELLOWSHIP

\* WE BLESS ONE ANOTHER "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

\* MUSIC TO INSPIRE

*Dr. Christopher Davis*

**THE COMMUNITY GOES OUT AND SERVES**

**SERVING THE CONGREGATION THIS MORNING:** Greeters: *Roger & Edie Wells;*

Worship Assistant: *Rev. Judith Muller;* Communion Servers: Diana Lee, Carol Moore

Advent Candle Lighters: *The Padden-Ruben Family;* Children's Sermon: *Julie Sommers*

**THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S**

<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Fellowship 11am Alternative Gift Faire 2pm PW Xmas Tea</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>12:30pm SAIL Mtg 12:30pm Spirits Group 3pm Cerebral Palsy 8pm AA Grateful</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>7am Men's Fellowship Group 1pm Parkinsons 6:30pm Master Chorale</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>5pm-7pm PYF Homework Club Vos 6:30pm Ministerios Llamada Final 7pm Choir/Pagaent rehearsal 8pm AA Success</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>10am Eve Circle 1pm Parkinsons 3pm Finance Meeting</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>6:30pm Ministerios Llamada Final</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9am - 12pm Russian School 9am - 12pm Piano recital in MH 1-3pm Watercolor class 6:30pm Ministerios Llamada Final</p>
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GUESTS, please** stop by our Welcome Table this morning for information about St. Andrew's mission and programs. Please fill out the blue Welcome Card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate as it comes by today. For prayer requests to the Prayer Chain, fill out a slip from the pew and place it in a box at the rear of the sanctuary, or email to Lydia Swanson, [lydiaswanson@hotmail.com](mailto:lydiaswanson@hotmail.com).

**ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIRE TODAY**, December 3<sup>rd</sup> *and* next week, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30am. If you have any questions, please contact Don Vickers.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA TODAY**, Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 2:00pm in Morgan Hall. All are welcome! Bring a guest! If you have questions, contact Dana Monk or Ann Padden-Rubin.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT/CHOIR CONCERT** on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30am. Come see "WOW! A New Nativity Play." Bring your "white gifts" of canned food wrapped in white tissue.

**SHARE THE JOY** of Advent and Christmas by mailing a Christmas card to St. Andrew's members and friends under care at home or in health facilities. Pick up a list of names and addresses in the Narthex or call the church office.

**POINSETTIA ORDERS** are due on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Fill out purple order form and give the form to Ariel Bowers with your check or turn them into the office. Thank you.

**AXXESS BOOK OPPORTUNITY.** The Worship Team will be selling Axxess savings books on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. A portion of the proceeds will benefit St. Andrew's.

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** will be received on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Support church workers and their families in need, and nurture future racial ethnic leaders.

**CHRISTMAS EVE** is on a Sunday this year. 9:30am Sunday Worship Service and 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

**2018 "FEED MY SHEEP" COMMITMENT PLEDGE CARDS** are still being received. Place them in the Sunday morning offering plate or mail them to the church office.

**RUSSIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL** every Saturday, 9:00am to 12:00pm. Dates for Chaperones are open. Please sign up after service or contact Linda Sorensen.

**TRANSITION HOUSE OPPORTUNITY.** Experience the joy of serving dinner to grateful residents with St. Andrew's friends. Third Friday of every month at 6:00pm. Sign up today after worship.

**ANNUAL REPORTS** are due by Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017 SANTA BARBARA MISSION CONFERENCE IS NOW OPEN.** The conference will take place Friday evening, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and all day Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at First Presbyterian Church. Register by going online at [sbmissionconference.org](http://sbmissionconference.org) or by picking up and completing a brochure in the narthex.