



This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, December 9, 2021

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

3 Advent

December 12, 2021

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Organ/Keyboard: Sean Fleming

Choir Director: Linda Blanchard

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I (inside with masks)

Altar Guild: Ruth Piper

Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister: Martha Elliott

Lector: David Wright & Rachel Zoller

Usher: David Wright

Vestry Announcements: Rachel Zoller

9:15am Morning Prayer on Zoom

10:00am Holy Eucharist (inside with masks)

Altar Guild: Judy Weislogel

Intercessor/Eucharistic Minister: Marilyn Cheney

Lectors: Pam Van Siclen & Judy Weislogel

Livestream Operator: Bill Judd

Ushers: Martha Dodge & Ed Ross

Vestry Announcements: Marilyn Cheney

Please note: We will have seating available in the atrium for the 10am service. The service will be shown on the tv screen in the atrium. For safety purposes, we will be limiting seating in the nave (known as sanctuary by some, the church itself) to 50. Those sitting in the atrium may enter the church to receive communion at the appropriate time.

Readings for 3 Advent

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12:2-6)

If you would like to read the lessons on the Lectionary Page website, please [click here](#)

Once you are at lectionarypage.net, you may choose **NEW Resource:** [RCL Daily Readings](#). If you scroll to the bottom you can sign up to receive daily readings via your email.

A Letter from Suzannah about our Christmas Services this year

Dear Friends,

I am so thankful that we will be able to worship together in person on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. It is a blessing to be able to gather together as a community. And because of the COVID numbers at this time, worship will not yet look like it did prior to the pandemic.

Our 4 PM service will focus on families with children and youth. We will have a pageant, but it won't be the pageant we have traditionally held. In place of the Gospel and sermon we will hold a simple pageant. A narrator or two will tell the story and at appropriate points during the pageant will ask for volunteers to come forward from our children and youth to take on certain parts in the pageant (no speaking parts). So our children and youth will have the opportunity to be various animals, shepherds, angels and the like. Adult volunteers will help the children and youth quickly put on simple costumes and join the manger scene at the front of the church. We will not be singing.

Our 7:30 PM service will have an instrumental soloist, but will not have the usual pre-service singing by the choir that we would normally have.

Both services will have organ playing and anthems recorded in advance by our choir. Both services will end with the congregation processing out into the courtyard to sing Christmas carols together (so bundle up).

Our Christmas Day Service also will not have singing. It will be celebrated by Byron Stuhlman and be Rite II.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Peace,
Suzannah +



Advent greens 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, in the plate or bring to the office. You may also mail in your remembrances and donations to St. Andrew's Church, PO Box 234,

Newcastle, ME 04553. Thank you.

Follow along with the Diocesan Hymn Advent calendar

Please follow along each Advent day in December as we share favorite Advent (and Christmas) hymns and songs, submitted by members, youth, clergy, and staff from all around the diocese!

The link to the Advent calendar is [here](#). Just like any Advent calendar, **doors are not available to be opened until the date** indicated! Save the link and open one each day.

You can also follow along on the diocesan social media channels where we will also share the daily musical selection from each day of the Advent calendar.

The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life An Advent Adult Formation Offering

"The Way of Love" is a movement started by our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry who believes our vocation is to live as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. The foundation of his movement is made up of ancient spiritual practices that bring us together as a community, center us on Jesus, and form us into followers of Jesus. These practices are: Turn--Learn--Pray--Worship--Bless--Go--Rest. For the four Sundays of Advent (beginning Nov. 28) at 11 am in the Undercroft and via Zoom, Suzannah will facilitate the Episcopal Church Advent Curriculum, Journeying the Way of Love. Together we will move through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke. Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world. Participants will be encouraged to "try on" the spiritual practices of the Way of Love throughout the days of Advent. When the group gathers each week, participants will use the first two chapters of Luke to reflect with one another on how they experienced taking up the practices.

Please contact Suzannah with any questions: Stasrector@tidewater.net

Please join Suzannah as we seek to together better understand what it means to be follow the way of Love.

2022 Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle at St. Andrew's

Over the summer and fall 10 members of St. Andrew's have met every few weeks in a Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle. This circle is just finishing up, and Suzannah will be facilitating a new circle in the new year every 2-3 weeks on Sundays at 11 am. Participants can join in person in the undercroft or via Zoom. Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.

If you would like to participate, please contact Suzannah (stasrector@tidewater.net).

The Dialogue Circle will meet from 11:00 AM-12:30 PM on the following dates:

January 9

January 23

February 13

March 6

March 27

April 10

May 1

May 22

June 12

June 26

Vestry openings

This is an exciting time of year when we ask parishioners to prayerfully consider running for Vestry. We have three places to fill, as outgoing members have fulfilled their three year stint. Election of new Vestry members takes place in late January, at the Annual Meeting.

Please give it some thought, or perhaps nominate a fellow parishioner who would like to run.

Being a member of the Vestry is interesting and informative, and is a great way to get to know other parishioners and enter more deeply into the workings of our wonderful Church. Meeting once a month, and having a delightful half-day retreat during one of the warmer months gives the Vestry, in conjunction with the Rector, a chance to consider a variety of issues. Among them are parish property concerns - (care, use and upkeep of our exquisite, historic church building of course, and our beautiful grounds), and financial decisions. In addition, they discuss and vote on parish matters as they arise. It is the governing body of the Church, and it's a terrific way to serve.

If you are interested, or want to learn more please speak to any Vestry member, or more specifically to one of those who are stepping down: David Blanchard, Marilyn Cheney, Cindy Freese or Ed Ross. We are here to help.

Thank you.

October Vestry Minutes

The October vestry minutes were approved at the November meeting and can be viewed by clicking [here](#)

A Message from the Stewardship Committee

The finish line is approaching for our pledge campaign. Our thanks to the generous parishioners who have pledged \$226,000 for our 2022 budget. We have yet to hear back from a few parishioners who regularly pledge. We ask all who have yet to pledge to do so please if you can. St. Andrew's is fortunate to have steady and faithful supporters who enable our church to maintain and expand our ministry. Thank you

Please contact the church office (563-3533) if you would like a pledge card.

People to People is collecting NEW items to distribute for Christmas

Donations can be put in the box in the atrium. Deadline for donations is December 12. Please pick up a flyer in the back of the church with more information on what is needed or you may click [here](#) for the full list.

Holy Men and Holy Women: Ambrose of Milan

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 or 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 Ambrose of Milan. Please click [here](#) to learn more about him.

Sunday Worship - December 12, 2021

8AM Indoor Sunday service of Holy Eucharist Rite I

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

9:15AM Sunday service of Morning Prayer (on Zoom):

Led by seminarian and postulant for Holy Orders, Ben Cooke. He will be using the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer.

Meeting ID:

Or you may click [here](#) for the zoom link. To see the bulletin for this service, please click [here](#)

10AM Indoor Sunday service of Holy Eucharist Rite II

Livestreamed on St. Andrew's Facebook page. Recorded to St. Andrew's Facebook and YouTube pages. The recording on the YouTube page will be available by the next day.

The worship booklet for the 10AM livestreamed indoor service of Holy Eucharist Rite II is available by clicking [here](#)

You can get to our Facebook page by clicking [here](#)

You can get to our YouTube channel by clicking [here](#)

Weekday Worship

Compline: Monday-Friday 9 PM

Zoom Meeting ID:

Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 7:00 am

Zoom Meeting:

Wednesday Healing Service: 10:00am inside service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with Prayers for Healing

Meetings

Poetry Reading: 4PM Monday

Zoom Meeting ID:

Bible Study: 12:15 PM Tuesday

Zoom Meeting ID:

**** Please note: Bible study has been canceled for Tuesday, December 7****

Benedictine Group: 11:15 AM Wednesday

Zoom Meeting ID:

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays AND 2-4pm Sundays on Zoom

All welcome: not necessary to be a knitter!

Zoom Meeting ID:

You can get to our Facebook page by clicking [here](#)
You can get to our YouTube channel by clicking [here](#)
You can get to our Website by clicking [here](#)

Ring those Christmas Bells - Tapestry Singers

St. Patrick's Church, Newcastle

Saturday, December 11 at 7:30pm

Sunday, December 12 at 4:00pm

*Tickets are \$16 for adults (students are free) and must be purchased online at tapestrysingersmaine.org

*The audience and singers are to be masked

*Adults 18 and over must show their vaccination card at the door.

*Seating will be limited to 175 people

Intercessory Prayer List

"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, Robert Hodge, Amanda Smith, Stephen Gorrill, Val Gorrill, Bob Gorrill, Ellen B., Allie, Anne Rossideas, Bruce Rinker, Virginia White, Felicia McAllister, Tom Sullivan, John, Todd, Donald Johnson Olderson, Tom Belanger, Dick, Catherine Fleming, Alex Place, Mark Place, Donna & David Badgley, Tyler, Bruce & Julie, Chandler Stephenson, Cynthia Troxel, Jane Ferris, Maureen McNiff, Geoff & Rachel Titherington, Sam Young, Brad & Tina Reynolds, Victoria, Nicholas Collins, Robin Schneider, Matthew Schneider, Judy McMahan, Lorrie Buchanan, Jane Gear, Louise Bessire.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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Web site: standrewsnewcastle.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman

Senior Warden: David Blanchard

Junior Warden: Christine Benken Clerk: Cindy Freese

Treasurer: Ed Ross Organist: Sean Fleming Director of Choirs: Linda Blanchard

Parish Administrator: Ann Kash

Ministers: All Members of the Parish

[Visit our Website](#)