NOVEMBER

St. Andrew's Signpost

2026

WITH GOD'S HELP, WE AT ST. ANDREW'S SHARE GOD'S WORD AND LOVE [illegible]NISTERING TO OUR LOCAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY AND EACH OTHER THROUGH PRAYER, LEARNING, W[illegible]P, AND ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:00 am Holy Eucharist	2 6:30am Morning AA 5:00pm AA Dist 23 Leadership Meeting 7:00pm Spanish AA	3 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	4 6:30am Morning AA 9:00am HDCA 7:00pm Spanish AA	5 6:30am Morning AA Noon Ladies AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	6 6:30am Morning AA	7 7:00am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA
8 10:00 am Holy Eucharist **After Service Annual Harvest Dinner**	9 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	10 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	11  6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	12 6:30am Morning AA Noon Ladies AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	13 6:30am Morning AA	14 7:00am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA
15 10:00 am Holy Eucharist	16 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	17 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	18 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	19 6:30am Morning AA Noon Ladies AA 2:00pm Bishop's Committee Meeting 7:00pm Spanish AA	20 6:30am Morning AA	21 7:00am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA
22 10:00 am Holy Eucharist	23 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	24 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	25 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA	26 	27 6:30am Morning AA	28 7:00am Morning AA 5:00pm Ladies AA Birthday Bash 7:00pm Spanish AA
29 10:00 am Holy Eucharist **Advent Bible Study Begins Today**	30 6:30am Morning AA 7:00pm Spanish AA					



"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Joel 2:12

November's Vagaries

November invites us into gratitude, but the lectionary gently reminds us that thanksgiving is more than a seasonal mood. It is a way of seeing the world, a way of remembering who we are, and above all, whose we are.
In Deuteronomy 8:7–18, Moses speaks to the people as they stand on the threshold of abundance. They are about to enter a good land, full of water, wheat, vines, and bread without scarcity. But Moses offers a warning: when life is full and comfortable, do not say, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." Instead, remember the Lord your God. Gratitude begins in remembrance. It is the refusal to confuse blessing with self-sufficiency.

Psalm 65 expands that memory into praise. "You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty." The psalm sees God's hand in rain, harvest, pasture, and grain. Creation itself becomes a hymn of thanksgiving. In a world often shaped by anxiety and scarcity, this psalm teaches us to notice grace all around us: in daily bread, in changing seasons, in quiet mercies we too easily overlook.

Then, in 2 Corinthians 9:6–15, St. Paul shifts thanksgiving from feeling to practice. Gratitude is not meant to stop in the heart; it overflows into generosity. "God loves a cheerful giver," Paul writes, not because God needs our gifts, but because generosity reflects the abundance we have first received from God. Thankfulness that never becomes compassion remains incomplete.

Finally, in Luke 17:11–19, ten lepers are healed, but only one returns to give thanks. Jesus notices both the healing and the absence: "Were not ten made clean?" The one who returns is doubly restored — not only healed in body, but drawn into relationship through gratitude. Thanksgiving, it seems, is not mere politeness. It is a return to the source of life.

So in this month of harvest tables and familiar prayers, perhaps the deeper invitation is this: to remember, to notice, to give, and to return. We give thanks not simply because life is perfect, but because God is faithful. And in that faithfulness, we are fed, healed, and sent out again with joyful hearts.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Based on the RCL readings for Thanksgiving Day. Drafted with AI editorial assistance.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

ADVENT IS COMING
.... and so is the Christmas Chaos!

Join us beginning November 29 for a fun and meaningful Advent Bible Study based on Dog in the Manger: Finding God in Christmas Chaos by Tim Schenck. Together we'll look for the holy moments in the hustle and bustle of the season.
Books are available by donation (suggested donation: $11).

For more information, contact Linda Cox.





Sing A New Song

2026 Prayer for the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane

O Holy One of steadfast love,
the fount of hope in whom we trust;
Draw near to us in our laments
and bind our broken-heartedness.

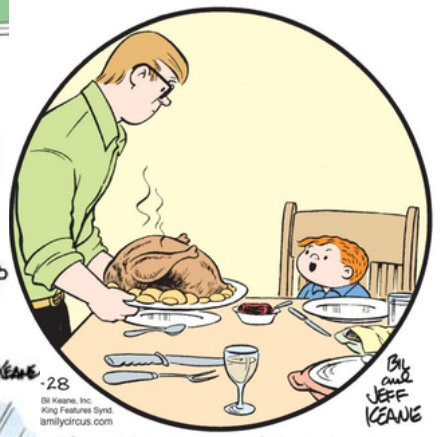
God, you alone our song and source,
sustainer of our every breath;
In every chorus teach your way:
do justice, mercy, humility.

Our melody we lift to you,
Creator of the sea sky;
Sing glory, laud, and praise utmost,
to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

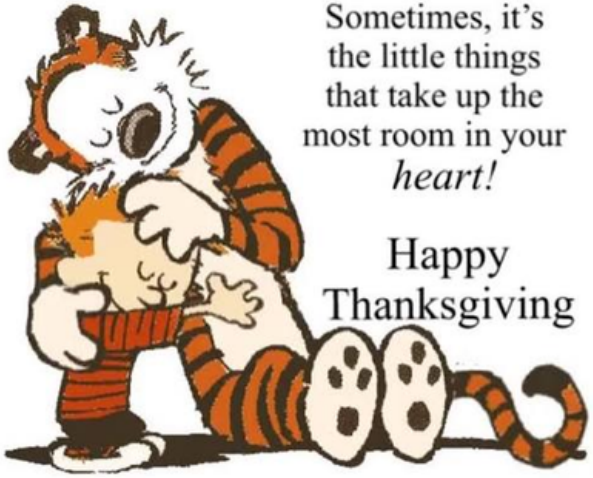


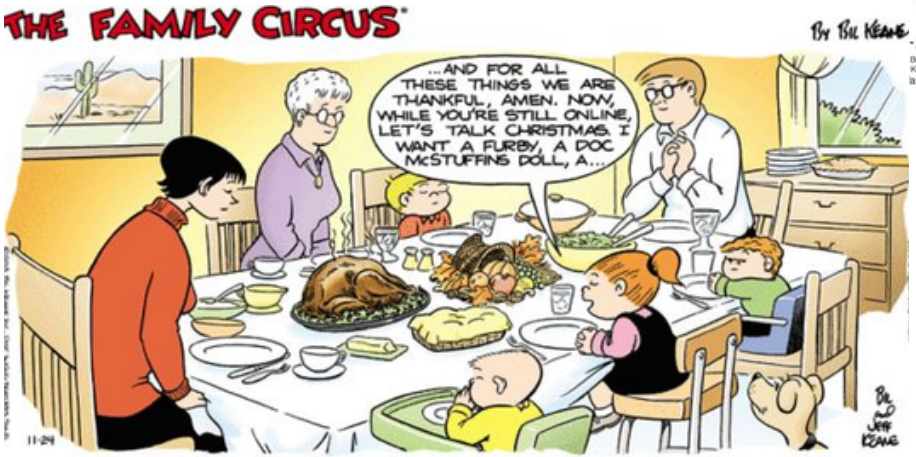






"Can I have one of the pieces that have a handle?"





St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Pledge for 2027

Your pledges help us to prepare a thoughtful and responsible budget for the coming year. They make possible the ongoing care of our church, the nurturing of our church family, and our outreach to neighbors through ministries like CVCH, TLC, and other vital programs.

In thanksgiving for God's infinite love, and in gratitude for all God has given to me, I/we pledge to return to God this portion of God's bountiful gifts.

To help St. Andrew's operate and carry out our mission in 2027, I/we pledge: $_____

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____

Signature _____

Please mail or deliver to the Church by:
December 3, 2026
Drop card in plate or mail to: PO Box 1226 Chelan, WA 98816

Stewardship
"God Can Do It: We Can Help"



In addition to giving through the offering plate or by mail, you can now give online.

Through Tithely, you may make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts. Donations can be directed toward pledges, regular offerings, special projects, or outreach ministries.

Giving online is simple, secure, and available anytime through our website or the Tithely app.

A Thoughtful Way to Support St. Andrew's

There are many ways to share in the life and ministry of our church. One way is through giving. Did you know a gift through your IRA may offer tax benefits? Turn the page to learn more!

A Tax-Smart Way to Support Our Ministry: Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

If you are **70½ or older**, you can direct tax-free gifts directly from your Traditional IRA to our church through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). By choosing a QCD for your annual pledge or donation, **the transfer counts toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) but completely excludes the amount from your taxable income**. This allows you to maximize your impact on our church's ministries while lowering your overall tax burden—even if you do not itemize your deductions. To get started, you can contact your IRA custodian to request a distribution check made out to the church. Alternatively, many IRA custodians now provide checkbooks for IRA accounts, allowing you to write a check directly to the church yourself. **Just ensure the check is written out explicitly to the church (not to yourself) so it preserves its tax-free QCD status.**

Thank you for your consideration
Treasurer—Krissa Bolton

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of SPOKANE

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 62nd Annual Diocesan Convention! It was a wonderful weekend of fellowship, worship, conversation, and discernment as we gathered around this year's theme, ***"Sing to the Lord a New Song."***

Throughout the weekend, we celebrated our shared ministry, engaged in meaningful conversations about the future of our diocese, and voted on resolutions, including a new resolution responding to Christian nationalism. We are grateful for everyone who contributed their time, voices, and gifts to make this gathering such a meaningful experience.

Want to revisit the weekend or catch up on what you missed? Visit our **Convention Recap** page for highlights, the Bishop's Address, and photos taken during Convention. You can also follow this link to view the 2026 **Actions of Conventions** document which contains the Resolution: Responding to Christian Nationalism.

Thank you for being part of the life and ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane. We look forward to all that God has in store for us as we continue to serve our communities together!

Blessings,
Tiffany Bade
Executive Assistant to The Bishop
Communications Director
The Episcopal Diocese of Spokane

Dear Friends,
The Bishop is pleased to announce the appointment of the Rt. Rev Silvestre Romero as the Diocesan Latino missioner and Assisting Bishop for Latino Ministry. Bishop Silvestre served in our diocese in the early 2000's and it is a pleasure to welcome him back! He will be joining us in a few months as he finishes his current position and moves here. Bishop Silvestre will be based in St Michael's in Yakima for this work.



Meet the Rt. Rev. Silvestre Romero!
I was born in 1968 in Guatemala to a Guatemalan mother and a Belizean father. I am the second of four children. Raised in the Episcopal Church in Guatemala, I was deeply shaped by my family's faith. My father, then a priest in the Episcopal Church, later became Bishop of Belize, Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of El Camino Real, and retired as Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of New Jersey. I earned a bachelor's degree in computer science in Guatemala before migrating to the United States with my family in 1986. We settled in San José, California, when my father received a scholarship to complete his Master of Divinity at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP).

I lived in San José for ten years, during which I discerned a call to ordained ministry while serving as a lay leader in a multicultural parish. This period began my deep connection to the Episcopal Church in the United States. From 1992 to 1996, I served as Communications Coordinator for the Intercultural Ministry Development (ICMD) of Province VIII. This role led to national-level service, including work as an interpreter at General Convention from 1994 to 2015. I coordinated interpretation services in 2012 and 2015 and was honored to serve as Chaplain to the House of Deputies in 2006—the first Latino Chaplain known to hold this role. I studied at the School for Deacons in the Diocese of California, in a program developed to address the educational and formational needs of Latino/Hispanic leaders. Ordained to the Diaconate in 1996 and Priesthood in 1997.

I have been elected and served as a clergy deputy to General Convention (2006 and 2009), and in 2009, was elected to the Executive Council from the House of Deputies, serving a full term through 2015. I served as Vice Chair of the Standing Commission on Domestic Mission and Evangelism and on the Standing Commission on Small Congregations. Additionally, I was a member of the Council of Advice to the National Hispanic Missioner under the Rev. Daniel Caballero.

In the Episcopal Church USA, I have served in the dioceses of Spokane (as Hispanic Missioner), El Camino Real (as Rector of St. Philip's, San José), and Massachusetts (as Priest-in-Charge and later Rector of St. Peter–San Pedro in Salem). I have also served in the Anglican Diocese of Belize as Priest-in-Charge of three missions and as Dean of the Southern Region.

In May 2017, I was elected Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Guatemala and consecrated that November. I served as diocesan bishop until September 30, 2023. Since then, I have served as Assisting Bishop and Missioner for Hispanic/Latino Ministry in the Diocese of Western Kansas and now serve as Rector of Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

I am married to Thelma, and we have three children: Merlin (46), Jonathan (36), and Christopher (30). We are blessed with nine grandchildren, ranging in age from 26 years to 8 months.

My life and ministry have been shaped by a deep love for multicultural ministry and decades-long commitment to the Episcopal Church in the United States, its mission, and its future.



Dear Friends in Christ:

We are pleased to offer this Cycle of Prayer resource for members of the military, their families, and chaplains serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, Veterans Affairs medical centers, and federal prisons. It is prepared for use throughout the wider Episcopal Church as a way to hold these groups in prayer.

Each week of the year, this cycle lifts up specific chaplains, installations, and ministries across the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries. It is a tangible way for congregations, dioceses, and individuals to remain connected to the vital work of pastoral care in these unique contexts. Whether in times of peace or conflict, our chaplains serve as faithful witnesses to the Gospel, often in places of great challenge and need.

We invite you to incorporate this cycle into your parish intercessions, diocesan communications, and personal devotions. By doing so, you join a community of prayer that spans the globe and strengthens the bonds of love and support across our church.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonia
Bishop Suffragan for Armed Forces and Federal Ministries
The Episcopal Church

Week of November 1
In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, and for those serving in Connecticut at Naval Submarine Base New London, Bradley Air National Guard Base, Camp Niantic, Coast Guard Station New Haven, Federal Correctional Institution Danbury, and the VA Connecticut Healthcare System.

Week of November 8
In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, all our Marine Corps service members on their 251st birthday, and those serving in Delaware at Dover Air Force Base, New Castle Air National Guard Base, Bethany Beach Training Site, Coast Guard Station Indian River, and the Wilmington VA Medical Center.

Week of November 15
In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, Bishop Justin Holcomb, the work of forming military chaplains from other denominations for Episcopal priesthood, and those serving in Florida at the Federal Correctional Institution Miami, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, MacDill Air Force Base, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, and the Orlando VA Medical Center.

Week of November 22
In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, and for those serving in Georgia at Fort Benning, Robins Air Force Base, United States Penitentiary Atlanta, and the Atlanta VA Medical Center.

Week of November 29
In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, and for those serving in the District of Columbia at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Marine Barracks Washington, Washington Navy Yard, the Pentagon, and the DC VA Medical Center.

Remembering the “Thanks” in Thanksgiving

By the time Thanksgiving arrives, many of us are juggling grocery lists, travel plans, houseguests, and at least one family recipe that somehow requires three bowls, two casseroles, and a leap of faith. It is a lovely holiday, but not always a calm one. Somewhere between setting the table and wondering if there is enough gravy, it is easy to lose sight of the “thanks” in Thanksgiving.

And yet that is really the heart of the day.

Thanksgiving gives us a chance to pause and remember just how much God has given us. Some gifts are easy to name: food on the table, people we love, laughter shared, roofs over our heads, work to do, and rest at the end of the day. Other gifts are quieter: strength we did not know we had, comfort in a difficult season, forgiveness after failure, and the steady reassurance that God has not let go of us.

When we stop and look back, most of us can see signs of God’s goodness scattered all through our lives. There have been prayers answered — though perhaps not always on our preferred timetable. There have been burdens carried, doors opened, and moments of joy that arrived just when they were needed. Even in hard times, God has been present.

That is why thanksgiving is more than good manners directed heavenward. It is our response to grace. We give thanks because God has been faithful. We give thanks because we have received far more than we could ever earn. And when we remember that, something in us begins to soften.

Gratitude also has a way of changing how we live. It makes us a little more generous, a little more patient, and sometimes even a little less dramatic when the pie crust cracks or the seating chart gets complicated. A thankful heart begins to notice who else might need a place at the table, a word of encouragement, or a helping hand. The gifts of God are not meant only to be admired; they are meant to be shared.

So this Thanksgiving, along with the turkey, stuffing, and possibly spirited discussions about cranberry sauce, may we make room for gratitude. May we remember what God has done for us, give thanks for what God has blessed us with, and offer our own lives in return — in love, in generosity, and in joy.

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for your countless blessings, for your faithfulness in every season, and for filling our hearts with gratitude that overflows in love and generosity toward others.



Newsletter

2026

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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