

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent
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

“Let all mortal flesh keep silence”

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

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 third candle of Advent for joy and grace.

We kindle it with joy. We hear the joy in Mary's song and witness her faith. We recall the times we have struggled to practice your Way of Love and yet said "yes" to continuing on your journey.

Sacred Mystery, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us. Give us courage to walk in the way of the beloved community that you set before us. Amen.

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 (verses 1-3)

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.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears, every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn.

There are tables spread, every mouth will be fed, for the world is about to turn.

My

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,

Stir up your power. O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, 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.

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

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

Thanks be to God.

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 SEQUENCE HYMN "O come, O Come Emmanuel" verses 1-6

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law, in cloud, and majesty. and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing night;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you

stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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. Amen.

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 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

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts with faith and thanksgiving.

FRACTION ANTHEM "Let us break bread together"

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 Taize #25 "When the Night Becomes Dark"

When the night becomes dark,
your love, O Lord is a fire;
your love, O Lord, is a fire.

Worship Ministers

Officiant & Homilist	The Rev. Barbara Hutchinson
Acolytes	James and Thomas Williams
Pianist	Kevin Gorman
Vocalists	Jay Williams Mary Beth Williams
Musicians	Jonathan Luo (drummer) James Williams (drummer)
Guest Musicians	Michelle DiBona Trefren (Organist, Vocalist, Cellist) Elizabeth Asmus (Harpist, Vocalist)
Lectors	Donna Harpster (Isaiah) Susan Sanders (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 13, 2020

Virtual Worship (anytime)

10:00 AM Extended Table Worship

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

7:30 PM AA meeting

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Monday, December 14, 2020

5:00 PM Community Meal

7:30 PM AA meeting

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

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

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Thursday, December 17, 2020

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

Friday, December 18, 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 Christmas Eve beginning at 4 p.m. for our families.

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 15-25 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	

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
204 E. Burd Street
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257
717-532-8089
Office email: office@standrewsship.org
Rector's email: rector@standrewsship.org
Website: www.standrewsshippensburg.org