

Second Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

Please silence all electronic devices and prepare for worship.

PRELUDE *Angel's Praise* [Shelly Abner]
Chancel Choir

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY Pastor McEachran

HYMN *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* ELW Hymn 244

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)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

O Come, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come [Herman Stuempfle]

A TIME FOR LITTLE DISCIPLES *What's News?* Pastor McEachran

WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *A Stable Lamp Is Lighted* [Richard Wilbur, David Hurd]

Chancel Choir; Sonja Wetmore, soloist

SECOND LESSON 2 Peter 3:8-15a

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(congregation stands)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Wait for the Lord* ELW Hymn 262
sing twice

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.

P The Good News of Jesus according to Mark.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Good News Welcomed!

Pastor McEachran

1. Beginnings
2. Weird and Wonderful
3. He Will Baptize with the Holy Spirit

HYMN OF THE DAY

People, Look East

ELW Hymn 248

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

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

[Setting by
Richard Shepherd]

Chancel Choir

(congregation stands)

OFFERTORY PRAYER



GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

EUCHARISTIC 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

Christmas Night

[Peter Warlock,
Arr. John Rutter]

Angel's Carol
The Emmaus Trio

[John Rutter]

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 *God, Whose Almighty Word* ELW Hymn 673

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

POSTLUDE *From Heaven Above the Angels Descended*
 [Johann Pachelbel]

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

Presiding Minister Pastor James N. McEachran
Director of Music Ministries/Organist Dr. Will Simpson
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, Isabella Serex
Lectors (I) Joyce Nelson (II) Erika Cottrell
Ushers (I) Curt and Lois Eckley (II) The Carmichael Family
Coffee Host Marvin Kananen
The Emmaus Trio Dr. Will Simpson, *piano*/
Karin Islip, *violin*
Lauren Root, *cello*
Percussion Rob Parks

W E L C O M E

TODAY AT SAINT ANDREW'S

☩ **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.

☩ **LITTLE LAMBS FELLOWSHIP:** *Parents of children under two*, please join us on today at 9:45 am 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.

NEXT SUNDAY AT SAINT ANDREW'S

☩ **BAPTISM:** Anna McLeod and Ken Cyprian will present their child to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at the 8:30 am worship service.

☩ **ADVENT MUSIC:** Next Sunday, **December 17**, at both worship services, the Children's Choir will sing several Christmas pieces.

☩ **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** As part of the 11:00 am worship service next Sunday, our children and youth will share the story of the birth of Christ.
All Sunday Church School and Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation (ABC) students are invited to participate. There is one rehearsal next 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.

☩ **HEALING PRAYERS** are offered during the distribution of Holy Communion on the third Sunday of each month. Trained healing ministers will receive your requests before or after receiving the Eucharist. It can be especially meaningful to have a laying on of hands and an anointing of oil, if desired. It is appropriate to bring ANY request or concern that you may have for yourself or someone else. These may be prayers for emotional, spiritual, or physical healing. It can be a peace that brings wholeness, according to God's will, in a number of ways. If you are unable to walk to the kneelers, please ask an usher to assist or move to the bottom of the stairs on the East side of the sanctuary (near the pulpit) and the Healing Minister will come to you.

☩ **WORSHIP SERVICE CAPTIONING:** Please note that next Sunday's worship will not be captioned. Our next captioned service will be **December 31** at 9:30 am.

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 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 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

CHRISTMAS EVE PRELUDE MUSIC: We welcome all children and teens to consider sharing a piece for the prelude music to the 4:00 pm 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.

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)



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:

After several months of work involving surveys and listening sessions, the Joshua Group (Pastors Jim Weckwerth and Tom Jolivette) has developed a final report complete with recommendations and a “travel plan” for helping us take our next steps toward pastoral transition, vision development and leadership refinement. Those recommendations were communicated on December 5 to nearly 70 congregation members who turned up for the event. Thank you to all who took the surveys, participated in interviews, and joined us for the presentation.

Thank you also to our Purpose Mapping Team (Bill Brueggemann, Brent Hicks, Dana Nasby, Lois Nelson, Steve Gustafson, John Andresen, and Jessica Allen) who helped get us to this place. Your Congregation Council will now look at recommendations and begin identifying the appropriate steps to take along with the appointment of any necessary teams or task forces to address those programmatic tasks.

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!

Please note that there will be no classes on Sundays, **December 24** and **December 31**.

- ☞ **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PARTICIPATION:** All Sunday Church School and Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation (ABC) students are invited to participate in the 2017 Christmas Program next Sunday, **December 17**, at the 11:00 am worship service. If you are interested in participating in this year's Christmas program, please 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.

☞ **December 10**
HANDS AND HEART

301/Fellowship Hall

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

301/Fellowship Hall

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!

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 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 TODAY, **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 in the Narthex by TODAY, **December 10**.

 * **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 TODAY, **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.

 * **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, 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.

OUTREACH AND SERVANT MINISTRIES

- ♥ **NEW OPPORTUNITY - GIFTS FOR LIFEWIRE:** In a time of giving, one more opportunity has presented itself to support the LifeWire Christmas Store, which is a safe place for those living out of domestic abuse to select gifts for their family. A Basket of Tags is at the Visitor Desk in the Narthex. As you feel led, take one, or two. Please return items (unwrapped) by tomorrow morning, **MONDAY, December 11**. This ensures one more path to solidarity with this core part of our outreach.
- ♥ **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.
- ♥ **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.

(continued)

♥ **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.

♥ **THE SOPHIA WAY:** The Sophia Way helps homeless women journey toward independence and a home of their own. Volunteers are needed at the Day Center (at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church, 3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue) to sort donated items they receive, and to help ensure the women there have the clothing they need. To volunteer or for more information, contact their volunteer coordinator Tara, 425-463-6285.

♥ **BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION:** In 2016, Jean Wahlstrom and Marvin Kananen volunteered for a month at the Navajo Lutheran Mission (NELM) in Rock Point, Arizona, an ELCA project. The Mission School has invited Saint Andrew’s to participate in an easy way to secure needed school supplies and equipment. Cut out and bring those little coupons found on various food containers (General Mills products and others) to the envelope attached to the bulletin board in the Narthex, labeled BOX TOPS. Collectively, these box tops will really add up to enable these children to get a better education!! To learn more, visit www.nelm.org/school or contact Jean Wahlstrom.

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

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

All women are invited to a potluck dinner at the home of Linda Willenberg on Monday, **December 11**, beginning at 5:30 pm. RSVP to Linda. Linda will provide beverages and dessert; please bring a dish to share. Contact Cheryl Jurrus if you would like to carpool from church.

☒ **CHOIR SINGING AT CROSSROADS MALL:**

Members of the Saint Andrew's Chancel Choir will be singing Christmas Carols at the Crossroads Mall in Bellevue on Saturday, **December 16**, at 4:30 pm. This event is sponsored by the American Guild of Organists Seattle Chapter. Everyone is invited to this half-hour concert with choir, organ, and strings. For more information, contact Dr. Will Simpson, will@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529. See you there!

☒ **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 bulletin insert and visit www.bellofthesound.org for more information. Pick up a concert series brochure in the Narthex.

☒ **CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** Rehearsal is Sunday, **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!

☒ **END-OF-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS:** To be counted for 2017, contributions need to be dated **December 31** or earlier. If mailed, they need to be postmarked by **December 29**. If brought to church, they need to be received no later than **December 31**.

☒ **2018 PLEDGES:** Knowing pledged giving is very helpful as we complete our financial planning for next year. Thank you to all who have returned your pledge cards for 2018. 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, and 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.

☒ **SAINT ANDREW'S AMBASSADORS:**

As part of the new Emergency Operations Plan, Saint Andrew's will implement a new Sunday Server position: *Ambassador*. The job description is to keep a watchful presence in the Narthex during services. You may direct people to the restroom, answer questions about our Ministry offerings, or push a button to trigger a Lockdown and call 911 as the situation dictates. To sign up to be an Ambassador, contact Facilities Manager Kurt Lutterman, kurt@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529.

✠ 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!

✠ CONSIDERING JOINING SAINT

ANDREW’S? We will receive members at the 8:30 am service on Sunday, **January 14**, followed by an all-church reception and get-acquainted hour at 9:45 am. New and current members will get to test their church knowledge with a Saint Andrew’s 101 game led by Pastor McEachran. Expect yummy treats, a warm welcome to our new members, and some social time. Contact Fellowship Coordinator Sherry Grindeland, sherry@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529.

✠ FLOWERS IN 2018: The flower chart for 2018 is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please take a moment to reserve your Sunday.

✠ TUESDAY MORNING MEN

Facilitator: Dave Marcrander
 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!

✠ SMALL GROUPS: Small groups meet once a month for fellowship and conversation. We enjoy getting to know one another by sharing conversation, some God talk and dessert. Groups meet on Friday night or Sunday night monthly from **through May** in someone’s home. If you would like to be a part of a small group, contact Fellowship Coordinator Sherry Grindeland, sherry@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529. Indicate which night works best for you – Friday or Sunday.

✠ JOIN THE SUNDAY SERVERS TEAM: Take a plunge into something new and try **ushering** or being an **ambassador**. No experience needed. Questions? Contact Sherry Grindeland, sherry@SALChome.org or 425-746-2529.

✠ COMMUNION BREAD: Everyone is invited to bake bread used in the Eucharist on Sunday mornings. The sign-up through **December** is now available. You can sign up online for a specific Sunday. Links to the sign-up and to the recipe for Luther Bread can be accessed on the Saint Andrew’s website: www.worship.SALChome.org. Contact coordinator Jill Nichols-Hicks for more information.



For Sunday, December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Servers for December 17

Presiding Minister: Pastor James McEachran

Assisting Ministers:

(I) Jon Thorpe (II) Alaina Bland

Communion Assistants:

(I) Diane Hogle (II) Livi Myhre

Acolytes:

(I) Beka Gordon (II) Grace Cottrell

Altar Guild:

Mary Jo Nelson, Linda Powell

Greeters:

(I) Nancy P. Davis (II) Lydia Folsom, Louise Oda

Lectors:

(I) Carolyn Ferris (II) Carolyn McKenna

Ushers:

(I) The Lester Family

(II) Joan Tweten,

Coffee Host:

Larry and Shelly Abner