

St. Peter's Anglican Church
Loveland, CO

HOLY EUCHARIST
4th Sunday in Advent

WELCOME
IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST



December 21, 2025

Prelude

Processional: Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God, in flesh arrayed,
The Saviour, now to us displayed.

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds,
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all
desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy
Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Deacon/Priest: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and
with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first
and great commandment. And the second is like it: You
shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two
commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

- Matthew 22:37-40

The Kyrie

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Collect for the Day

Celebrant: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great
might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered
by our sins from running the race that is set before us,
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.**

(The people may sit.)

The First Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-17

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: 11 “Ask a sign of the
Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as
heaven.” 12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will
not put the Lord to the test.” 13 And he said, “Hear
then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary
men, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the
Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin
shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name
Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey when he
knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16
For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and
choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread
will be deserted. 17 The Lord will bring upon you and
upon your people and upon your father's house such
days as have not come since the day that Ephraim
departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 24

Domini est terra

- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is **in** it, *
the compass of the world and those / who dwell **there-in**.
- 2 For he has founded it upon the **seas** *
and established it upon the / riv-ers **of** the deep.
- 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the **Lord**? *
Or who shall stand in / his ho-ly place?
- 4 He who has clean hands and a pure **heart**, *
and who has not set his mind upon vanity, nor sworn
to de-/ceive his **neigh-bor**.
- 5 He shall receive blessing from the **Lord** *
and righteousness from the God of / his sal-va-tion.
- 6 This is the generation of those who seek **him**, *
even of those who seek your face, O / God of **Ja-cob**.
7 Lift up your heads, O you gates, and be lifted up,
you everlasting **doors**; *
and the King of glo-ry shall **come** in.
- 8 "Who is the King of **glo-ry**?" *
"It is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord,
migh-ty in **bat-tle**."
- 9 Lift up your heads, O you gates, and be lifted up,
you everlasting **doors**; *
and the King of glo-ry shall **come** in.
- 10 "Who is the King of **glo-ry**?" *
"The Lord of hosts, he is the / King of **glo-ry**."

*All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And / to the Ho-ly Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for-/ever A-men.*

The Second Lesson: Romans 1:1-7

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, 6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, 7 To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

Wait For The Lord

Chorus:

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

Cantors: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

All the earth will see the Lord.

(Chorus)

Cantors: I waited for the Lord.

God heard my cry.

(Chorus)

Deacon or Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Wait For The Lord

Chorus:

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

Cantors: Prepare the way for the Lord.

Make a straight path for God.

Prepare the way for the Lord.

(Chorus)

Cantors: O Lord, show us your way.

Guide us in your truth.

(Chorus)

The Sermon

Deacon or Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please kneel, stand, or sit as you are able.)

Prayers of the People

Deacon or Priest: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

Intercessor: For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God. O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace; Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that as there is but one Body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For our Archbishop, for our Bishops, for our Rector, Father Matt Rucker, and for our assisting clergy: Father Bill Easterling, and Deacon Larry Doyle. We pray also for our Seminarian, Joel, and for those in formation and discernment, Seth and Anthony.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service, especially our President, Donald, and our Governor, Jared. Give them a discerning heart and a wise mind to lead and serve as God desires.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

(Please offer your prayers, either out loud or silently.)

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

(Additional petitions may be made during this moment of silence.)

*Deacon or Priest: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

Deacon or Priest: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

*Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *I Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. *I John 2:1-2*

(Please stand as you are able.)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And with your spirit.

The Offering

“Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God”.

Ephesians 5:2

(Please stand as you are able.)

*The children will sing two times through each song.
Please join the children the third time through the songs.*

Offertory: Within Our Darkest Night

Within our darkest night
You kindle the fire that never dies away
Never dies away

Prepare The Way

Prepare the way of the Lord
Prepare the way of the Lord
And all people will see the
Salvation of our God

The Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

(Proper Preface) Because you 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 glory 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:

The Sanctus

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.*

(The people may kneel, stand, or sit.)

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation.

By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet.

As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

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

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 forever. *Amen.*

Celebrant: 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, forever and ever. *Amen.***

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able.)

Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this your table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not
worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under
your table; but you are the same Lord whose
character is always to have mercy. Grant us,
therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your
dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that
our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious
blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and
he in us. *Amen.*

Agnus Dei

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

Celebrant: 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 by faith, with thanksgiving.

(You may kneel, stand, or sit during Communion.)

Communion Hymns

Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer, of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that an ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
You came, O Savior, to set free
Your own in glorious liberty.

When this old world drew on toward night,
You came; but not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch, but the child
Of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At your great Name, O Jesus, now
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things on earth with one accord,
Like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

Come in your holy might, we pray,
Redeem us for eternal day;
Defend us while we dwell below
From all assaults of our dread foe.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally.

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came – H #56

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

“For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.”
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say—
“Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers - H #16

Rejoice, rejoice, believers!
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising,
And soon he will draw nigh:
Up, watch in expectation!
At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning;
Replenish them with oil;
Look now for your salvation,
The end of sin and toil.
The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go meet him, as he cometh,
With alleluias clear.

O wise and holy virgins,
Now raise your voices higher,
Until in songs of triumph
Ye meet the angel choir.
The marriage feast is waiting,
The gates wide open stand;
Raise up, ye heirs of glory!
The Bridegroom is at hand.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, thou Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption,
And ever be with thee.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The Blessing

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Recessional: Lo He Comes With Clouds Descending H #4

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
Once for our salvation slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold him,
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him,
Pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, with what rapture,
With what rapture, gaze we on those
glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory;
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

The Dismissal

Deacon or Priest: Alleluia, alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Announcements for This Week – December 21, 2025

Volunteers Needed for Livestream Team

We're looking for a few individuals who would like to help with our church's sound & livestream. No prior experience is needed (but you do need a smartphone)—training will be provided! If you're interested in serving or want to learn more, please contact Adam DeLorme after service or at 970.290.7042

Christmas Gift Collection for Clergy & Staff

We are collecting monetary gifts for our clergy and staff this Christmas season. You'll find a special envelope in your Sunday bulletin, and we wanted to make sure you knew what it was for!

If you feel led to contribute, please place your gift in the provided envelope or bring it to the church office. Thank you for helping us bless those who serve our parish so faithfully.

Slammin' Famine Is Coming Soon! February 14, 2026, from 12 noon - 2 p.m.!

St. Peter's Anglican is again planning to be "Slammin Famine" at the Ranch Events Center in Loveland in February! Slammin' Famine has set their Loveland Packing event for the weekend of February 13-15, 2026. We have submitted our application as a sponsor group and have been scheduled for Saturday, February 14! Our shift will be from 12 noon until 2 p.m. We have asked for 20 spaces for St. Peter's. The shift includes a brief orientation, packing meal packages with ingredients that have staved off starvation for millions worldwide (Including Disaster Areas in the U.S.!), and a quick clean-up for the next shift after us. Most importantly each shift has the opportunity to offer prayers for the efforts of this congregation, organization, and all who have a hand making sure the meals reach those in need.

Kathy Porter will head up taking reservations for volunteers. She can be reached at 970-217-3331 or leadmaremom@yahoo.com.

Greening of the Church

Following the 9:30 Eucharist on December 21, we will decorate the church for the season of Christmas. All are welcome to help in this tradition of "greening" the church.

Christmas Service Schedule

4pm: Sung Eucharist (Christmas Eve)

8pm: Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist (Christmas Eve)

9:30am: Christmas Day service

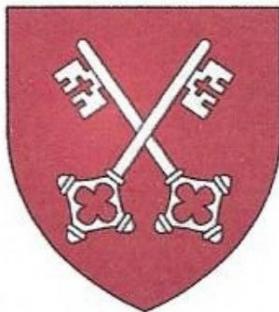
2026 Calendars Available

The 2026 ACNA Church Year Guide is available for sale in the Narthex for \$3.00/each.

EVERY WEEK:

Wednesday Bible Study – Bible Study at St. Peter's at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays

Thursday Bible Study – Bible Study over *ZOOM* at 7:00 AM on Thursdays



St. Peter's Anglican Church

4044 Duffield Avenue, Loveland, CO 80538
Phone 970.292.8595 Website stpetersloveland.org

SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship: 8 AM Spoken Eucharist

Sunday Worship: 9:30 AM Sung Eucharist



CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Matt Rucker, Rector

The Rev. William Easterling, Assisting Priest

Emily Maeda, Music Minister

Beth Boddie, Administrative Assistant

VESTRY

Mary Anne Paul, Senior Warden

Denny Llewellyn, Junior Warden

Mike Cooper, Treasurer

Doug Hutchinson, Secretary

Lander Hultin

Leslie Erickson

Rachel Kleber

Will McKamie

Phil Fisher

Barbara Cooper

Andrew Forrester