



First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2023

WELCOME

to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

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.

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.

If you have a faith 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.

MORNING PRAYER, RITE II

Opening Hymn *All stand as able.*

Hymnal, #93

Opening Sentence

Officiant Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. *Revelation 21:3*

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

The Invitatory and Psalter *All stand as able.*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Antiphon

All Alleluia. To us a child is born: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

The Jubilate

All Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Psalm: Psalm 147 or 147:13-21

Bulletin Insert

At the end of the Psalms all say

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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

First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

After the reading:

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

First Canticle

Canticle 11, The Third Song of Isaiah

All Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

After the reading:

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Third Reading

John 1:1-8

After the reading:

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Reflection *The reflection may be a time of silence, a homily, or reading of a text.*

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

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers *The people stand or kneel as able.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages B

Officiant Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;

People **We praise your name for ever.**

Officiant Lord, keep us from all sin today;

People **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, show us your love and mercy;

People **For we put our trust in you.**

Officiant In you, Lord, is our hope;

People **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect of the Day

The officiant prays the collect of the day, found in the bulletin insert.

Hymn at the Prayers

Hymnal, #81

The Prayers of the People

Praying the Scriptures

Intercessor The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. We are witnesses, praying, " Shine forth in our lives, O Lord. **Hallelujah!**"

Abba, Father, you have received us as your children. Make our hearts shine ever brighter with the pure light of Christ, that all people might witness your all encompassing love. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. Diocesan Councils of the Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan. 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 Barrett, Alex, Matt, Anne Marie, Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jessica, Julianne, Rachel, Cathy, Kathryn, Kris, Johnathan, Theresa. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Mary, Deb, Laura, Jennifer, Christi, Paige. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People Hallelujah!

Intercessor Almighty god, let all the nations witness your glory. Cause righteousness and praise to cover the earth. *Silence*

Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People Hallelujah!

Intercessor Great Lord, you are mighty in power: you graciously make the earth to burst forth with green plants; you provide food for flocks and herds; you give us the resources to thrive on this planet. May we be thankful in our hearts and generous in our lives. *Silence*
Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People Hallelujah!

Intercessor O God, it is you who establishes peace. Comfort your people with safety and security; assure us that it is not by our own strength, but by your goodness, that we can rest in quiet confidence. *Silence*
Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People Hallelujah!

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our govenor; Fred, our mayor. *Silence*
Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People Hallelujah!

Intercessor Loving God, you are the healer of the brokenhearted; it is you who binds up their wounds; you lift up the lowly. Clothe your children with the garments of health and salvation. We pray for those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Nan, Jeffrey, Rodger & Judy, Elizabeth, Robert, Rob, Jessica, Krystal, Kevin, Kathy, Sharyn, Howie; For those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Erin, Dorothea, Lonnie & Heather, Mike & Connie, Virginia, Renee, Larry & Therese, Janet, Lawson, Josh & Lindsey, Nancy & Pat, Sally, Madi, Larry, Ron & Barb, Shanna, Charlene, DeeDee, Anita & Jim, Terri, Larry, Ron, Shelly;

For our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*
Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People **Hallelujah!**

Intercessor O God, you sent your Son to redeem us from sin and death: draw us closer to your Son Jesus—into your heart, both now and in the life to come. *Silence*
Shine forth in our lives, O Lord.

People **Hallelujah!**

Officiant All these things we have spoken, and those which we name in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who with you and the Holy Spirit are one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

All **Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

For a Birthday	BCP 830, #50 or #51
For an Anniversary	BCP 431, first prayer
Travelers	BCP 831, #53

Closing Hymn

Hymnal, #616, v1-3

The Dismissal and Concluding Sentence

Officiant Let us bless the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

The Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

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Karen Peters, 2026

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Mary Frew, 2025

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St. Andrew's Vestry

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Mark Lauzon, 2025

Diane Wesp, 2025

Coleen Dice - *Senior Warden*, 2024

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St. Mary's Vestry

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Pat Foster, *Senior Warden*, 2025

Anita Hunt - *Clerk*, 2024

Ross Maxwell - 2024

Dawn Paulin - *Treasurer*

In case of an emergency need for pastoral care call: Mtr. Radha Kaminski 352-727-8927