

ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

St. Andrew's is dedicated to supporting your spiritual life. Spirituality is how we are in relationship to God, to other people, to the world around us, and to ourselves.

The Feast of the Epiphany

January 4, 2026

We are livestreaming the 10am service.

Prelude *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*, BuxWV 223

(How Brightly Shines the Morning Star) Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Processional Hymn 128 "We three kings of Orient are"

Three Kings of Orient

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Hymn 96 "Angels we have heard on high" (vv. 1 & 2)

Gloria

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Together we pray,

People O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried

on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

David Hurd (after Gibbons)

The congregation is encouraged to sing the psalm.

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
— and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the möwn field, *
like showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
 and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.

11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
 and all the nations do him service.

12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
 and the oppressed who has no helper.

13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
 he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
 and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according

to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 117 "Brightest and best of the stars of the morning"

Morning Star

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact

time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

After each bidding the Reader says, Lord, in your mercy.
The People reply, Hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Presentation of Bread and Wine

Offertory Anthem *The Christ Child's Lullaby*

traditional Scottish hymn
words by Fr. Ranald Rankin (1799-1862)
arr. Marshall Barron (1926-2024)

The original song has 29 verses, and as with many old Gaelic songs, several variants of the tune exist.

*My love, my pride, my treasure oh
My wonder new and pleasure oh
My son, my beauty, ever You
Who am I to bear You here?*

*The cause of talk and tale am I
The cause of greatest fame am I
The cause of proudest care on high
To have for mine, the King of all.*

*And though You are the King of all
They sent You to the manger stall*

*Where at Your feet they all shall fall
And glorify my child, the King.*

*There shone a star above three kings
To guide them to the King of kings
They held You in their humble arms
And knelt before You until dawn.*

*They gave You myrrh and gave You gold
Frankincense and gifts untold
They traveled far these gifts to bring
And glorify their new born King.*

Doxology Hymn 380 "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

S130 Sanctus (front section of hymnal)

Franz Peter Schubert

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*All are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will direct the congregation.
Gluten free wafers are available.*

S 164 Fraction Anthem (front section of hymnal)

Franz Peter Schubert

Communion Anthem *The Holly and the Ivy*

*The holly and the ivy
are trees that's both well known;
Of all the trees that grows in woods,
the holly bears the crown.*

Refrain *The rising of the sun,
The running of the deer
The playing of the merry harp,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

*The holly bears a blossom
as white as any flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to be our sweet Saviour.*

Refrain

*The holly bears a colour
as green as any tree,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to set poor sinners free.*

Refrain

traditional English carol
arranged by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

*The holly bears a berry
as red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good.*

Refrain

*The holly bears a prickle
as sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
at Christmas day in the morn.*

Refrain

*The holly bears a bark
as bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
for to redeem us all.*

Refrain

Communion Hymn 496 “How bright appears the Morning Star”

Thanksgiving after Communion

Blessing

Recessional Hymn 124 “What star is this with beams so bright”

Puer nobis

Dismissal

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott (Praise be to God almighty)* J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

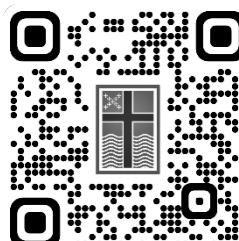
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Please join us after the service for coffee hour, hosted today by Scott Jones and Sandra Rigney.

How to use your smartphone to connect to the listening system



We recently installed *ListenWiFi* for parishioners who use hearing aids with Bluetooth capabilities. Download the *ListenWiFi* app from your app store. Then follow the instructions at the ushers table for how to connect your app to the church system.



If this is your first time at St. Andrew's, Welcome!

We are happy you found us. Please use this QR code to fill out a *seeker information form* or check with a member of our membership committee in the narthex so that our clergy and members of our congregation can welcome you and help you get engaged with our church.



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of
John R. Johnston and Erica S. Johnston by the Johnston family.

Serving St. Andrew's this week

Altar Guild Laura Brown MacKinnon, Nancy Echlov, Blair Glennon, Wendy Haering,
Angie Johnson, Ntonhle Kekana, Sarah Klein, and Jen Martin
Flowers the flower guild

Serving at 8am

Lay Eucharistic Minister Wendy Haering
Ushers Nancy Kohl & Bob Ware

Serving at 10am

Acolytes Crucifer, George Raeke; Torch, Kara Eichelberger; and Torch, Ben Mahoney
Broadcast Tech Volunteer Rob Brandt

Greeters TBD

Lay Eucharistic Ministers Harry Condon, Kate Farella,
Suzy Littlefield, and Paul Shackford

Readers Megan Burns and Michael Kemp

Ushers Travis Anza, Matthew Benfer, Frank Hunnewell, and Justin Wahls

Intercessions from the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Churches of the Boston Harbor Deanery

Christ Church (Old North), Boston

Church of the Advent, Boston

Charles River Episcopal Co-Housing Endeavor (CRECHE)



Icon of the Week

Folk Nativity

Maria (Mary) is sitting or kneeling to the right of the child. Seen by the spectator, she is on the left. Behind or next to her is the ox, which does not actually appear in Luke's Gospel but is considered a kosher animal and symbolizes the people of Israel and Christianity. From the left, i.e. from Mary's side, the shepherds approach with their sheep. They represent the believers who bring sacrificial animals, food, and clothing.

Giuseppe (Joseph) is on the left side of the baby Jesus, that is, on the right if seen by the viewer. Next to Joseph is the donkey, also not mentioned in Luke's Gospel. The donkey is interpreted as an impure animal and symbolizes nonreligious or even pagan people. The three wise men also symbolize the pagan world. Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthazar are the "wise men of the East" who donate gold, incense, and myrrh. With youth, middle age, and old age, they are on the one hand a symbol for the different stages of people's lives. On the other hand, their origins from Africa, Asia, and Europe are associated with the three continents known at the time. Since Melchior represents the European continent and therefore the West, the designation "Three from the East" is not entirely correct.

It is also important that the stable of the crib is always open and freely visible to the viewer. This is a symbol that everyone, regardless of nationality and faith, is welcome and welcomed by Jesus. If there are several angels around the Christmas crib, they form the heavenly choir. Unlike the announcing angels, they are located on the right, left or both sides, next to the stable. The star symbolizes the complete process of Jesus' birth and only appears from this moment on in the dark sky of the Holy Night. The three saddle animals (not in this icon) belonged to the three wise men represented the continents known at the time: the elephant, is usually placed next to King Gaspar, representing the African continent; King Balthazar rides on a camel as a representative of Asia, and Melchior rides a horse as a representative of Europe.



Notices and Announcements

Note: all staff email addresses are on the second to last page.

Deadline for materials is noon on Tuesdays for both the bulletin and the e-Pistle.

New Parish Administrator Oliver Simpson

Oliver Simpson, our new parish administrator, will be starting full time work at St. Andrew's on **Monday, January 5**. There will be several months of overlap with Kate Clark who will continue to work part-time as she passes on her wisdom of being the parish administrator for the last 16 years. Kate will be greatly missed, but we are excited to welcome Oliver. He is warm, organized, and a tech-savvy administrator who has seven years' experience working in faith-based and nonprofit organizations. We will be collecting a purse for Kate on her retirement and will have a farewell coffee hour in her honor closer to the time of Kate's final departure.

Epiphany Fireside Service & Dinner

This intergenerational Holy Communion service **tonight, January 4, at 5pm, in the parish hall** is accompanied by a roaring fire. We hear a short Epiphany homily and sing Epiphany hymns followed by dinner; please bring either a salad or dessert.

Morning Prayer

Join us again **tomorrow, January 5, online.**

common cathedral

On **Sunday, January 11**, St. Andrew's will provide lunch for the homeless congregation at *common cathedral* and join them in worship. Standing with our less fortunate neighbors, especially in this winter season, is one way we live out our faith, and is so very much appreciated. You can make sandwiches or join in. Sign up on Realm with the link in the e-Pistle.

9am Adult Christian Learning

Join us on **Sunday, January 25**, for the first class of our new term. Attend every class or just the ones that interest you. Meet in the parish hall or on Zoom.

—[Margaret Schwarzer](#)



Children and Youth

Please see previous announcements for any intergenerational information.

Kids' Place Childcare

Kids' Place is for children three and under, or any older child who would prefer to be in nursery care rather than church school and is open **from 9:45am to 11:45am**.

Church School

- **Godly Play I** pre-k to first grade meet in the **children's chapel**
- **Godly Play II** grades two and three meet in **Room 201**
- **Upper School/Way of Love** grades four and five meet in **Room 204**

Rite-13

- **January 4 5pm** attend the Epiphany Fireside service **in the parish hall**.
- **January 11 4:30pm** in Room 202.

Confirmation Class

- **January 4 5pm** with attendance at the Epiphany Fireside service **in the parish hall**.
- **January 11 4:30pm** classes will resume.
- **February 1 4:30pm** class
- **February 8 4:30pm** class

Youth Group

- **January 4 5pm** attend the Epiphany Fireside service **in the parish hall**, then gather for **6pm** meeting in the **Harvey Room**.
- **January 11 5:45 to 7:15** dinner, birthdays, and Bible study
- **January 18** off for Martin Luther King Day weekend
- **January 25 5:45 to 7:15** Make Dinner and Bible Study
- **February 1 5:45 to 7:15** dinner and VIA Strength Finder introduction

Children's Choir

Rehearsals will resume on **Thursday, January 8**. See you then!



Gratitude

Cheerful Cooks

Gratitude to the cheerful cooks who helped make delicious hot meals three times recently. These were delivered to St. Stephen's Youth Programs and were very much appreciated.

AGF and The Giving Tree

Big gratitude to all our generous parishioners who donated more than \$9,000 through the Alternative Gift Fair, as well as more than 180 gifts and more than 500 diapers through The Giving Tree. Your caring for others is beautiful.

Vestry

- Any member of the vestry can be emailed at their ministry address. All addresses are on our website: <https://standrewswellesley.org/about/vestry/>

Adult Formation Carrie Hawley

Clerk Tad Heuer

Communications Betsy Veidenheimer

Fellowship Sarah Harris

Finance Sam Burns

Human Resources Laurin Baldwin

Membership Amanda Curtis

Outreach Herb Manning

Property Sam Schaefer

Stewardship Madison Riley

Treasurer Joe Hamilton

Wardens Tom Faust

Ginny Snow

Worship Erica Gelser

Youth Formation Pamela Grossetti

Staff

- In an emergency, please contact Adrian on his cell phone, 603/831-4938.

Additional clergy cell phone numbers are:

Margaret Schwarzer, 617/733-0661, and Sarah Robbins-Cole, 603/831-4711.

- The clergy are available to assist you if you email or call them if you or a member of your family expects to be in the hospital and wishes to be visited.
- Please let the clergy know of names that should be added to our prayer list.

Rector Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

adrian@standrewswellesley.org

Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership

Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

margaret@standrewswellesley.org

Associate Rector for Youth & Family

Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole

sarah@standrewswellesley.org

Pastoral Associate Rev. Karen Vickers Budney

revkar7@comcast.net

Parish Administrator Katharine L. Clark

kate@standrewswellesley.org

Financial Administrator Joanne Butler

joanne@standrewswellesley.org

Music Minister Helen Ward Mannix

wardie@standrewswellesley.org

Children's Choir Director Benedict Hensley

benedict@standrewswellesley.org

Christian Learning Coordinator Susan Jackson

susan@standrewswellesley.org

Sexton Steve Killeen

steve@standrewswellesley.org

Assistant Sexton Bill Clover

Weekly Calendar

- The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated on **Sundays at 8am, 10am (also online) and 5pm. Morning Prayer** is offered online **Monday through Thursday at 8:30am** on our website, our YouTube Channel (*use the QR code for a link to our YouTube channel*), and on Facebook.
- **Parish office hours** are **Monday through Thursday, 9am to 4pm** (the doors are locked, please ring the intercom) and **Friday, 9am to noon** (church access by appointment) unless otherwise announced. **Tuesday at noon is the deadline for all materials** for the bulletin, the e-Pistle, or any email for the following Sunday.
- **12-Step Programs** Men's AA, Wednesdays at 8pm; Women's AA, Thursdays at 7pm; Emotions Anonymous, Saturdays at 9:30am; Sober Sisters AA, Saturdays at 10:30am.



Regular meetings and gatherings, unless otherwise announced below

Sundays • 9am adult Christian learning • **9:45am** Kids' Place • **9:45am** church school
• **11am** coffee hour • **4:30pm** confirmation • **4:30pm** Rite-13 • **5:45pm** youth group

Thursdays • 12pm weekly beginner's Bible study • **5pm** children's choir
• **7:30pm** senior choir

First and third Saturdays at 8am • men's Bible study

Second Tuesdays at 11am and second Wednesdays at 7pm • open Bible study

Sunday, January 4

9am coffee hour for 8am worshippers
9am **NO** Christian learning
4:30 **NO** Rite-13 or Confirmation class
5pm Epiphany Fireside service

Thursday, January 8

9:30am church school meeting
9:30am altar guild meeting



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