

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SHIPPENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



December 20, 2020  
4th 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](mailto:standrewepiscopal@comcast.net)

Website: [www.standrewsshippensburg.org](http://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

How can I keep from singing

## 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.

*All:* 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.

*Reader 1:* Sacred Mystery, we light the fourth candle of Advent for peace and promise.

*The fourth candle is lit.*

*Reader 2:* We kindle it with peace. We await the coming of Christ, who proclaims your kingdom come.

*All:* Sacred Mystery, you are the prime mover in our lives. We ask that, in these days of preparation, you inspire us to proclaim, by word and example, the dream of Your beloved community. 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 1-4)

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 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.

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

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,

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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.](#)

#### **A READING FROM THE PROPHET SAMUEL**

**2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David:

Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel: and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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, although for certain weeks, like this one, our reading draw from a different gospel. Today we hear from the Gospel of Luke,](#)

for it is only in Luke's gospel that we hear of the story of the annunciation. 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 1-8

- 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 nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 8 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!

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 1:26-38**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was

much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive In your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angle, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth In her old age has also conceived a son; and this Is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be Impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let It be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**THE HOMILY**

Mother Barbara

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Deacon Wanda Kloza

Rejoicing with Mary that the word comes among us, let us offer to God our prayers, saying, Lord, hear our prayer.

May we find in Mary, the servant of the Lord, the model of our heart's willing surrender to God's call. For this let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

May we discover in true spiritual virginity the richness of what God alone can do to make Christ come alive in Mary, in us, and in all the world. . For this let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

May the God of mystery who dwells in unapproachable light draw us more and more deeply into the path of divine wisdom beyond all human expectation. For this let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

May our assembly of disciples be a womb and a place for the shaping of Christ by God's power, so that we may give birth to Christ from the womb of our community for the world. For this let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**



May our deepest hearts find strength in the gift of blessed hope that what God has begun to do in our world and in all our persons by Christ's saving work will be brought to its fullness by our Savior. For this let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

May we remember before God all who are in any need and who cry for the presence of God, 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.**

Call us to yourself, O God, as you called Mary, that we may be formed into a dwelling of holiness, giving life to all the peoples of the world through Mary's son, 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 (EUCCHARISTIC 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 pray,

**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.**

## 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 #9

“Bless the Lord my soul”

Bless the Lord my soul,  
And bless God’s holy Name.  
Bless the Lord my soul,  
Who leads me into life.

**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

Carole Mease (2 Samuel)

Tom Briggs (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 20, 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 21, 2020**

7:30 PM AA meeting

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

### **Tuesday, December 22, 2020**

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

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

### **Wednesday, December 23, 2020**

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

### **Thursday, December 24, 2020 Christmas Eve**

Children & Youth Christmas Pageant (Virtual – anytime)

4:00 PM Extended Table Family Worship

7:00 PM Zoom Congregation Worship

8:00 PM Compline (Virtual)

### **Friday, December 25, 2020 Christmas Day**

Mother Barbara's Christmas Message to our Young Ones (Virtual- anytime)

10:00 AM Christmas Day Extended Table

11:30 AM Christmas Day Community Dinner

## 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 13<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## 5. Christmas Day

- a. **“Extended Table Service”** We invite you to come to participate in the Service of Holy Eucharist on Christmas morning. This will be through our “Extended Table” service where you will sign up for a time to come alone or with your family members so we remain safe.

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 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. This service will be offered by the Diocese of Central PA. The link to the service will be in next week's e-newsletter.

.

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

Jane Offner, Junior Warden

Jean Shepherd, Treasurer

Brett Erickson

Ken Dotson

Mary Beth Williams

Larry Shillock

Steve Smith

Lisa Turchi

Susan Tyler

Laurel White

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

204 E. Burd Street

Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257

717-532-8089

Office email: [office@standrewsship.org](mailto:office@standrewsship.org)

Rector's email: [rector@standrewsship.org](mailto:rector@standrewsship.org)

Website: [www.standrewsshippensburg.org](http://www.standrewsshippensburg.org)