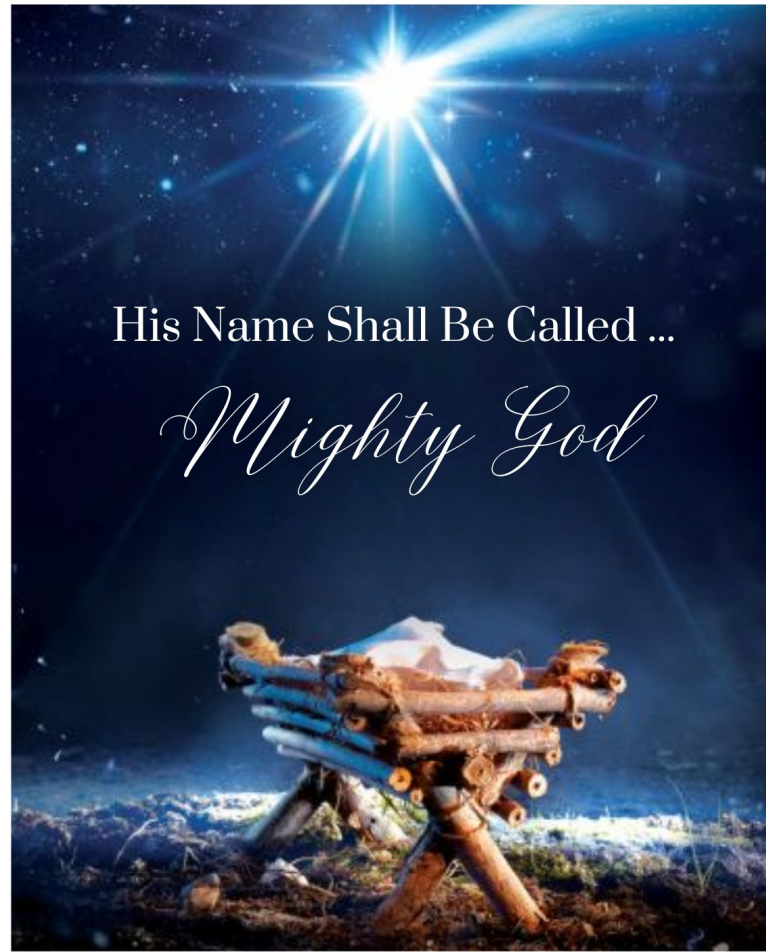




# ST. ANDREW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

~ TO KNOW JESUS CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN ~

## Second Sunday in Advent



December 07, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 07, 2025

### WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW!

God is serious about his Word in both law and gospel. It is addressed to us both collectively and individually. This Sunday it is well summed up in the pertinent question: Where are you? In the liturgy of confession may we answer honestly! In the absolution and the gospel may we hear God's response! For faith begins and ends with confession and absolution; They are its constants that are never to be taken for granted.

**Please sign our guest registry in the narthex, and fill out a guest info card located in your pew or the narthex, we would love to connect with you.** If you could also, take time to introduce yourself to the Greeters and Pastor Ben. A nursery is available, and is located behind the Penn St. entrance. Restrooms are also located there and in the lower level of the church. The greeters will be glad to assist you with any need you may have. May God bless your worship with us this morning.

### ST. ANDREW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DECEMBER OUTREACH - PASTORAL FUND** - Pastor Ben will use the donated funds to serve our Parishioners in need and in other various ways! You can help us be the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you so much for your generosity!

**CARE CARDS** - Our December care cards will be going to Martha Miller. We have cards available in the Narthex or you can use your own. Please sign an encouraging note or thoughtful message. You can mail them or give them to the office to be mailed.

**TOUCH-A-HEART** - Gift tags are available and will need to be returned by December 14th for collection. Please take one or more.

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA** - The Chancel Choir will be raising their voices in singing "Let the Whole World Sing" by Joel Raney on Sunday, December 14th. It's a wonderful time to spread the message of Christmas joy to our newborn King!

**WEST BRANCH CHORALE** - Some of our members will be singing in the West Branch Chorales upcoming concert this afternoon, Dec. 7th @ 3pm (Pleasant View Wesleyan Church, Muncy). Come out and support our members!

**COOKIE & CANDY PLATES** - The Women of St. Andrew will be meeting on December 16th at 2p.m. to put together cookie and candy plates for our shut-ins. Donations of treats and time are welcome.

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN DAY** - Looking for a break from the busyness of Christmas preparations? Bring your family and friends for a great time of fellowship. We'll start at 3:00p.m. with games, crafts, and a visit from St. Nicholas for the children. Bring your favorite goodies for a cookie auction at 4:00p.m. followed by barbecue and caroling!

**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT** - Calling all parents! Do you have difficulty finding time to Christmas shop or work on those special projects? Drop off your little ones for fun and games at St. Andrew for Parents Night Out on Friday evening, December 12th from 6:00-8:00p.m.

**MONTHLY WOMEN'S STUDY** - The women's Saturday 8AM Bible Study on Angie Smith's Matchless. The last session in the workbook is a personal one for each of the participants to complete. On January 3rd, we will begin the new year study – Jennifer Rothschild's Heaven. If you've had questions about your future in eternity, please consider joining us for some answers and discussion as we study the scriptures together. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For questions please contact Kathy Heilman (570-546-21126 or kiheilman@comcast.net)

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** - Wednesday, December 24th, 7:00 p.m. Communion & Candlelight Service

**THE PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** - Announcements

*\* (Indicates The Congregation To Stand)*

**\* INVOCATION** **LBW PAGE 56**

**\* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS** (YOU ARE WELCOME TO KNEEL IF ABLE)

**PRAISE AND PRAYER**

**\* Opening Hymn** "Prepare the Royal Highway" **LBW PAGE 26**

**\* The Apostolic Greeting and Response** **SCREEN**

**\* The Kyrie**

**\* The Hymn of Praise** **SCREEN**

**\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that by his coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**THE FIRST LESSON - ISAIAH 11:1-10**

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

L: During Advent we recall God's promises spoken through the prophets.

**C: The Word of the Lord is steadfast and true.**

L: To the hurting, God promises unshakable hope.

**C: The Word of the Lord is steadfast and true.**

L: To the forsaken, God promises unconditional love.

**C: The Word of the Lord is steadfast and true.**

L: To the broken, God promises unmerited grace.

**C: The Word of the Lord is steadfast and true.**

L: To the heavy hearted, God promises unbridled joy.

**C: The Word of the Lord is steadfast and true.**

**CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER**

**Anthem** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **Chancel Choir**

**THE PSALMODY - PSALM 72:1-7**

L: Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son;

**C: That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

L: That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness.

**C: He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

L: He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

**C: He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

L: In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace 'til the moon shall be no more.

**SECOND LESSON - ROMANS 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order

that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.” And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.” And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.” And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

L: Here ends the reading.

**\* THE RESPONSE (Alleluia)** **LBW PAGE 62**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**THE GOSPEL - MATTHEW 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ!**

**Hymn** “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry” **LBW PAGE 36**  
**THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** **Pastor Ben Lander**

**CHILDREN ARE DISMISSED FOR SHINE TIME**

**THE SERMON** “Love’s Great Might” **Pastor Ben Lander**  
**\* The Nicene Creed** **LBW PAGE 64**

**The Offertory Response** **SCREEN**

**The Offertory Prayer**

**OFFERING:** *Offering plates are located at the entrances to the church for you to leave your gift. There’s also an online giving option available on our website. One way the members of St Andrew show their love for their Savior is by sharing with him a generous portion of the blessings they have received. However, our guests should not feel obligated to give. We want everyone to give out of love for Jesus and what he has done for us, and not “reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).*

**\* PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** **LBW PAGE 68**

**\* THE PROPER PREFACE** **LBW PAGE 68**

**\* THE SANCTUS** **LBW PAGE 69**

**\* THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION (#33)** **LBW PAGE 70**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER** **LBW PAGE 71**

**\* AGNUS DEI** **LBW PAGE 72**

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**\* POST COMMUNION BLESSING** **LBW PAGE 72**

**\* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE** “Thank the Lord...” **LBW PAGE 72**

**\* THE PRAYER** **LBW PAGE 74**

**GO IN PEACE AND SERVE THE LORD**

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* CLOSING HYMN** “Go Now and Pass It On” **SCREEN**

**Postlude**

ST. ANDREW PRAYER LIST

NAMES WILL BE KEPT ON PRAYER LIST FOR FOUR WEEKS UNLESS OFFICE IS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.

MEMBERS	FAMILY & FRIENDS OF ST. ANDREW	
Jim Muffly	Mary Slater	Piper Frey
Bill Ritter	Steve Krum	Pam Hill
Pretta Hose	Jamie Fox	Jeff Wendorf
Martha Miller	Allen Fanelli	Mark Miller
Arlene Kiess	Dave Doran	Sue Gilbert
Jim & Jonnie Stahl	Shirley Doran	Kathy Stauffer
Frances Worthington	Chris Blass	Jeremy Hauch
Naomi Wertman	Bill Keller	Logan Merrifield
Kay Myers	Sharon Shutt	Jaxon Yereb
	Nathan Witmer	Reid Tittle
	Judy Yagel	

*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
& in honor of Veterans (Pearl Harbor Day)!  
By: Rudy & Linda Moyer*

STEWARDSHIP ON NOVEMBER 30, 2025	
Gifts to the Lord	\$2669.00
Attendance	71
<b>Weekly Budget Amount Needed</b>	<b>\$3280.00</b>
<i>(Does not include L.C.M.C., Local Benevolence, Outreach, Sponsor, or Capital Categories)</i>	

ACTIVITIES OF ST. ANDREW		
Sunday, Dec. 07	Worship Service	9:15 a.m.
After Service	Adult Sunday School w/ Kathy H.	Upstairs Chapel
After Service	Youth Sunday School	Downstairs Youth Room
Wednesday, Dec. 10	Advent Bible Study	10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 10	Chancel Choir	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11	Chapel Prayer Group	1:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12	Parent's Night Out	6:00-8:00 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 14	Worship Service	9:15 a.m.
	Featuring our Christmas Cantata	
GREETER	Larry & Sharon Barnard	
LECTOR	Sheila Morehart	
ACOLYTE	Levi Lander	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Joe Cardinale	
SHINE TEACHERS	Amy Brinser & Sheila Morehart	
VIDEO   SOUND	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson	
FLOWER DELIVERY	Darlene Waldron	

Our Organist/Pianist is Mrs. Joy Barto.

ST. ANDREW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

REVEREND BEN LANDER

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