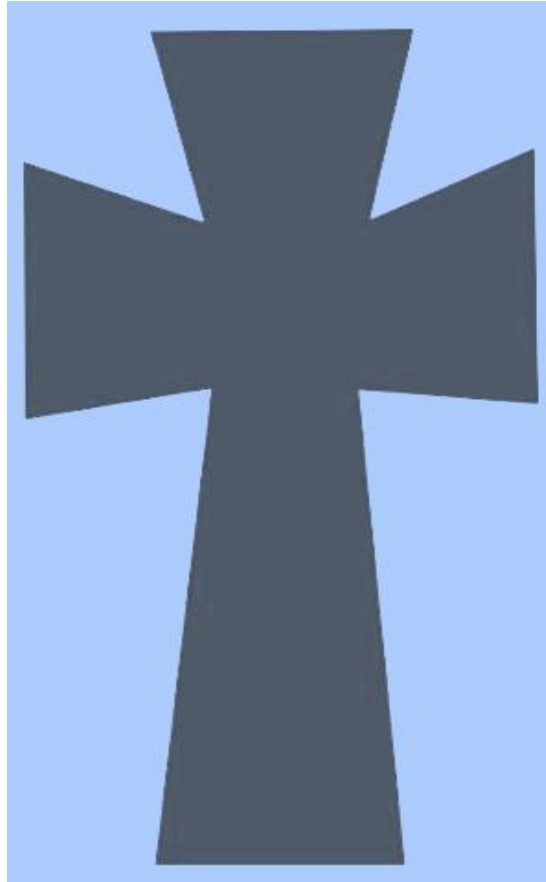


ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



December 6, 2020

ADVENT 2

VIRTUAL SERVICE

St. Andrew' s Episcopal Church

204 East Burd Street, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257

Phone: 717-532-8089 Email: standrewepiscopal@comcast.net

Website: www.standrewsshippensburg.org

The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon, the likes of which we have never seen before. It is not possible to keep it from coming, because it will. The fullness of God will arrive within our lives. This is the hope we live into during this season of Advent.

What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you.

So, stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder.

There will be time enough for running, for rushing, for worrying, for pushing. For now, stay, wait, and rest in silence.

Something of the fullness of God is on the horizon for us.

In anticipation of Christ revealed anew,

Faithfully,

Mother Barbara

Worship lies at the heart of our Christian life, for our turning toward God through praise, repentance, thanksgiving, and communion with the Risen Christ through the sacraments, all offered in community, and opens our hearts to be changed by the life-giving love of God. It is also in worship that we profess our love of God, deepen our experience of God, and reconnect with our core identity, as expressed through our baptismal vows. And it is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as people of God.

OPENING MUSICAL OFFERING

“Wait for the Lord” Taize Chant #12

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We continue our four-week journey to Christmas and we engage our Advent work of watching, waiting, and preparing. Each week, as the frenzied pace toward Christmas grows busier, louder, and more insistent, we will gather in this holy spot where our hearts can find rest. We will light the candles of Advent and take a few quiet moments to contemplate and meditate and hope. The prayers this year are from the curriculum “Preparing to Become the Beloved Community” offered by the Episcopal Church and with which we as a parish are engaging this Advent season as we prepare our hearts for the in-breaking of God’s kingdom of love for all of God’s beloved children.

Light of the world, in grace and beauty, mirror of God’s eternal face, transparent flame of love’s free duty, You bring salvation to our human race.

Sacred Mystery, we light the second candle of Advent for hope and truth.

We kindle it with faith. As mighty God and tender infant, you come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you. `

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: CANTICLE OF THE TURNING

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous thing 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 blessed. Could the world be about to turn?

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.
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.

I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

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.
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.

The Collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. Very often, this “collecting” prayer summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may

greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We turn our hearts to hear from the Holy Scripture for truth to be revealed in our hearts. During Advent we will engage with the prophet Isaiah who foretold the birth of the Messiah.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Comfort, comfort ye my people” 1982 Hymnal #67

1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.

2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth
in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him,
and the hills bow down to greet him.

3 Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain:
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token
that the word is never broken.

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’ s people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (*chanted*)

1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.

8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *

and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *

and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

We have begun a new liturgical calendar year, Year B, which will highlight the Gospel of Mark, the first gospel written, and which depicts the life, teachings, death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. When we worship in person, we stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions, and we turn toward the Gospel book, as an outward sign of the turning of our hearts to the Way of Love. We offer a Sequence Hymn which is designed to ready our hearts for the truth to be revealed in the Gospel or the "Good News" .

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE SEQUENCE OFFERING "Prepare the way, O Zion" 1982 Hymnal #65

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story
Oh blest is Christ that came, in God' s most holy name.

He brings God' s rule, O Zion, he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding
O blest is Christ that came, in God' s most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; on your Savior' s rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

Oh, blest is Christ that came, in God' s most holy name. ‘

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’ ”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel' s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

Mother Barbara

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Wanda Kloza

In joy at the nearness of Christ, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord hear our prayer.

May the power of God' s holy presence clear a path through the rubble of broken lives and hearts to make our world and all of us a new creation. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May our gracious God be always for us a shepherd to console and comfort us, to nourish all our deep hungers, and to make us live in peace forever. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May we come to find in the desert of our lives the gift of forgiveness and the waters of a new Jordan that bring cleansing refreshment. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God of John the Baptist and our God continue to raise up holy prophets in our midst who will tell the good news of saving rescue for all people. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need, especially those who have been exposed to or have been infected with the Coronavirus, and those who asked for our prayers: Ellen, Dina, Patrick, Richard, Lloyd Spooner and Andrew Szabat, Jack & Linda Horner, Dick Weller and his family, Ashleigh Mann, Chris, Rebecca, Jonathan, Pierre, Sassie, Tony Yancoskie, Janet, Melissa, Katherine, Kathy, Deb, Cameron, Jan McCrory, Emma Jean Bankson, Shirley and Robert Glick, Chuck Bloom, Richard, Evan, Roseann, Jack, Kathleen, Amy, Tabitha, the Williams Family, Alice, Samantha, Wanda, Margaret, Brian Rotz, Brian Helman, Rachel Mooney, Stan and Dottie, and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one: Pierre and Sassie, Laura, Christina, David, Jonathan, and Joseph, Laura and Pat, Deanna, Kathy, Jeanine, Ellen, Fred, Tom, Susan, Connor and Matthew, Blake and Katherine, and those whom we name, either silently in our hearts or aloud. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God who is our future in the gift of Jesus Christ hold us always in the embrace of faithful love and bring us to new heavens and a new earth. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Recall us to our baptism, O Lord, and hear our cries for ourselves and for the whole world, for we pray in the name of the one who came, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

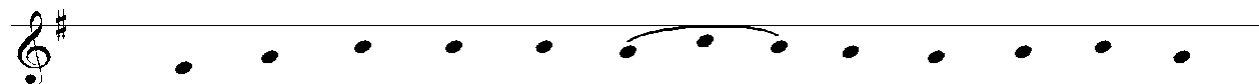
And also with you.

At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, so that we may support the continued mission and ministry of Christ of bringing in the kingdom of God, here among us.

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

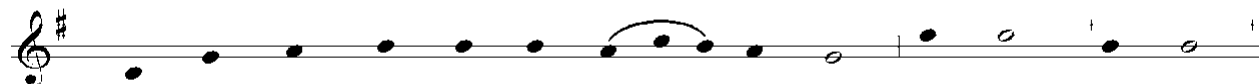
THE OFFERTORY HYMN 1982 Hymnal #56



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

The second section of the service of the Holy Eucharist is the Ministry of the Table. We as Episcopalians always believe the consecration and the sharing of the "Body and Blood of Christ" is the pinnacle moment in the service, understanding all that we have engaged with previously in the service has been designed to open our hearts to receive, and the moment out of which our lives will unfold.

The experience of the Holy Eucharist is multi-faceted and diverse. It can be to and for us a time of forgiveness, comfort, strength, joy. It is also a time when the past, present, and future come together in one moment. This is the mystery of faith. There is a deep a sense of remembrance of the Last Supper that is made real to us in the present moment and which contains the hope of the promise. One could say, this is a taste of heaven.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you have sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, you Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us

from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. We can think of this prayer not so much as ours, but Jesus' own prayer, his own words, in the power of his presence in our midst.

Our giving utterance to the words of “Our Father” is really Christ speaking through us in the power of the Spirit.

THE LORD’ S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

FRACTION ANTHEM

“Let us break bread together” 1982 Hymnal #325

Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Our Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. We love you above all things, and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The priest offers God's blessing upon God's people. The words commonly are given in the trinitarian name of God, accompanied by the sign of the cross.

THE ADVENT FOUR-FOLD BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The point of worship is to praise God, be transformed by the grace of God, fed by the spiritual food offered through communion and community, and then sent out into the world for ministry and mission. "The worship has ended, let the service begin!"

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSICAL OFFERING

“Savior of the Nations come” by Johann Sebastian Bach

Kevin Gorman, piano

Michelle DiBona Trefren, cello

Worship Ministers

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Officiant & Homilist | The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson |
| Acolytes | James and Thomas Williams |
| Pianist | Kevin Gorman |
| Cantor | Lisa Turchi |
| Vocalists | Jay Williams Mary Beth Williams |
| Musicians | Jonathan Luo (drummer) James Williams (drummer) |
| Guest Musician | Michelle DiBona Trefren (Organist, Vocalist, Cellist) |
| Lector | Gary Murrell (Isaiah) Jim Smith (Prayer of Spiritual Communion) |
| Gospel & Prayers of the People | The Rev. Deacon Wanda Kloza |
| Dismissal | Jonathan and Joseph Luo |

THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW' S

Today, December 6, 2020

Virtual Worship (anytime)

2:00 PM Preparing to Become the Beloved Community (Virtual)

7:30 PM AA meeting

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Monday, December 7, 2020

5:00 PM Community Meal

7:30 PM AA meeting

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

9:30 AM Meditation in the Church (In-person & Zoom)

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Thursday, December 10, 2020

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Friday, December 11, 2020

Mother Barbara' s Weekly Story-reading to our young ones (anytime)

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Andrew' s Episcopal Church. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us this morning, Sharing community, gathered in heart and spirit, is a holy honor for which we are all grateful.

Our worship together is offered online through the end of the year due to Diocesan safety protocols as a result of the increasing cases of COVID-19. This decision may cause you great grief as it means celebrating a major feast day of our church in a new way. We are doing our best to maintain our traditions that are so dear to our heart, but re-imagine them in new ways that keep us all safe and

well. If you have any concerns, questions, or wish to share the multitude of emotions you may be feeling during this time, please call Mother Barbara at 717-333-5590.

Ways to receive the Holy Sacrament. As Episcopalians we value the holy love, strength and nourishment which is provided to us by the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Often the whole of our being yearns to receive, to feel filled with the Holy Spirit's grace, to know the presence of the Risen Christ "here and now" and to share this in community. In order for us to remain safe from COVID and other health concerns, our worship as a gathered body of Christ is suspended through the end of the year. But that does not mean we cannot embrace and engage with the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Here are the ways this sacrament will be available to you:

1. **Home Communion Visit.** If you feel comfortable from a health safety perspective, you can invite Mother Barbara to come to your home and offer a pastoral visit and the sharing of the reserved sacrament with you. This may be a particularly helpful offer to those who leave home only for essential reasons (grocery store, pharmacy). This is seen as a gift and joy for Mother Barbara so please do not imagine this as an inconvenience. She wants to do this.
2. **If you are strictly in isolation,** meaning due to your own health concerns or a need to fully quarantine so you may visit with your families at some later date and you do not leave your home for any reason, Mother Barbara or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor can drop an envelope off at your home which will contain a consecrated wafer and the service of Communion under Special Circumstances from our Book of Common Prayer, page 396. You could then 1) speak on the phone to Mother Barbara or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, who can pray through the service with you, 2) watch the video Mother Barbara created while you are consuming, so you have a sense of sharing the service with someone else, or 3) pray through the service and consume the consecrated wafer alone. The preference here, of course, is if at all possible, you are in community with one other person when consuming the consecrated element, since Holy Eucharist is always considered a communal act.
3. **Participate in the "Extended Table" Service.** We cannot gather as a group in the church for health reasons right now. However, we do have permission for Mother Barbara and one other person, who is required for the celebration of the Eucharist, to celebrate the Eucharist

in the church (masked and with safe distancing). At the end of that service, the worship assistant will leave the church. Then any people who would like to come and receive communion may come into the church to do so. These visits would be scheduled, so we are certain Mother Barbara and one other person are in the church at the same time. We would do an abbreviated service so you have a sense of participating in the service, but which would last about 15 minutes. The area to receive will be disinfected after each person leaves. Our next “Extended Table” service is on December 13th. Please reach out to Mother Barbara to schedule a time for you to receive the Holy Eucharist in our church.

4. Christmas Eve Celebration.

- a. **Experiencing Holy Eucharist in your home with pre-consecrated wafers with the Order of Service for the Feast of the Incarnation.** Our bishop has offered us an amazing opportunity to receive the Holy Eucharist on Christmas Eve. We are able to distribute to you (not by mail, a consecrated host for you. There will be a small envelope with either 2 small wafers in it, or a larger envelope with the host which can be broken into 4 parts. You would choose which you would need based on your family size. These small envelopes are then in a larger red envelope specially marked to indicate the contents are the Holy Sacrament. There will be an Order of Service for you to use on Christmas Eve while engaging in this sacrament. You will receive ideas of how to set aside holy space to reserve this consecrated bread before you will consume it and how to bring this act of the sharing of the sacrament it into the rhythm of your family life.
- b. **Zoom Christmas Eve service.** We also invite you to join us at 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve by Zoom where we will have a short service, pray through the prayers offered in Communion under Special Circumstances, and sing *Silent Night* together.
- c. **“Extended Table” Service.** We invite families to come to the church beginning at 4 p.m. to engage in a service of receiving the Holy Eucharist, which will invite your children to light the Advent wreath, tell the story of Jesus’ birth, receiving Eucharist, and light our candles while we listen to *Silent Night*. Please make an appointment for we wish to have only one family at a time for safety reasons.

Please call Mother Barbara to discuss these options so we can determine what may be best for you and your family. Our prayer is that everyone can be fed by the sacrament during these times of isolation and the Feast of the Incarnation, otherwise known as Christmas.

We are very close to reaching our goal of \$20,000 for this scholarship. We need \$1500.00 more to reach that goal. Might you be able to make a contribution to the **Mary Grace Shearer MSW for the Advancement of Social Work Scholarship?** This scholarship is offered in gracious recognition of the nearly 40 years of faithful service Mary Grace offered to the ministry of The Episcopal Home. We are so grateful for her amazing work and the legacy of love which she is leaving behind. The parish has made a gift of \$5,000 in gratitude for Mary Grace' s ministry and we invite you to make individual gifts as well. If you would like to contribute by check, you can either send a check to St. Andrew' s Episcopal Church and earmark it as the Mary Grace Shearer Scholarship or you can mail the check directing to TFEC (The Foundation for Enhancing Communities) at the following address: 200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101. If you would like to make an online donation, please do so by going to <https://www.tfec.org>. We thank you for your generosity.

We invite you to join us for Compline, our nighttime prayers, each evening at 8 p.m. through Zoom. Please contact Mother Barbara for the Zoom link. This is a time of quiet and deep prayer, when we allow God to settle into our hearts and draw us toward restoration. It is remarkable the change that happens in just those 10 minutes.

We invite you to join us as we engage in **meditation or centering prayer on Tuesday mornings** at 9:30 a.m. You are welcome to come into the church and meditate in person with us (wearing a mask and sitting apart from one another) or connect with us by Zoom. Please email Mother Barbara for the Zoom link. This is a time when your soul can rest and be restored through the loving presence of God.

Our Community Meal program has expanded due to increased need in our community. We have picked up one additional time of preparing and serving the meal, thanks to the generous hearts of our members. We will now be serving the community meal to our hungry neighbors on the 4th Monday of the month. If you would like to join our community meal teams, please let Mike Stitt know. There is increased need for meal preparation because there are more hungry people in our area now. We are currently serving "to go" meals due to the COVID precautions.

Our food pantry. Thank you for all those who have recently contributed. It is a joy to see the pantry full and the bench also filled with food ready to be placed outside as needed. You are a generous people.

Next Weekend' s Worship Services:

Church at Home – anytime. Join us for a pre-recorded service of glorious music, sacred scripture, reflection, and prayer.

The Next “Extended Table” Worship Service will be on Sunday, 12/13/20.

If you would like to come to the church, either individually or as members of the same household, to receive bread and wine that have been consecrated that morning at a church service with Mother Barbara and one other person (2 people are required to celebrate the Eucharist since it is a communal act and sacrament), please let Mother Barbara know so she can give you a time slot to come and participate in receiving the consecrated elements. Mother Barbara will lead you through an abbreviated service of the Holy Eucharist, lasting approximately 15 minutes, so that you have a sense of settling into the space, connecting with the rhythm of the liturgy, and then to receive the blessed sacrament. If you have any questions, please let me know. You may reach Mother Barbara at 717-333-5590 (cell) or by emailing her at rector@standrewsship.org.

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are a Christ-centered community dedicated to living authentically, thinking inclusively, and opening our hearts to the movement of the Holy Spirit among us.

Leadership

Diocesan Bishop The Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan

Rector The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson

Parish Secretary Melanie Varner

Sexton Brett Erickson

Church Musician Brian Helman

Interim Church Musician Kevin Gorman

Head Verger Mike Stitt, FVGEC

Verger Mike Rhodes, FVGEC

Verger Jane Offner, Susan Sanders

Vestry Members

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Christina Luo, Senior Warden | Larry Shillock |
| Jane Offner, Junior Warden | Steve Smith |
| Jean Shepherd, Treasurer | Lisa Turchi |
| Brett Erickson | Susan Tyler |
| Ken Dotson | Laurel White |
| Mary Beth Williams | |

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Rector' s email: rector@standrewsship.org

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