

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Dr. Gilbreath

We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome

Call to Worship:

One: Christ calls us to worship:

All: to rest from our troubles;

One: to learn from God's teachings;

All: to carry the light of Christ into the world;

One: and to share God's love with others.

All: Let us worship God!

*Hymn

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

#393

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, in your presence we confess our failures. We are not what you created us to be. You know how often we have fallen short and wandered from your ways. We have squandered your gifts and have veered away from your direction. By your mercy help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen. (Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response

“What Child Is This” v.1

#145

Assurance of Pardon:

One: We can know and believe that God will hear and accept our earnest confessions.

All: Praise to God-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for this wonderful gift of forgiveness!

*Passing of the Peace

*Gloria Patri

#581

Prayer for Illumination

We Listen for God's Word

Meditation: “Carry the Light”

John 1:1-9

Hymn #666

“O Splendor of God's Glory Bright”

Matthew 5:11-16

Hymn #192

“Shine Jesus Shine”

1John 1:1-7

Hymn #377

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

John 12:34-36

Hymn #749

“Come! Live in the Light”

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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.

Prayers of the People

Call for the Offering

Offertory

“For Unto Us a Child Is Born”

Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent into the World

*Hymn "Arise, Your Light Is Come" #744

*Benediction

Postlude "Come On, Ring Those Bells" Dr. Gilbreath

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

Calendar of Events:

*The church office will be closed from Monday, December 30 - January 1, 2025.

Thurs., Jan 2 1:00 pm Caring Hands

Mon., Jan 6 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM remove Christmas decorations

Tues., Jan 7 10:00 AM Presbyterian Women's Meeting in the Fellowship Hall Lesson: "Air Quality" Leader: B.J. Breeding

To Our Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of our congregation. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship, by email or phone. There is a place for you here.

Children's activity bags are available from an usher for the sermon time. Please leave the bag in the pew as you leave.

A nursery is provided for children 3 years of age and under.

Live Streams and recordings of each week's worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at www.standrewdecatour.org



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John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Matthew 5:11-16

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

1 John 1:1-7

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

John 12:34-36

The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.