



The mission of St. Andrews is to proclaim and live the good news of Jesus Christ, for the rescue and transformation of God's People, so that the city of Columbus might glorify and enjoy God, in all of life.

Worshiping God Together

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

—— Gathering in God's Presence ——

Prelude

(Please take a moment and quietly prepare your heart for worship.)

To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and long for comfort, to all who fail and desire strength, to all who sin and need a Savior: this church opens wide her doors with a welcome from Jesus, the friend of sinners.

Reading of Preparation

It was not suddenly and unannounced that Jesus came into the world. He came into a world that had been prepared for Him. The whole Old Testament is the story of a special preparation...Only when all was ready, only in the fullness of His time, did Jesus come. - Phillips Brooks

An Advent Prayer of Preparation:

God who is very near, you never insist we show our spiritual fortitude, tenacity or strength - by going on epic journeys to find you; we're never asked to accomplish heroic feats to prove our worthiness to come to you. You've given us no ladder to climb up to your heavenly heights, *because you came near to us*. Help us grasp the life you offer in the One who came down from heaven for us and for our salvation. Amen.

Call to Worship: from Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

—— Offering God Our Praises ——

Songs of Ascent

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

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 heav'nly 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 pow'rs 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!"

Greeting

To those who are *called, beloved* in God the Father and *kept* for Jesus Christ: May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of Invocation

God of grace, You have given us *minds* to know You, *hearts* to love You, and *voices* to sing Your praise. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we may *celebrate Your glory*, and *worship* You in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?
(*Refrain*)

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
(*Refrain*)

Confession of Faith- taken from The Westminster Larger Catechism

Q 36: Who is the mediator of the covenant of grace?

The only mediator of the covenant of grace is the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the eternal Son of God, of one substance and equal with the Father.

In the fullness of time he became human, and so he was and continues to be God and man, in two complete and distinct natures, but one person, forever.

Q. 38: Why did the mediator have to be God?

The mediator had to be God so that he might sustain and keep his human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God and the power of death; that he might make his suffering, obedience, and intercession of real value and effect; and that, in order to satisfy God's justice, he might gain God's favor, purchase his very own people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.

Q. 39: Why did the mediator have to be human?

The mediator had to be human so that he might improve human nature, obey the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our own nature, and know first hand what human infirmities feel like; and so that we might be adopted as sons and have comfort and access with boldness to the throne of grace.

Corporate Prayers of Confession:

God of our salvation, in Christ You have done great things for us, and our hearts are *filled with joy*. By Your power You lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us, *with joy*, into Your kingdom.

We confess that often we try to *replace* Your gift of salvation with our own efforts. We try to *complete* what is already perfect; we try to *add to* what is already full; we try to *earn* what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness and short-sightedness. Help us to focus on Your grace, that You freely pour out on us every day.

Father, hear us now as we offer our silent, individual prayers of confession.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardoning Grace: The Prophet's Candle - The Wallace Family

Why do we light the Advent candles?

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life."

What is the meaning of the first lighted candle?

The first lighted candle is a reminder of the Light of Hope of the prophets and Jesus as fulfillment.

The prophet Isaiah says,

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."

What else does the Bible say about this light?

Paul says in the book of Timothy, "The appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen."

As the Apostle John prophesies about the future glorious hope of the Christian, he says: "I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb."

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Song of Celebration

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Offering and Special Music

(At this time, the school aged K4 and Kindergarten children are invited to meet their leaders at the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church. If it is your child's first time, please accompany him/her to class)

—— Hearing and Responding to God's Word ——

Scripture Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Sermon — Wes Simmons, Senior Pastor

Notes:

—— Being Sent Out into God's World ——

Song of Dismissal

Away in a Manger

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Benediction: Romans 15:13

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.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

Go in His Peace!

Poinsettias 2025

“In Memorial or Honor Of”

Chris & Jennifer Schoonover	Mr. Donald Eckardt Mr. Spence Sealy
Mathes & Caitlin Ballard	James Ewing Ballard, Jr.
A.J. & Jolyn Morris	Vernon & Jacquelyn Dillard
Matthew & Aileen Phelps	Emmerson & Edith Phelps
John & Margie Mitchell	C. Lea Hoopes Bruce L. Hoopes Erma J. Hoopes Mary Belle M. Mitchell H. Petrie Mitchell Matthew B. Mitchell
Ryan & Ashley Foster	Dennis Whitford
Andy & Ruth Dickens	William Dickens Patricia Levine
Chris & Betty Schuster	David Neel Betty Neel Marvin Schuster
Clark & Pilar Cobb	Howell Cobb Rachel & Jim Skalitzky Don Avery
Harry & Lydia Westcott	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Westcott Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Sawyer

Poinsettias 2025

“In Memorial or Honor Of”

Scott & Sharon Moore	Mack Moore Children: Callahan, Daniel, Ashleigh, Michael, Chase, Autumn
Mike Willett	Jim & Lotte Willett
Tim & Judy Dodds	Robert J Dodds Marilyn Landon

— Announcements —

Bible and Life

Bible and Life is over for the Fall Semester and will resume **January 11, 2026**.

Women's Ministry

Early Morning Bible Study

Join us for an early morning Bible Study on Thursdays!

Women's Prayer Ministry

The Women's Prayer Ministry is on a break and will resume meeting Mondays at 9:30am starting **January 12, 2026**.

Women's Fall Bible Study

Women's Tuesday morning Bible Study will resume on **January 13, 2026**.

Women's Retreat 2026

Ladies, please mark your calendar for **March 20-22, 2026** for our retreat! This year we will be staying in the Chalets in Pine Mountain. Registration opens in December, so make plans now to attend!

Children's Ministry

Rooted

Rooted is over for the Fall Semester and will resume in **January 2026!**

Men's Ministry

Men's Bible Study

Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study is on a break until **January 2026**.

Child Safety Class

If you missed the first training, class there will be a Makeup Session Sunday, **Dec 14** at 9:30 in the Adult Bible & Life classroom. This training is for anyone working during children's events for our Nursery, Children and Youth programs.

— Advent Announcements —

Children's Ministry

Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant is coming up on **Dec 14 at 5:30!**

Mark your calendars for rehearsals on Thurs **Dec 4** at 4:30 and Wed **Dec 10** at 4:30! Costumes will be handed out depending on the role that your child has and will be done 30 min before and after the rehearsals. Look for an email with all the details!

If you would like to bring some finger foods for our reception after the pageant or be a pageant volunteer, please sign up on the app!

Advent Reading Plan

Don't forget to pick up your child's Advent Reading Plan from the Narthex. Once your child has completed it they will turn it in to Mrs. Marie and pick a prize from the treasure bucket!

Women's Event

Ladies, join us **Dec 12** from 7-9:00pm at Betty Schuster's house for a fun night of cookies and Christmas movies! Bring a tray of cookies to enjoy and swap. Address and more info is on the App!

Christmas Eve

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday **Dec 24** at 4:30pm

Christmas Dinner

Make plans to join us for one of St. Andrews' most beloved traditions: Christmas Dinner! Christmas Dinner will be Sunday, **Dec 7**. Nursery is provided, and our Youth are doing a fundraiser if you need childcare for school-aged children. Please use the link below or sign-up on the App. Registration deadline is **today**.

Youth Ministry

Youth Group meets weekly at the Moseley House Sundays from 5:30-7:30pm and is open to all students 6th grade to 12th grade. Please contact Vijay Rawal at vijay@standrewscolumbus.org if you have any questions.

Nov 30 —No Youth Group

Dec 7—Babysitting Fundraiser for Christmas Dinner@ Moseley House

Children's Church Volunteers

Nov 30—Kelly Phillips, Amy Rhodes., Klein Adams, Clara Adams

Dec 7—Katherine Fahling, Claire Sproul, Josie Blake, Tony Blake

Dec 14—Sara Barkhouse, Kaity Stewart, Leah Rodeheaver,
Abigail Rodeheaver, Rebekah Rodeheaver

Small Groups

Interested in joining a small group? Do you have questions about small groups? Contact Wayne Logan at (606) 521-9470 or wayne@standrewscolumbus.org.

Church Family Needs & Weekly Prayers

Expectant Mothers—Katherine Fahling, Sydney Alexander,
Kathleen Whitley

St. Andrews Missionaries—Pioneers

St. Andrews Ministries—Session

Please pray for service members and families from our church family who are deployed or moving to new duty stations in the coming days and weeks.

Please pray for those in our church family who are currently facing illnesses or other hardships:

Susan Clickner — Addie Jackson — Georgette Milner

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request or would appreciate a meal, and are not in a small group, please email sapc.womensministry@gmail.com

To Visitors and Parents with babies and young children:

At St. Andrews, we are a covenant family & covenant community. We welcome children as worshippers in the Lord's sanctuary alongside their parents. We know children wiggle and make noise sometimes. To maintain a worshipful atmosphere without distracting others, we have the following options available by age:

- Nursery is available for children ages 0-K3. There is a sign-in computer in the hallway. Juli Pope is our Nursery Coordinator if you need any assistance – 706-442-5854
- A nursing mother's room is available around the corner from the Narthex for nursing and fussy babies. In addition, a TV is available in the Narthex with a live stream of the worship service, in case you need to step out with your child, for a few minutes.
- Children ages K4-K5 are dismissed for Children's Church after the Offertory. Marie Baum is our Director of Children's Ministry if you have any questions – children@standrewscolumbus.org
- A children's bulletin and crayons are available for all children in the Narthex.
- We encourage children to stand when appropriate and participate in worship as much as possible!

To the members of our congregation:

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our children and encourage their parents!

Missionaries and Ministries Supported by St. Andrews

Clement Arts (Carmen Overton)

Eden's Hope (Haley Reed)

International Friendship Ministries (Ron Collins)

Marannook (Taylor Teel)

MercyMed of Columbus (Billy Holbrook)

Mission to North America (MNA) Chaplain Ministries (Michael Stewart)

Mission to the World (MTW)

Pete Mitchell (France)

David & Erin Pervis (Greece)

Frank Harrell (Japan)

Doni & Albina Mehmeti (Kosovo)

18.26 Network Anna McLendon (Japan)

Pioneers

Nazmi & Albana Berisha, Caleb & Leah Carr, Tom & Iris Lowder

Reformed Evangelical Fellowship — Gary & Tammy Elliott (Bulgaria)

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)

University of Georgia (Ben Coppedge)

Auburn University (Tanner Crum)

Auburn University RUF International (Mike Alsup)

Mercer University (Marlin Harris & Andrew Burckhalter)

Columbus State University (Tim Grider, Kenyatta Ward)

Kent State University (Cordelia Wilson)

Georgia Southern University (Nathanael Miller)

Seneca Pregnancy Clinic (Amber Snipes)

Sound Choices Pregnancy Clinic (Melissa Howard)

Teen Challenge Columbus Women's Home (Samantha White)

Teen Challenge Global (Claude Mooneyhan)

Trail Life (Fred Parks)

Truth Spring Academy (Rob & Carrie Strickland)

Valley Rescue Mission (Mike Gaymon)

Young Life Greater Columbus, GA (Lauren Johnson)

Announcements

If you would like an announcement in the bulletin of a personal nature: Expectant mother, birth of a baby, the passing of a St. Andrews family member, illness or hardship, please notify the office at office@standrewscolumbus.com. We would like to recognize all of these important events, however want to respect the privacy of our congregants as well. When you email the office you will be giving permission to put this information in the bulletin.

St. Andrews Staff and Leadership

Senior Pastor—Wes Simmons

Assistant Pastor —Jeff Barkhouse

Director of Children's Ministry—Marie Baum

Youth Director—Vijay Rawal

Director of Christian Education—Wayne Logan

Music & Worship Coordinator—Bob Ross

Nursery Coordinator—Juli Pope

Church Administrator—Amelia Estes

Office Administrator—Jennifer Schoonover

Office Hours—Monday– Thursday 9:00am—3:00pm

And by appointment

The office can be reached at office@standrewscolumbus.org

Elders of St. Andrews

Steve Adams
Mathes Ballard
Bill Brouwer
Rich Dahlin
Phil Engstrom

Daniel Hord
Warner Kennon Sr.
Bobby McGowan
Nathan Rodeheaver
Drew Rhodes

The Elders can be reached at elders@standrewscolumbus.org

Deacons of St. Andrews

Blake Corcoran
Matt Edmonson
Tommy Etchechury
Brett Horne
Warner Kennon, Jr.
Joey Nichols

Matt Phelps
John Simpson
Zach Stewart
Ben Wallace
Leroy Ward
Allen Whitley

The Deacons can be reached at deacons@standrewscolumbus.org

WELCOME VISITORS

*Please scan the QR code below to fill out our connect card!
Or, you can fill out the paper form below and add it to the offering plate.*



We are glad that you are here with us today!

We would like to send you a welcome email or letter. Don't worry, we will not add you to our email list without your permission.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Date that you visited: _____

Feel free to list anyone that came with you, ages or grades included.

We would enjoy the opportunity to pray with you and for you.

If you would like, please share any requests or needs you may have.

Thanks for visiting with us today.

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