



This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Welcome to St. Andrew's Weekly E-mail Newsletter. In an effort to keep the congregation better informed we will be sending out this newsletter on Thursdays to cover events happening at the church through the following Wednesday. We hope you find it useful.



The Mission of St. Andrew's Parish is to worship God, grow in discipleship, and share Christ's love.
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2018

2 Advent **December 7, 2025**

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Altar Guild: Ruth Piper
Eucharistic Minister: Malcolm Foster
Lectors: Rita McKinney & Allen Guignard
Ushers: Rita McKinney & Allen Guignard
Vestry Announcer: Rita McKinney

The worship booklet for the 8am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#)

10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Organist: Sean Fleming
Choir Director: Linda Blanchard
Altar Guild: Maryanne Ward
Eucharistic Minister: Christine Benken
Lectors: John Ward & Martha Dodge
Livestream Operator: Bill Judd
Ushers: Ed Ross & Martha Dodge
Vestry Announcer: Bob Lundeen

The worship booklet for the 10am Sunday service is available by clicking [here](#)

You may also watch this service on St. Andrew's YouTube channel. (Live or recorded)

First Sunday Outreach Recipient for December: Trinity Jubilee Center

The plate cash at both services this Sunday will be donated to Trinity Jubilee Center in Lewiston. Trinity's programs help people overcome hunger and homelessness by providing hot meals, healthy groceries, diapers, and shelter. You may also make a check out to Trinity Jubilee Center and place it in

Stewardship Message

The vestry and stewardship committee are deeply grateful for the pledges that have come in so far. We have received 63 pledges for a total of \$220,165. While we have made good progress towards the goal we need for our 2026 budget, we still have a way to go. Last year's results of 89 pledges and \$260,000 set the standard. Let's do all we can to accomplish this goal. If you haven't yet, please consider pledging to St. Andrew's Church. There are pledge cards available on the usher's table in the back of the church, or you may email the office (stasnew@tidewater.net) to have a card sent to you. Many, many thanks.

Slow Gifting Returns this season

Earth Keepers' Slow Gifting event last holiday season was a success and everyone seemed to enjoy it so the group is doing it again this year. On Sundays Dec. 7 and 14, clothes and household items will be displayed in the undercroft for folks to take home for free or give as gifts. It is a way of recycling things in good condition, or never used, that you would like to find another home for. Containers will be in the atrium for items to be dropped off before December 7. The Good Samaritans will be holding a bake sale in conjunction with the Earth Keeper event on Dec. 14. Supporting both organizations' events is a good way to kick off the holiday giving spirit.



Helpers and Cookies needed!

St. Andrew's is planning a casual get-together between the two Christmas Eve services this year. It will be very simple — mulled and cold cider, coffee and cookies, and will be held in the atrium. We'd like people to feel they can take a minute and drop in for a cookie and a drink and say "Merry Christmas" between the 4:00pm and 6:00pm services. We need around 200 cookies and would appreciate

donations! Cookies can be dropped off on the Sunday before (12/21) or during office hours (10am-2pm) on Monday (12/22) and Tuesday (12/23). If anyone would like to help set up the afternoon of 12/23 or would like to help at the event, please contact Kelley Kash.

Music Note for Sunday, November 30

Johann Ludwig Krebs (baptized 1713-1780) was a German Baroque musician and composer who wrote many works for the pipe organ. Krebs was a favorite organ student of Johann Sebastian Bach. This Sunday, I will feature a fantasia that Krebs wrote on the hymn tune "Psalm 42." This tune is used for hymn number 67 ("Comfort, comfort ye my people") in *The Hymnal 1982*. This tune is also known by the older title "Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele."

Musical Highlight: If you would like to view the video that was produced in part at St. Andrew's last year, featuring Benjamin Rosenthal from our Youth Choir, please click [here](#). Ben was selected to be featured on NPR's "From the Top."



Advent Wreaths and Christmas Flowers

If you would like to give thanks for or remember your loved ones with flowers at Christmas, there are envelopes available in the back section of each pew.

Please drop the completed envelopes, with your donation (cash or check made out to St. Andrew's Church) in the plate. You may also drop them off in the office

or mail to St. Andrew's Church, PO Box 234, Newcastle, ME 04553. Please contact the church office (563-3533) with any questions. The names will appear in the Christmas bulletins. The deadline to have names printed in the Christmas bulletins is Thursday, December 18.

Coffee Hour Hosts needed

Coffee hour volunteers needed: We have now returned to a two-service schedule, which means two separate Coffee Hours. This means we will need twice as many volunteers to help us enjoy each other's company over coffee and treats. Coffee Hour hosts will continue to be responsible for set-up, coffee making, providing cream/milk and juice, and clean-up. The rest of us are encouraged to bring treats to

coffee hour as the spirit moves us. If you'd like to host after either the 8am service or the 10am service, please contact Sara Sandberg or sign up on the clipboard in the Undercroft.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is looking for a couple of new members. People who are interested in helping to make sure the church is financially stable are welcome. The committee reviews financial reports and makes recommendations to the vestry to support programs in a fiscally responsible way. Please contact the Finance Committee Chair, Lili Pugh if you are interested.

Carpooling

"The Earth Keepers are reminding us that as snow accumulates, car pooling to church is a wise practice. Let's have lower emissions and fewer cars competing for space. Some of us would appreciate not having to navigate a snowbank or walking a distance on slippery ground. Some of us no longer drive but would like to get to church. There's a car pooling sign up at the rear of the church. Or call someone you know who would appreciate your friendly transportation on Sunday morning."

Knitting Group Book Club

The next Knitting Group Book Club meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18 at 2:30pm in the church library. The book will be Gilead by Marilynne Robinson. Please join us - all are welcome!

Holy Women, Holy Men Clement of Alexandria Theologian and Philosopher

On almost every day of the year, the Episcopal Church honors faithful followers of Jesus who went before us. Every Wednesday at St. Andrew's during our Healing Eucharist, we remember one of more of these Holy Men and Women. We take time to remember these people for three important reasons. First, they deserve to be remembered. The people chosen for our calendar are remembered because they were particularly remarkable followers of Jesus. The second reason we remember them is because in remembering we are connected to Christians throughout time. And last but not least, we remember them because in remembering we can learn how to be better followers of Jesus in our day and time.

This week we remember Clement of Alexandria. Please click [here](#) to learn more about him.



St. Andrew's Church Calendar

St. Andrew's Church calendar is available online. If you would like to access it, please click [here](#)

Weekday Worship

Compline: The Compline service held Monday evenings has been put on hold for the time being.

Wednesday Healing Service: Wednesdays at 11:30am

Please note: The next luncheon after this service will be on Wednesday, January 7.

Meetings

Benedictine Group: 10:00 AM Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Senior Choir rehearsal: 7-9pm Thursdays

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays
All welcome: knitters, non-knitters and everything in between.
Meeting in the church library unless otherwise announced.

Upcoming Concerts

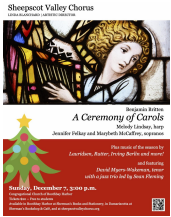
Boston Camerata's Christmas Concert

Brett & Priscilla Donham are pleased to sponsor again the Boston Camerata, America's foremost early music ensemble, in concert at the Lincoln Theater on December 4 at 3PM. The concert is *SING WE NOEL, Christmas Music from England & Early America*.



Hey, Ho the Holly - December 7 at 2:00pm

Hey, Ho the Holly will be performing at St. Andrew's Church on Sunday, December 7 at 2:00pm. Kaity Newell and her group of fiddlers will give a benefit concert for those in need of heating help this winter. All donations will go to the Fuel Assistance Program sponsored by CHIP (Community Housing Improvement Project).



Sheepscot Valley Chorus Concert - December 7 at 3:00pm

Sheepscot Chorus invites you to their annual holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 3:00 PM at the Boothbay Harbor Congregational Church. This concert features Benjamin Britten's magical "A Ceremony of Carols," performed with harpist Melody Lindsay, and conducted by artistic director Linda Blanchard. Tenor soloist David Myers-Wakeman and soprano soloists Jennifer Felkay and Marybeth McCaffrey will be featured.

"A Ceremony of Carols" was based upon poems found in the book "The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems." Britten discovered this book during a stopover in Halifax, Nova Scotia, while on a wartime voyage back to England from the United States in 1942. Drawn primarily from medieval and Renaissance verses, these texts inspired Britten to compose this beloved work. Sheepscot Chorus will present the SATB version of the piece, which was approved by the composer.

Holiday pops favorites will round out the second half of the program. Co-director and accompanist Sean Fleming has a knack for bringing together top-notch musicians for our holiday pops orchestra, sure to set toes tapping!

Tickets are \$20 (free for children and students) and are available at sheepscotvalleychorus.org, in Boothbay Harbor at Sherman's Books and Stationary, and in Damariscotta Sherman's Bookshop & Café. For more information, please email info@sheepscotvalleychorus.org, or visit facebook.com/sheepscotchorus and sheepscotvalleychorus.org.

St. Cecilia Chamber Choir

St. Cecilia Chamber Choir will present its popular annual Lessons and Carols Christmas concerts on Saturday, Dec. 20 at 4:00 p.m. at Bowdoin College Chapel in Brunswick, and Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4:00 p.m. at Damariscotta Baptist Church. Linda Blanchard is St. Cecilia's artistic director, assisted by organist Sean Fleming. Advance tickets are strongly encouraged for these concerts.

A beautiful new setting of the Gerard Manley Hopkins poem "The Bethlehem Star" by former King's Singers member Bob Chilcott will be featured. The John Rutter favorites "Sing We To This Merry Company" and "Past Three O'Clock" will be performed, as well as Richard Francis' ever-popular "People, Look East" based on Eleanor Farjeon's Christmas poem. The Choir will sing a jazz-influenced setting of the Thomas Hardy poem "The Oxen" by former Swingle Singers music director Jonathan Rathbone. And "Drop Down, Ye Heavens" by the phenomenal organist Anna Lapwood. Also featured will be works by Stanford, Archer, and Taylor Scott Davis. A professional string quartet will accompany the group on select pieces. As a special treat, Eric Whitacre's "Glow," composed for the "World of Color – Winter Dreams" show which premiered at Disney California Adventure Park in California, will be performed.

With audience sing-along caroling using several of David Willcocks' arrangements, this concert is sure to be a treat for the whole family.

Tickets are \$25 for the Bowdoin Chapel concert and \$20 for the Damariscotta Baptist Church concert. Admission is free for students and children. Tickets are available online at ceciliachoir.org, and at Sherman's Maine Coast Book Shop in Damariscotta. For more information, please email info@ceciliachoir.org, or visit facebook.com/stceciliachamberchoir and ceciliachoir.org.

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)

We pray for those who are ill or with special needs:

Rob & Irma Hargreaves, Alan Hargreaves, Phil Bartley, Val Gorrill, Tom Belanger, Dick, Tyler & Christine, Bruce & Julie, Cynthia Troxel, Nathan Hargreaves, Janice Roman, Beth, Tony Sousa, Joanne Sousa, Ian J., Emily Goodchild, Jennie Zerges, Elizabeth Lyon, Bill Namestnik, Robin Schneider, Susan & Fred Murray, Nicole & Family, Susan O'Brien.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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E-mail: stasnew@tidewater.net
Web site: standrewsnewcastle.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Senior Warden: Sara Sandberg - Junior Warden: Kelley Kash
Clerk: - Treasurer: Ed Ross
Organist: Sean Fleming - Choir Director: Linda Blanchard
Parish Administrator: Ann Kash
Ministers: All Members of the Parish

Visit our Website

St Andrews Church | P.O. Box 234, 11 Glidden Street | Newcastle, ME 04553 US

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