

# St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Elder B.J. Breeding, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude

"God With Us"

## We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome

\*Call to Worship:

One: A tree stump left to rot puts forth new shoots.

**All: Could it be that heaven is near at hand?**

One: A wolf slinks toward sheep and joins their fold.

**All: Could it be that heaven is near at hand?**

One: A child plays while serpents slumber.

**All: Could it be that heaven is near at hand?**

One: A prophet cries out from the wild places:

**All: Prepare the way! For heaven is near at hand.**

\*Hymn

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

#104

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we struggle to believe in your incarnation. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.**

*(Silent Confession)*

\*Hymn of Response

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" v.3

#132

Assurance of Pardon:

One: Christ comes into our world and into our lives to purify us and give us another chance. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: We rejoice in the hope Christ offers us! Thanks be to God!**

Advent Candle of Peace

Jim & Maurine Travis

\*Congregational Response

"While We Are Waiting, Come" v.2

#92

## We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

\*Hymn

"Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice"

#163

Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon

"Not All Actions Are Created Equal"

## We Respond to God's Word

Call for the Offering

*(The offering plate is not passed, but is located on a stand outside the sanctuary doors.)*

Offertory

"Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming"

\*Doxology

#606

\*Prayer of Dedication

Communion Anthem

"Come and Dine"

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is right and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you...

One: Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

One: Holy are you and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son, for he is Immanuel, God with us.

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.***

Rev. Brogdon continues.

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer After Communion

***God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the justice, righteousness, and peace of your promised new creation.***

***Strengthen us with this heavenly food as we seek to serve your holy realm.***

***Lead us to live in joyful expectation of the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

<b>We Are Sent Into the World</b>
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\*Hymn "Prepare The Way, O Zion" #106

\*Benediction

Postlude "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

***Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.***

**Calendar:**

Mon., Dec. 8	HAD Lunch 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Chat "N" Chew
Wed., Dec. 10	4:30 PM Choir 5:30 PM CONNECT w/ Clothe Our Kids
Mon., Dec. 15	11:30 AM-12:30PM Chat "N" Chew

**Guests**

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you 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.

Live Streams and recordings of each week's worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at [www.standrewdecat.org](http://www.standrewdecat.org)

### Scripture Reading, B.J. Breeding: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."