

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Pastor, Rev. Dr. Darryl Goldman

Elder Stu Strong, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist/Organist

Prelude "Mary, Did You Know?" Dr. Gilbreath

Chiming of the Hour

Pastor's Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: The time of waiting and watching is here! Are you ready?

People: We are waiting for the Lord of peace to open our hearts.

Leader: The Lord of Peace comes to you this day to free you from your sins.

People: We are ready to receive the precious blessings of God.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who loves us dearly.

People: Let us praise God for God's blessings in our lives. AMEN.

Prayer of Adoration

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Hope

Barb Mouton & Addi

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #82
Please pass your prayer cards to the aisle for pickup.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

It's starting already, Lord. It is only the first Sunday in Advent, and we are caught up in the pressures and stresses of the holiday season. Pursued by the temptation to spend our funds, our energy, our spirits, we feel that there is no peace or rest in the world. Lord of light and peace, shine on us this day. Forgive us when we have so easily succumbed to the anxieties and fears and temptations of the season. Slow us down. Calm our spirits. Give us an awareness that this is the season of waiting and of preparation. Pour peace into our lives and help us to be bearers of peace to others. For we ask this in Jesus' precious name. AMEN. (We offer our own silent confessions . . .)

Hymn "Wait for the Lord" #90

Declaration of Forgiveness.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God.

The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you. (Please share the peace of Christ with those near you.)

*Gloria Patri #581

Anthem "A Shoot Shall Come Forth" Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 64:1-9 Elder Stu Strong

Scripture Reading Mark 13:24-37 Rev. Goldman

Message "Stay Awake!" Rev. Goldman

Offertory "Gesu Bambino" Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology

*Prayer

*Communion Hymn "Come, Behold! The Feast of Heaven" #511

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise . . . with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Hymn 106: Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet one who comes in glory foretold in sacred story. O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, . . .our lives proclaim the One crucified and risen.

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us . . .send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. We remember those who need our prayers today to include . . .

O God, today you have called us together to be the Church . . .Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

People: Amen

Leader: As Christ our savior taught us, we are bold to pray, “Our Father who art in heaven . . .”

Breaking of the Bread

Prayer after Communion

People: Amen

*Hymn “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” #107

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Dr. Gilbreath

*All that are able are invited to stand.

Bold and Italic type indicates our shared response.

Hymns are from the Glory to God hymnal.

To Our Visitors & Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today! We invite you to consider membership in St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. The pastor and elders will be available following the service to answer any questions you may have. If you are a first time visitor, we would like to take you to lunch, so don't run out on us. ***There is a place for you here. We are delighted to have you with us today!***

Join us this Wednesday:

6:00 pm Potluck Supper

6:30 pm Classes and Children's Choir

7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal

Scripture: Stu Strong - Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Scripture: Pastor Goldman - Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you

know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

“Prepare the Way, O Zion” Hymn 106

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet one who comes in glory foretold in sacred story.
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.