

First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Please silence all electronic devices and prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor Weber

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

ELW Hymn 879

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

APOSTOLIC GREETING

A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(congregation is seated)

HYMN

O Come, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

[Herman Stuempfle]

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

A TIME FOR LITTLE DISCIPLES

Pastor Weber

W O R D

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

(spoken responsively: A Assisting Minister; C Congregation)

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(congregation stands)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Good News of Jesus according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

C Congregation

A Assisting Minister

P Pastor

Today's Theme

Advent is a time of seeking for God. A space of days to reflect and to remember that God is present in our lives through Jesus Christ. Each week, we will find focus in Scripture and in worship to remember that we commemorate not just a holiday, but a holy-day in which a gracious Creator came to all in a Manger in Bethlehem. And He came "**Just in Time.**" One writer has it that "Advent is a time for telling the truth of our weariness and anxiety, yes, but also the truth of the relentless generosity of God, which opens up futures that seem to be shut down." (Richard Floyd). We gather in a moment of silence as handbells call us to worship.

SERMON

Watching the One Who is Watching

Pastor Weber

Mark 13:24-37

- I. Our Uncertain, Unglued World
- II. The “Little Apocalypse” of Mark 13
- III. Our Meager Empty Attempts to Escape
- IV. The Empty is Filled
- V. The Purpose of Apocalyptic Stories: Make Room for A New Story
- VI. Planting an Apple Tree

HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Saints

ELW Hymn 422

Stanza 1, 2, 6, and 7

APOSTLES’ CREED

A We confess our faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

C **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

A Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(shared in community)

OFFERING

Handbell Choir

(congregation stands)

OFFERTORY VERSE

ELW 182

OFFERTORY PRAYER



GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

(congregation is seated)

LAMB OF GOD

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

What Feast of Love ELW Hymn 487
Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence ELW Hymn 490

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
strengthen and keep you in God's loving grace, now and forever.
C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 204

PRAYER



BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN *Go, My Children, With My Blessing* ELW Hymn 543

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

P A R T I C I P A N T S

- Presiding Minister* Pastor Timothy T. Weber
- Director of Music Ministries/Organist* Dr. Will Simpson
- Assisting Ministers* (I) Sharon Gurtel (II) Dick Swaisgood
- Communion Assistants* (I) Judi Miller (II) Jan Bowerman
- Acolytes* (I) Torin Carmichael (II) Sonja Wetmore
- Altar Guild* Linda Powell, Donna Nellist
- Greeters* (I) John and Joyce Arnold (II) Jerry and Carolyn Haralson
- Lectors* (I) Brett Nelson (II) Marli Edde
- Ushers* (I) George Miller, Mikel Oswalt (II) Mark Davis, Ann Thorpe
- Coffee Host* Chad Oftedal

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W E L C O M E

TODAY AT SAINT ANDREW'S

- ⓘ **BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK:** Come to 210/ Nursery between 9:30 am and 10:30 am. Health care professionals from Health and Wholeness Ministry will take your blood pressure and discuss concerns.
- ⓘ **WORSHIP SERVICE CAPTIONING:** Please note that there is no worship service captioning today. Our next captioned service will be **December 31** at 9:30 am.

ⓘ **FOOD BANK OFFERING:** We invite you to participate in our monthly offering for Hopelink through the pew envelope. Our monthly goal is \$500. Mark your checks for "Hopelink" on the memo line. Any non-perishable food donations can be placed in the Corner of Blessing in the Narthex.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT SAINT ANDREW'S

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God." Galatians 4:4-7

"Just in Time"..... is our Advent/Christmas theme. In God's time, the time of Mary was suddenly changed into nine months' time when an angel visitation promised a birth that would change the world. Note these worship opportunities:



Sundays of Advent

- December 3** First Sunday of Advent
 - Worship 8:30 am and 11:00 am
 - Special Worship Music: Handbell Choir
- December 10** Second Sunday of Advent
 - Worship 8:30 am and 11:00 am
 - Special Worship Music: Chancel Choir
- December 17** Third Sunday of Advent
 - Worship 8:30 am and 11:00 am
 - Special Worship Music: Children's Choir
 - Worship/Children's Christmas Program 11:00 am
- December 24** Fourth Sunday of Advent.... **"All Ready!"**
 - Worship 9:30 am (No Discipleship Hour)

Wednesday Advent Mid-Week Worship

- Soup Supper 6:15 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 pm
- We welcome Pastor Paul Hoffman who will share Devotional Words on the theme **"The Advent of Our God"**
- December 6** Hebrews 13:1-6
- December 13** John 1:1-14
- December 20** Galatians 5:13-18

December 24 Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve.... "He is Here and Just at the Right Time"

- Family Worship (no Holy Communion) 4:00 pm
- Worship with Holy Communion (worship music: Chancel Choir) 6:30 pm
- Worship with Holy Communion (worship music: Handbell Choir) 9:00 pm

December 25 Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day (No worship service scheduled)

December 31 First Sunday of Christmas.... **"It is a NEW TIME"**
 One Worship Service 9:30 am (No Discipleship Hour)

NEXT SUNDAY AT SAINT ANDREW'S

- Ⓡ **ADVENT MUSIC:** Next Sunday, **December 10**, at both worship services, the Chancel Choir will sing several pieces with Advent and Christmas themes. A Christmas anthem, set to a hauntingly beautiful tune “*A Stable Lamp is Lighted*” will remind us of the mystery of the virgin birth. An anthem written by our own Shelly Abner, “*Angel’s Praise*”, that includes descriptions of angels, shepherds, and animals, all around the manger, reminds us of the birth narrative. And “*Tomorrow Shall Be Our Dancing Day*” joyfully reminds us of our relationship with the newborn Christ.
- Ⓡ **EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIRLY TRADED COFFEE AND MORE:** Support our Global Outreach by purchasing fairly traded coffee, tea, hot cocoa, and chocolate bars (in the Narthex between services). By purchasing these items, you help the coffee and cocoa bean farmers in impoverished countries receive more money for their crops by eliminating the middle man’s cut.



Pathways to Renewal

“Pathways to Renewal” is our 2017-2018 theme that serves to ground our mission forward in discipleship, ministry and planned initiatives, including a future capital campaign that will inform our commitment to a building remodel project.

Discipleship:

There is opportunity for engagement with committees, groups and the mission of this church and investment in Christ’s work. This engagement is what stewardship and discipleship are all about. The Discipleship Ministries Committee includes Joyce Kasper (Chair), Emily Harrow (Director of Discipleship Ministries), Marshall Erling (Council Liaison), Emily Andresen (Youth Council Representative), Beth Donahoe, Stephanie Lester, Sonja Feldman, Jessica Allen, Janan Twito, and Mary Davis.

Ministry:

A consultant, the Joshua Group, is helping us develop a Vision Plan for Saint Andrew’s that will inform our next steps in pastoral transition and ministry. Thank you to all who took the surveys and participated in interviews. The Joshua Group, Pastors Jim Weckwerth and Tom Jolivet, are assessing this input. They will be at Saint Andrew’s on **Tuesday, December 5, at 6:00 pm**, to present their findings to the congregation and offer recommendations on our next steps forward.

A Purpose Mapping Team has been formed to guide the Joshua Process. Members of this team are: Bill Brueggemann, Brent Hicks, Dana Nasby, Lois Nelson, Steve Gustafson, John Andresen, and Jessica Allen.

Building:

Congregation leadership is informing and educating the congregation on our proposed building remodel. Room 212 has become the “Pathways Hub”, an information center and a place for conversation, questions, and insights. There are display boards with drawings from VIA Architecture and copies of feedback provided by the congregation and staff in 2015. Members of the Building Remodel Team are in the Pathways Hub on Sunday mornings and look forward to talking with you. There are also forms available to provide written feedback. The building remodel team includes Lucy Sannes (Chair), Guy Feldman, Judy Gowdy, Dick Lee, Stephanie Lester, Pastor McEachran, John Nelson, and Dick Swaisgood.

We’re excited about this new theme in discipleship, ministry and foundation building and how Christ will guide us on our “Pathways to Renewal” in Him.

Questions can be directed to Congregation Council President Scott Lester.

DISCIPLESHIP HOUR...SUNDAYS AT 9:45 AM

Discipleship Hour at 9:45 am offers classes for age 2 through adult!

- ☞ **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION:** All Sunday Church School and Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation (ABC) students are invited to participate in the 2017 Christmas Program on Sunday, **December 17**, at the 11:00 am worship service. We will meet for a rehearsal on Saturday, **December 16**, at **3:00 pm** (note the new time.) If you are interested in participating in this year's Christmas program, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Sherry Grindeland, Sherry@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529.
 - ☞ **SUNDAY OFFERING:** Last year the students of Saint Andrew's voted to have their Sunday offerings go to support Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Their offerings continue to support LWR with the funds being designated for Bihar, India. Parents, please help your children remember to bring an offering each Sunday for collection during Discipleship Hour. The class with the highest participation will be rewarded with Krispy Kreme donuts each quarter!
 - ☞ **SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL (SCS)** classes welcome children age 2 through grade 5. All classes are downstairs in South Hall. The SCS office is located on the lower level near the Narthex stairs. Students who are new to our congregation are asked to come to the SCS office to register and be welcomed to your class.
 - ☞ **AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM/CONFIRMATION (ABC)** classes are geared toward youth in grades 6-8. "Luther's Small Catechism" meets in Room 119; "People of Faith" meets in Room 121; and "New Testament Survey" is in Room 122. Those students new to our congregation are asked to contact Director of Discipleship Ministries Emily Harrow or Pastor McEachran for more information.
 - ☞ **CROSSWALK** is focused on high school age youth, grades 9-12. Got questions? Join us each Sunday for coffee, cocoa, donuts, and conversation. On the last Sunday of each month, gather in the youth room for Oasis, a time for our high school students to rest, color, and enjoy a movie.
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ December 3
 DOOMSDAY: ARE YOU READY? ☺
 Presenter: Pastor Timothy Weber
 <i>301/Fellowship Hall North</i>
 Even non-Christians coming into my office are wondering out loud--"Are these the end times?" Sandwiched between the global crises, natural disasters, hackers hacking personal information, and one's own mortal fragility...we sit, we stand, we sleep, we live our ordinary days, with ordinary breaths...at least for the moment, a moment that might end long before we are ready. Join Dr. Timothy Weber, Shared-Time Pastor at Saint Andrew's, for this uplifting conversation! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ December 10
 HANDS AND HEART
 <i>301/Fellowship Hall</i>
 Join us for hands-on discipleship as we put our hands and hearts to work for our local and global community. We will have three projects set up to choose from. We will create Fleece Tie Blankets to be sent around the globe to areas of need through Lutheran World Relief. We will also find the opportunity to create paracord bracelets that can be life-saving to our first responders and soldiers. We can put our stamping skills to use by creating cards that will be sent to the Ronald McDonald House in Seattle, a non-profit organization that provides housing for families with children receiving care at Seattle Children's Hospital. ☞ December 17
 CHRISTMAS CAROL SING
 Facilitator: Dr. Will Simpson
 <i>301/Fellowship Hall</i>
 Dr. Will Simpson will lead us through an hour of your favorite carols. Get in the Christmas Spirit as we await the Birth of our Savior! |
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DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES...DURING THE WEEK

☞ TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Presenter: Pastor McEachran

Every Tuesday, 10:00 am, 322/Conference Room

 We continue our study of John 13-17, "*Jesus and His Own*," the Upper Room teachings found only in John's Gospel. Here is the schedule and readings:

- **December 5, 12, 19** "Absence and Presence." The First Teaching: John 13:31-14:31
- **December 26** -- No Class
- **January 2** --No Class
- **January 9, 16** "Jesus and His People." The Second Teaching: John 15:1-16:4a
- **January 23, 30** "Joy Out of Sorrow." The Third Teaching: John 16:4b-33
- **February 6, 13** "Jesus' Prayer." John 17:1-26

We will conclude with tips on a life in Christ which faces every storm in every time. Invite a friend!

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES...YOUTH

*** SHEEP AND SHEPHERDS** (families with youth age birth through grade 5):

- **Little Lambs Fellowship:**
Parents of children under two, please join us on Sunday, **December 10**, in 210/Nursery for fellowship. The youngest Sheep and Shepherds families are invited for snacks and coffee, visiting, and play time. We meet once each month, usually on the second Sunday.

*** FIRE FORCE** (youth in grades 6-8):

- **White Elephant Gift Exchange and Christmas Party**
Sunday, **December 17**, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
We will enjoy a White Elephant Gift Exchange to celebrate the Christmas season. Search the depths of your closet, get rid of that Christmas sweater Aunt Sally got you last year, and bring your tacky, silly, ridiculous gift item (wrapped). Please spend a minimum amount of money on your gift; ideally it will cost you \$0!! We will also celebrate with a variety of fun and silly games. Sign up by **December 10**.

*** YOUTH REGISTRATION FORMS:** We ask that all families complete a Youth Registration Form each year. This form gives us the information needed to help keep children safe while participating in Saint Andrew's activities. It includes medical information and permissions, and is used for all activities at Saint Andrew's for 2017-2018. Complete one form per family. There is space for up to four children and it covers all youth from age 2 through Grade 12.

- Paper copies of the form can be found in the Narthex on the bulletin board near the church office. Return completed forms to the church office.
- The form is ONLINE as an interactive PDF form; it can be found at www.ce.SALChome.org. After completing and saving it to your computer, either email the form to info@SALChome.org or print and return the form to Saint Andrew's.

*** GOD SQUAD** (youth in grades 9-12):

- **White Elephant Gift Exchange:** On Sunday, **December 17**, during CrossWalk at 9:45 am, we will enjoy a White Elephant Gift Exchange to celebrate the Christmas season. Bring your tacky, silly, ridiculous gift item (wrapped). Please spend a minimum amount of money on your gift; ideally it will cost you \$0!! Sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, **December 10**.
- **Holden Village:** We are headed back to Holden Village next spring, **May 18-20, 2018**, for an unplugged weekend of fun and fellowship. Sign up in the Narthex by **January 14, 2018**.
- **Summer 2018 Mission Trip:** In Summer 2018 (**July 21-28**) we will serve the Blackfeet Nation in Montana (with YouthWorks.) We'll learn about the Blackfeet Nation and work with them to serve in their community. Information packets are available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. To participate, complete a commitment form by **January 14**, and return it to the church office.

OUTREACH AND SERVANT MINISTRIES

MINISTRY BLESSING FACT:

At the Advent Fair last Sunday, we packed a total of 78 Emergency bags for Hopelink: 49 1-person bags and 29 2-person bags. These bags and the extra food totaled 1120 pounds of food.

Hopelink distributes about 60 emergency bags a week.

♥ NEW OPPORTUNITY - GIFTS FOR

LIFEWIRE: In a time of giving, our sharing has given many opportunities to reach out both locally and globally. One more opportunity has presented itself in support of the LifeWire Christmas Store, which is a safe place for those living out of domestic abuse to select gifts for their family. Recently, LifeWire's Executive Director, Rachel Krisky asked our help in purchasing some of the gifts for their Christmas Store. It was brought to our Outreach and Servant Ministries Committee as one more time to be blessing in being a blessing. A Basket of Tags (20 total) is at the Visitor Desk in the Narthex. They are available TODAY. As you feel led, take one, or two. Please return items (unwrapped) by next Sunday, **December 10**. This ensures one more path to solidarity with this core part of our outreach.

♥ LOVE TREE: Thank you to all who took tags and purchased gifts. Gifts (unwrapped) need to be returned TODAY, **December 3** to the Love Tree. Questions? Contact Carolyn Haralson or Joanne Baker.

♥ SOCKS AND HATS: During the months of November and December, Dorcas Circle is collecting NEW socks and warm knit hats for Compass Housing Alliance. Your donations of NEW tube socks, crew socks, and warm knit hats can be placed in the "Sox Box" in the Narthex. Contact Linda Willenberg with questions.

♥ UNIFORMS FOR STUDENTS IN TANZANIA:

Once again we have an opportunity to "clothe a Maasai girl" in her new uniform at the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS). We need 50 outfits, \$50 per outfit. Each outfit includes 2 logo t-shirts, a khaki skirt, a red sweatshirt, a pair of black shoes, 3 pairs of socks, and 3 pairs of underwear. These will be washed weekly and well-cared for to last for 2 years. See the display in the Narthex. Checks should be made payable to Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church and note "MGLSS Uniforms" on the memo line. Please put cash donations in an envelope designated "MGLSS Uniforms." Place your donation in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Then, take one of the 'little girl figures' off the display in the Narthex. It lets us know how many have been 'clothed' and gives you a tree ornament as a prayer reminder for these young girls as they begin their educational journey. For more information, contact Jean Wahlstrom.

♥ CORNER OF BLESSING/HOPELINK: Each month, we collect food in the Corner of Blessing. All donations are given to Hopelink and help feed those in our community who are hungry. In **December**, we are collecting **canned meats** (SPAM, canned tuna, canned chicken, vienna sausage.) For more information, contact Debbie Szabo.

♥ COLLECTIONS: Dorcas Circle, Health and Wholeness Ministry, and Outreach and Servant Ministries welcome your contributions for Lutheran World Relief, Compass Housing Alliance, Congregations for the Homeless, and The Sophia Way. Lists of needed items are in the baskets near the elevator in the Narthex. Donations can be placed in the same baskets.

(continued)

♥ **SCHOLARSHIP NEEDS FOR STUDENTS IN TANZANIA:** Scholarships are needed for 35 new Form One students at MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS), an increase of 10 students from previous years due to current needs. We continue to also need funding for the MGLSS Post-Secondary Scholarship fund, used for the students who qualified for university study. **ANY AMOUNT** given is helpful. Make contributions by check to “Saint Andrew’s” with “MGLSS or MGLSS Post-Secondary Scholarship” in the memo line. Funds will be forwarded to Operation Bootstrap Africa (OBA).

♥ **DRIVERS FOR CHICKEN SOUP BRIGADE:** Saint Andrew’s is a distribution hub for weekly deliveries of meals for Chicken Soup Brigade (Lifelong). The delivery window is between 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm on **Thursday** afternoons with around 2 to 4 stops. **Additional volunteer drivers are needed.** Choose to be a driver in the rotation or to be a substitute driver and cover weeks where regular volunteers are on vacation. If you are interested in serving in this way, contact Outreach and Servant Ministries committee chair Marlyn Thorpe.

♥ **UPDATE TO ITEMS NEEDED - PLASTER HOUSE IN TANZANIA:** The Plaster House is a rehabilitation center in Tanzania for post-surgery children, usually in casts (hence the term “Plaster House”). For reasons of health and nutrition, many children cannot rehab successfully in their villages/homes while in casts. They need to stay at the center; the average stay being four weeks. Marvin Kananen and Jean Wahlstrom will travel to Tanzania in 2018 for a Plaster House board meeting and to celebrate the opening of the new dormitory and volunteer house. They would like to take 150 pounds of needed items for children age 3-15 to the Plaster House. Donations of the following can be placed in the basket in the Narthex.

- coloring books (no crayons)
- small toys (animals, cars, dinosaurs, etc.)
- pencils
- scissors
- underwear (non-white)
- metric rulers
- socks (non-white)
- Cash/check donations, payable to “Saint Andrew’s” and designated for Plaster House)

To learn more about the Plaster House, visit www.theplasterhouse.org.

PROJECT BIHAR / LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Lutheran World Relief

Bihar is a global mission outreach which engages us in significant outreach in Northeastern India, as part of a sponsored mission through Lutheran World Relief (LWR). The goals of this mission are agricultural improvements, year-round food security for the family, empowering women in the community, and increasing incomes for families. This matches the core values of our Outreach and Servant Ministries: homelessness, food security, and education.

- The Bihar Mission Outreach Team is actively planning next steps. If you would like to be involved or would like more information, contact Marlyn Thorpe.

Remember in prayer this continuing outreach ministry.
 Contributions can be made with “Bihar-LWR” in the Memo Line.
The best source of updated information is at www.lwr.org/bihar



SAINT ANDREW'S OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✠ **GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING TODAY, December 3, 12:15 pm**
Our annual Gingerbread House Decorating party is for **everyone** - bring the entire family for an afternoon of creative fun! We will enjoy a potluck lunch and decorate gingerbread houses. Sign up in the Narthex to reserve your spot and a house. Please bring \$10 for a gingerbread house if you signed up by **November 19**. If you signed up after **November 19**, remember to bring your own house and candy to decorate!
Please share a Potluck Item*:
Last names A-G: Dessert
Last names H-N: Main Dish
Last names O-Z: Salad/Side Dish
* You are welcome to use the kitchen, oven, and stove after 11:00 am
- ✠ **DORCAS CIRCLE:** The Dorcas Circle meets in 302/Fellowship Hall South this Tuesday, **December 5**, at 9:30 am. New people are always welcome to join as we sew quilts, school bags, and complete other projects in response to those in need. We also welcome donations of fabric, sheets, crochet or embroidery thread, quilt batting, sewing supplies, and blankets.
- ✠ **ADVENT** begins today, **December 3**. Mid-week worship is on Wednesdays, **December 6, December 13, and December 20**. Soup supper is served at 6:15 pm; Holden Evening Prayer worship begins at 7:00 pm. Pastor Paul Hoffman is our devotional leader.
Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve soup and bread for our soup supper on **December 20**. Sign up in the Narthex.
- ✠ **SAINT ANDREW'S CONCERT SERIES - BELLS OF THE SOUND**
Sunday, **December 17**, at 4:00 pm
Bells of the Sound presents "Peace on Earth" featuring traditional carols and songs of peace from around the world. Saint Andrew's member Vanessa Wilkie is a member of Bells of the Sound. See the last page and visit www.bellofthesound.org for more information. Pick up a concert series brochure in the Narthex.
- ✠ **CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Calling all students in kindergarten through middle school! You are invited to join us for Children's Choir as we prepare to sing on **December 17** at both worship services. This is a great opportunity for you to be a very important part of our worship service that day. Plan to join us; we need your voice! Rehearsals are Sundays, **December 3** and **December 10**, all from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm in 215/ Music Room. Contact Children's Choir Director Erin Simpson for more information.
- ✠ **KNITWITS (Knitting as Witnesses)**
Sunday, **December 17**, 9:45 am, 322/Conference Room
The KnitWits are a fellowship group whose primary mission is to provide items of comfort that are knit or crocheted. All are welcome to join us anytime! Contact Dianne Chong for more information.
- ✠ **O.W.L.S. (Older Wiser Lutheran Saints)** is a fellowship of members and friends of the congregation who meet on the third Tuesday of every month for friendship and an awesome potluck. Everyone is always welcome! Please join us on **December 19** at 11:45 am. Tune-up your voice for the O.W.L.S. Annual Holiday Song Fest led by Dr. Will Simpson. Following our potluck lunch, we'll enjoy both traditional church Christmas hymns and other seasonal favorites. You don't need to be older or wiser to attend – and you don't need to be a trained singer – just enthusiastic - to enjoy this program!
- ✠ **CHRISTMAS EVE PRELUDE MUSIC:** We welcome all children and teens to consider sharing a piece for the prelude music to the Family Worship service on Christmas Eve. The piece does not have to be Christmas themed but can be something you played in a recital. Contact Dr. Will Simpson, will@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529, to participate or for more information.

✠ **TUESDAY MORNING MEN**

Facilitator: Dave Marcander
 Every Tuesday, 6:30 am, Room 212
 All Saint Andrew's Men (SAM) are welcome for study, faith growth, prayer, and conversation. We are studying Galatians using a commentary written by Martin Luther. After Galatians, we will return to our Reformation focus. It is a blessing to share this time together in learning and fellowship - please join us!

✠ **WOMEN'S EVENING BOOK STUDY (W.E.B.S.)**

Facilitator: Cheryl Jurrus
 Wednesdays, **January 3 - February 7**, 7:00 pm
 322/Conference Room
 Do you want to learn more about India? We will discuss marriage, society, women's roles, cuisine, and other issues depicted by the author in the book selection for Winter Session for WEBS. Now is the time to get your copy of *The Space Between Us* by Thrity Umrigar (available on Amazon for \$10). Join us for a lively discussion, prayer, sharing, laughter, and maybe some service projects! We hope to include an Indian meal and a special speaker. All women are welcome. Bring a friend!

FINANCE UPDATE

2018 Pledges: As of November 27, we have received 102 pledges for 2018, (a handful more than this time last year) we hope and pray for an additional 60-70 pledges as we complete our financial planning for next year. Please remember to fill out a pledge card and/or contact Russ Stark, russ@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529, if you intend to do so, but haven't gotten around to it yet. You can also submit your pledge online at stewardship.SALChome.org.

Your financial support of Saint Andrew's is core to enabling our mission and ministries. The speakers at our Stewardship Commitment Sunday celebration were an inspiring example of how our collective faithful and sustained support can carry God's work forward. Each of our gifts are important in God's eyes. If you have any questions about pledging, please do not hesitate to ask any member of the finance committee or Russ Stark.

2017 Finance Update: November current fund contributions will likely be lower than expenses by approximately \$7,000. (Books were not final when this was submitted for the bulletin.) And while expenses were lower than budgeted, our Year-to-Date (YTD) deficit has increased to \$57,000. This is an important time in the church year as we close out 2017; your support of the ministry and work of the church will be greatly appreciated.

Your Finance Committee,

John Andresen, Joni Barrott (Congregation Treasurer), Brady Kasper (Finance Committee Chair), Russ Stark (Staff Accounting Assistant), and Jeff Stedman



For Sunday, December 10: Second Sunday of Advent
 Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Servers for December 10

Presiding Minister: Pastor James McEachran

Assisting Ministers:

(I) Shana Nielsen (II) Sue Short

Communion Assistants:

(I) Judy Gowdy (II) Celeste Ackerbloom

Acolytes:

(I) Emily Elien (II) Isabel Weibel

Altar Guild:

Signe Wraith and Elmer Neu

Greeters:

(I) Shelly and Larry Abner (II) Stella Nieman

Lectors:

(I) Joyce Nelson (II) Erika Cottrell

Ushers:

(I) Curt and Lois Eckley
 (II) The Carmichael Family

Coffee Host:

Marvin Kananen

Bells of the Sound

presents

Peace on Earth

"Peace on earth, goodwill to men!" was the message the angels brought to the shepherds in the fields on that first Christmas eve. This is the very essence of the Christmas spirit that fills us this time of year. Bells of the Sound will share this message as we present ***Peace on Earth***, featuring traditional carols and songs of peace from around the world. We invite you to join us on this goodwill journey as we ring in the holiday spirit!

Sunday, December 17, 2017

at 4:00 PM

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church

Bellevue, WA

Admission is free.

For more information

www.bellssofthesound.org

info@bellssofthesound.org

206-574-8417