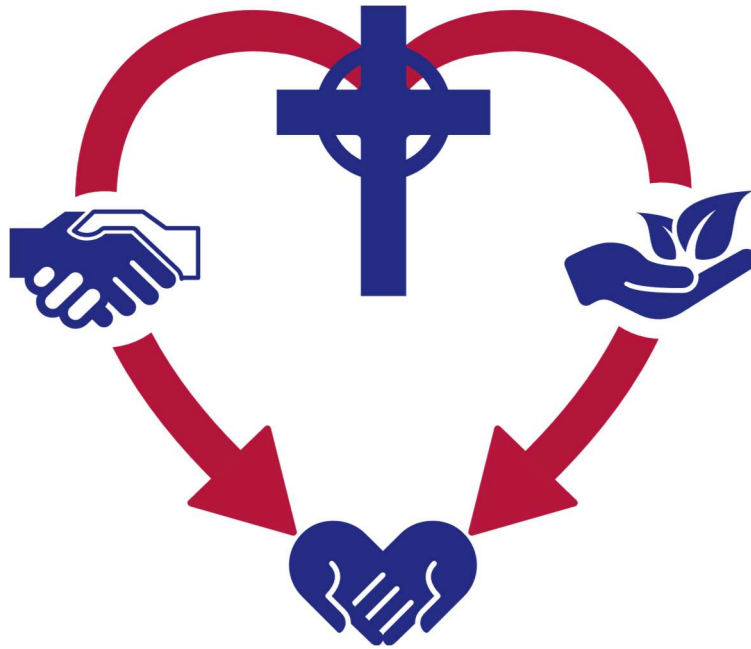
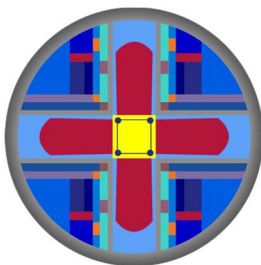


**We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.**



**A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
First Sunday of Advent
Sacrament of Communion
December 1, 2024**

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church

We Gather to Worship God

*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

A Welcome to the Season of Advent

The Advent Wreath

***Call to Worship (Responsive) (Psalm 137)**

Leader: By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, and there we wept when we remembered Zion.

People: We hung up our harps on the willows. For there our captors asked us for songs,

Leader: our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

People: **But how could we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land?**

Leader: God of the exiled. We, like Daniel, find ourselves away from our true home. We are both 'already,' and 'not yet' a part of your kingdom. We are refugees, immigrants, and ex-patriots, because our final allegiance is to a kingdom that is not of this world. For now we are called to build houses and live in them, plant gardens and eat from what is planted, to seek the welfare of the city and nation we are called to. Yet we are not to be too comfortable. We are also called to seek your kingdom first, to plant and nurture seeds, to faithfully resist and disobey injustice. Today we light a candle of hope as we wait with eager expectation for your coming kingdom.

Hymn of Advent #85 (v.1)

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

People: Today we gather as an immigrant community, singing the songs of our homeland; as ambassadors, sent to be representatives in a foreign place; and as a mission outpost, actively working towards a future goal. May we so exhibit your kingdom in this place, that all around us may feel the lure to join into the household of God, to wait with us until we join with every tongue and tribe and nation in the joyful feast of the people of God. Amen.

*Opening Hymn #88

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Greening of the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Evergreens

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

***Transition Hymn #91**

"Come, Come Emmanuel"

The Christmas Tree

The Christmas Poinsettia

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources

(see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

***Doxology (#606)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Time for Young Disciples (Nativity)

(Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

Special Music

"Come, Emmanuel"

Chancel Choir

Arr. Mary McDonald

Scripture Reading

Daniel 6:6-27

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

Rev. AJ Ochart

"Exile"

Responding to God's Word

***Hymn of Preparation for Communion #537**

"When at This Table"

Sacrament of Holy Communion (see liturgy on laminated card in pew rack)

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #106

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #104 (v.1)

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Sue Oakes in loving memory of her beloved Sam in honor of their 31st wedding anniversary on 11/26/24.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ’s love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. AJ Ochart, Pastor
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music
Millie Shiflett, Accompanist
Kellen Jones, Lay Leader

