Welcome

to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Cadillac, MI
We strive to live out the Great Commandment: To love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and mind and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Big Rapids, MI
Seeking every day to love God with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

If you have - or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.
If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home, we'd love to get to know you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

The first half of today's service – through the passing of the peace – is an instructed Eucharist. We will pause during our prayers and readings to talk about what we are doing in the service. Today is also Sprout Sunday. Kids and youth will be invited forward throughout the service.

THE WORD OF GOD **BCP, p. 355**

Processional Hymn *All stand as able.* **Hymnal, #58 v1-3**

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
The celebrant may pray the collect for purity.

The Kryie

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Lighting the Advent Wreath ***Lighting the Way Advent Devotional***

As the first candle is lit, all say

All **A candle is a lovely thing to light for Him today.**
A brave new candle straight and tall to make the darkness light.
Leader To accept the great gift of Christmas, your son Jesus;
People **Prepare our hearts, O God**
Leader To listen quietly that we might hear the message of the angels,
Peace on earth, Good will to men;
People **Prepare our hearts, O God**
Leader That we might follow the example of the shepherds
and seek the Christ Child, wherever he may be;
People **Prepare our hearts, O God**
Leader That we, like Christ, may grow in stature, wisdom and in your favor;
People **Prepare our hearts, O God**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you

Celebrant Let us pray. *The celebrant prays the collect of the day.*

The Lessons *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

First Reading **Isaiah 2:1-5**

After the reading: Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm **Psalm 122**

Second Reading **Romans 13:11-14**

After the reading: Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn *All stand as able.* **Hymnal, #61**

The Holy Gospel **Matthew 24:36-44**

Before the Gospel is read:

Celebrant Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel is read:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily **Mtr. Radha Michel-Trapaga**

The Nicene Creed *Said in unison, all standing as able.*

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

The Prayers of the People ***Hear Our Prayer***

In the silence after each bidding, you are invited to add your prayers, silently or aloud.

Intercessor Let us now open our hearts and offer to God our deepest prayers as we say, "Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**."
Heavenly Father, inspire the universal church to be most concerned with living lives inspired by your Son and give us hearts that beat to serve you. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Anne our Assisting Bishop; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant; the Bishop Search & Transition Committees; St. Andrew's, Big Rapids – Radha, Rector; Trinity, Alpena - Matthew. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Abraham, Laurie, Kathryn, Stephanie, Thon, Jess, Julianne, Cathy, Theresa, Janet. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Jennifer, Chris, Laura, Deb, Paige. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence* Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bless those in authority, in the nation and in all nations, with an urgency to care for all people and to undo systems of injustice. *Silence*
Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Donald, our president; Gretchen our governor; Fred, our mayor. *Silence* Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Give us opportunities to live into our faith and identity as followers of Jesus. Open our eyes to see those around us, in our neighborhoods, schools, and places of work, who need our loving support and care. *Silence* Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Grant us wisdom and persistence to those who seek cures and relief of pain, and heal and comfort those who suffer from illness. Especially we pray for those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Jamie, Austin, Len & Roxanne, Marty & Rachel, Doug, William, Marga & Barbara, Kris, Kathy, Merrelyn, Denita, Mary, Chuck, Jim; For those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: J.P., Lacey, Gail & Family, Jenny, Joel, Tom, Bruce, Lawson, Tiffany, Greg & Karen, Lee, Dr. Art, Bunce, Tiyi, Demetrius, Noreen, Keith & Sherry. For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Wesley, Owen, Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Henry, Jess, Javyd (Jay-vid), Alex; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*
Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Give us wisdom and persistence for the care of creation. *Silence*
Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Grant rest eternal to those who have died and comfort to those who mourn. Grant us daily an awareness that life is precious and fleeting, that we might use our hours to your glory. *Silence*
Lord in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Almighty God, you lovingly created and care for us, hear now these prayers and answer them as may be best for us and for the furtherance of your redemptive grace. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin *Said in unison, kneeling as able.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God. *Silence may be kept.*

All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand as able.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.*

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

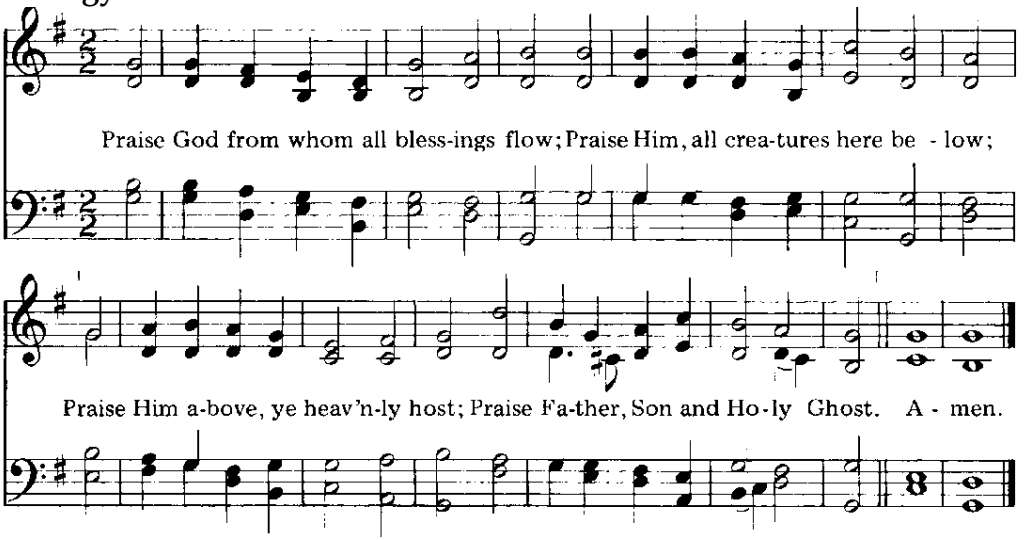
Ingathering of 2026 Pledges

The people are invited to come forward with their pledges of time, talent, and treasure and place them on the altar. The celebrant prays over the pledges:

Gracious God, we give thanks for these gifts, the promises of our members for giving in the year to come. We pray that you inspire us with the example of your freely-given love to serve our neighbors, heal the world, and strengthen our community. Bless these intentions, pledges, and promises of our wealth, works, and wisdom for the needs of our church. **Amen.**

While the offertory plates are brought to the altar, all sing:

The Doxology



TEXT: Thomas Ken
MUSIC: *Genevan Psalter,* 1551; attributed to Louis Bourgeois

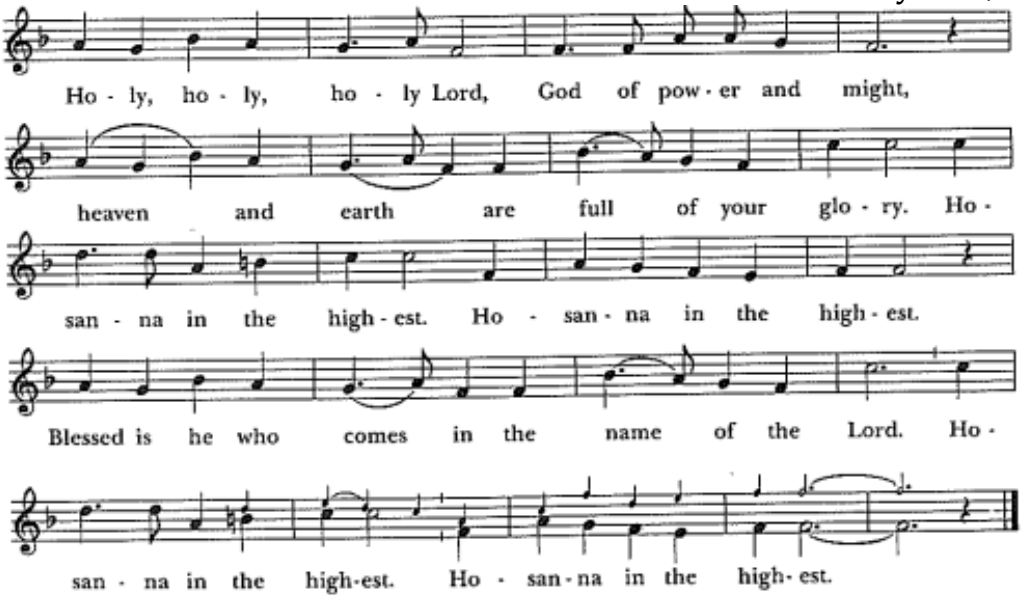
OLD HUNDREDTH
L.M.

The Great Thanksgiving **Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p.367**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response all sing:

The Sanctus **Hymnal, #S-125**



Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

The people stand or kneel as able while the celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Then says:

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The celebrant concludes with a prayer for the coming of God's reign. The people respond **AMEN.**

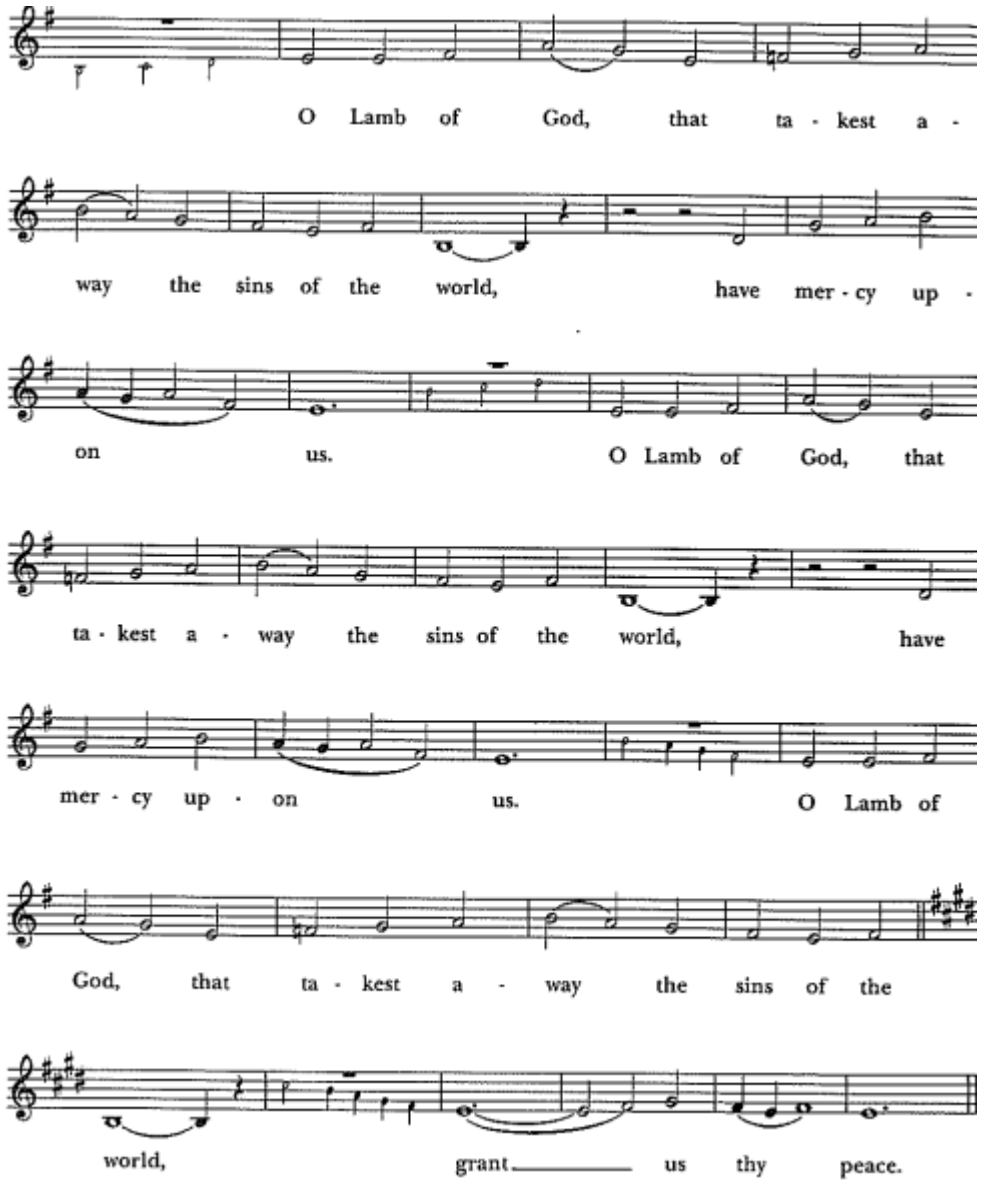
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then all sing:

The Fraction **Hymnal, #S-158**



Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

The Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at God's table.

Please come forward and kneel or stand at the altar rail to receive communion. Return to your pew by the side aisle. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD - You can either,		
	CONSUME	Hold out your hands and then eat the bread after it is placed in your hand.
	GLUTEN-FREE	If you require a gluten-free wafer, please clasp your hands.
	BLESSING	If you prefer not to receive, cross your arms for a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WINE - You can either,		
	DRINK	Hold the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips to drink the wine.
	INTINCT	Hold up the bread. The minister will take the bread, dip it for you, and hand it back to you.
	NOT RECEIVE	Cross your arms. The minister will hold the chalice up, but you will not drink.
	NON-ALCHOLIC	If you require non-alcoholic wine, clasp your hands. After drinking, hand the cup back.

Communion Hymn **Hymnal, #66**

Prayer after Communion *All stand or kneel as able.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing *All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.*

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn **Hymnal, #59 v1,3,5**

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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