

100 North Palmway – Lake Worth Beach, FL 33460 www.standrewslwb.org office@standrewslwb.org 561 582-6609

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 21, 2025 10:00 AM – Rite II

Blake Crane, Eucharistic Minister & Reader, Gene Smalling, Reader Michael Hoagland & Joe Kolb, Ushers

The Right Reverend Peter Eaton, Bishop
The Reverend Cori Olson, Rector
The Reverend Sonley Joseph, Priest
The Reverend Deacon Bob Sullivan & The Reverend Deacon April Alford-Harkey

Mary Nelson, Organist James Balmer, Choir Director

Choir: Lucretia Alexandru, Ron Bukley, Chuck Clarke, Linda Crisman, Jon Flath, Alicia Longwell, Debra McNerney, Twig Morris, Jean Claude Sanon, John Shepherd, Carol Sink, Kathi Smith, Linda Sullivan, Sandy Wertz

Lissie Bartlett - AV Board

Chuck Jackson, Vestry Person of the Day

Coffee Hour - Ginny Downes, Carol Giles, Bob Foot, MaryLu Wells, Dick Lewallen

* The flowers on the altar given by Chuck Clarke in memory of his Husband, Stan Brantley *

Prelude: "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"	Setting by John Ferguson
Welcome	Rev. Cori Olson
Processional Hymn: "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"	Hymn #66

- 1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
- 2. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art: dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
- 3. Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king, born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living one.

People You come to your people and set them free. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you,

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant says the Collect

Collect of the Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Reader: Here ends the lesson.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 – *Qui regis Israel*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
 how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

A Reading from the Book of Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

7. O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ

8. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Sermon Deacon April Alford-Harkey

The Nicene Creed

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 – Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Please remember in your prayers: Jason, Joan, Christine, Donna, Peter, Blake, Lester & Ronnie, Susan, Janet, Dave E., Jose, Candace, Mark, Joyce, Brian, Linda C., Roger, Tom, Laura & Danny, John, Robert, Margaret, Tim, Ronna, Kibby, Katherine, Lura, Phil, Dave F., Nora, David G., Ron, Eric, Jamie, Linda S. & Michael S., Deacon April. Please pray also for our companion Dioceses: Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Madagascar & Toliare.

Celebrant says a concluding collect
The Deacon or Celebrant says kneeling or standing
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

The Priest stands and says

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.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Peace/Announcements

The Holy Communion

Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People – "Sanctus".......Hymn S124

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, and Andrew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

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

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, forever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread – silence is kept

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Agnus Dei:Hymn #S161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- 1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- 2. No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King, No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King, No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- 3. No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King, No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King, No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.
- 4. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King, Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

Chant: Come and fill our hearts with your peace, You alone, O Lord, are holy, Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!

Hymn "Day By Day"	Hymn #654
"Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly,	
love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day."	

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

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

- 1. The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.
- 2. Not, as of old, a little child, to bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.
- 3. The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
- 4. and let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold, when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.
- 5. The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings.

Dismissal

Announcements

- ** If you would like personal prayer, Deacon Bob and the Daughters of the King will be available to pray with you near the altar after the 10:00 AM service **
- ** IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL REV. CORI AT 561-788-5125. **

IF YOU'RE A NEWCOMER - please fill out an information sheet and put it in the collection plate

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE PEWS. Help make our Christmas services bright and beautiful. Today is the last day for donations.

- **CHOIR REHEARSAL is** on Thursdays at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. If you are interested in joining the choir please speak to Mary or Jim, all are welcome. Rehearsal to resume on January 8th, 2026.
- The Daughters of the King Ministry We are grateful for your donations! Please make checks
 payable directly to <u>DOK MARY & MARTHA CHAPTER</u>. Thank you for your generous support.
- **JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28**TH, at 9:40 AM for a Christmas Hymn Sing.
- REV. CORI WILL HOLD THE NEXT RECTOR'S FORUM Sunday, December 28th, at 11:45 AM in the sanctuary
- **BOOK CLUB** Our next book is <u>The Correspondent</u> by Virginia Evans. Join us Monday, January 19th at noon to share a meal and discuss the book that promises to be a grand adventure!
- Care Committee: If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, visits, or other assistance, we encourage you to contact us by email at care@standrewslwb.org, or by calling either Brian McDonnell at 561.339.0147, or Alison Albury at 315.681.8867 to arrange assistance.
- The Way Café is looking for donations for our outdoor food pantry. You can either place items directly in the food pantry, located on N. Palmway, or leave them in the Narthex. Also, we welcome donations of cookies, brownies, cakes, pies, etc. for our twice monthly hot meals. Thank you!
- Christian Education Opportunities Bible Study continues on Sundays at 9:00a.m.
- Christian Education Opportunities with Rev. Cori on Wednesday, immediately following the 10:00a.m. service, where we will be studying the Book of Acts. Also, on Wednesdays at 6:00p.m. via Zoom with Rev. Cori. we will be studying the Book of Matthew.
- Mon-Fri: Join Rev. Cori for Morning Prayer at 7:30 a.m. live on Facebook.
- If you wish to donate **Altar Flowers** to honor a special occasion, or in memory of a loved one, please sign the list located in the Parish Hall (please print legibly) or call the office. A donation of \$60.00 allows us to provide the weekly flowers.
- The Coffee Hour needs your time and talent. We are also looking for donations of ground coffee regular and decaf. Please speak to Roxie Roberts to volunteer!
- ST ANDREW'S WISH LIST TREE will be coming soon as a way to help all our ministries here at St. Andrew's.



Schedule

December 21 - Decorating the Church after the 10:00 a.m. service December 23 - Torch Ring Decorating at 9:00 a.m.



December 24 - Christmas Eve Service at 4:30 p.m.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 10:00 p.m.



December 25 - Christmas Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.