



St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

Sunday Worship Booklet

September 27, 2026 - 10:30am

18 Pentecost

Are You New?

We are SO glad you are here!

St. Andrew's is a warm community just waiting to love you. If you like, you will definitely find good friends here.

- This booklet is designed to help you fully join us in our worship experience. If it feels like a lot of words to follow, don't worry. Let go, and listen. It is perfectly OK to let us wash you with our prayers.
- Please fill out one of our **connection cards** (or use this QR Code) so we can let you know how happy we are to meet you.
- More info about the church and what we are up to can be found in the insert to this booklet.



The Word of God

Prelude

Peals of Joy

Handbells

Before worship begins, the priest greets the people and introduces the first hymn. The people stand, as able, to sing.



Hymn #420

vs. 1-3, 5

When in Our Music God is Glorified

Opening Acclamation

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

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect (Prayer) for Purity

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, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Hymnal S-278

The Collect (Prayer) of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated for the lessons.

Procession

The Greek word in the new testament for church means “assembly.” One of the reasons we start our service with a procession is to mark people coming together for this holy time.

Diving Deeper

Collect

A “collect”, pronounced “COLL-ect”, is a traditional type of prayer. It is written to gather or “collect” the rest of prayers together with a theme. There is a special collect for each Sunday of the church year.

Diving Deeper

The First Lesson: Exodus 17:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

Psalm is read/prayed in unison

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; ***
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; ***
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,**
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come**
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 12 He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, ***
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

-
- 13 He split open the sea and let them pass through; *
he made the waters stand up like walls.
- 14 He led them with a cloud by day, *
and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- 15 He split the hard rocks in the wilderness *
and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- 16 He brought streams out of the cliff, *
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

A Reading from Philippians

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able



Hymn #592
Vs. 1-3

Teach Me Oh My God and King

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Rev. Les Carpenter

Preacher prays, then all sit

The Nicene Creed

All stand as able and say the creed in unison.

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.

Prayers of the People Form IV

All kneel as able

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

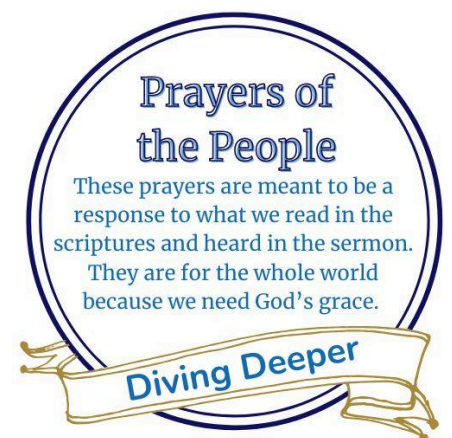
For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. (Especially our sick and suffering _____, and those who serve in the armed forces especially_____).

Silence

Hear us, Lord;



For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died (Especially _____) ,

that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Confession and Absolution

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.

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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet one another and offer their blessings of peace.

Welcome and Announcements

The congregation sits as directed, and announcements are shared. If you are new, this is a great time to fill out your Connection Card. There should be a paper one in your pew, or you can use the QR code on the front page.

If you want to give electronically to our church, the best way is to download the church's app (see last page), or you can make a one-time gift through the QR code here.



The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Music

Offertory Music

Be Thou My Vision

After which the people stand and sing the Doxology.



Hymn 380 v 3

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP 369)

All stand as able

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

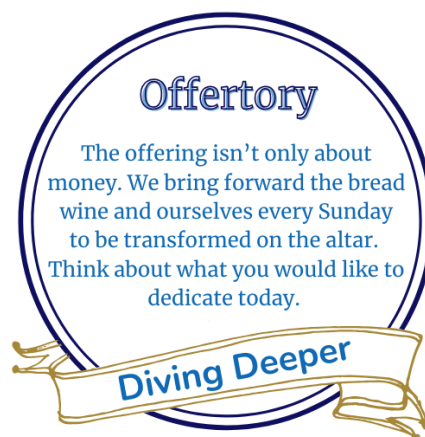
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.



At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



Hymnal #S-125

"Sanctus"

The people kneel or stand

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

Celebrant and People

We celebrate his death and resurrection,

as we await the day of his coming.

The Celebrant continues

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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



LEVAS #264

Our Father, who art in heaven,	who trespass against us.
hallowed be thy Name,	And lead us not into temptation
thy kingdom come,	but deliver us from evil.
thy will be done,	For thine is the kingdom
on earth as it is in heaven.	and the power, and the glory,
Give us this day our daily bread.	for ever and ever. Amen.
And forgive us our trespasses,	
as we forgive those	

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

The people sit

Ministers come forward to receive communion before sharing it. The congregation follows as directed by the ushers.

Distribution of Communion

Post Communion Prayer

The people kneel as able

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.

Blessing

As you leave this place go forth in peace. Be assured that the past is forgiven. Know that the future is in God's hands. Return no person evil for evil. Remember the poor. Pray for the sick. And make no peace with injustice in this world. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all now and always. Amen



Hymn #398

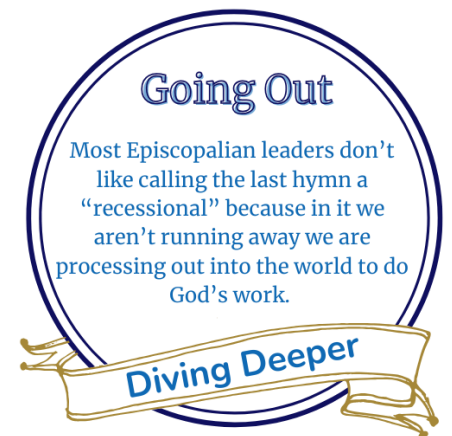
I Sing the Almighty Power of God

Dismissal

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Organ Voluntary





Download the Church Center App!

The Church Center App is one of the main sources for getting connected at St. Andrew's.

- Up-to-the-minute Event Information
- Groups, Serving, and Connection
- Register for Events
- Give via the App
- Check-in your kids



Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us!

We have two different regular worship services on Sunday, both of which include Holy Communion. Holy Communion is a sacrament using bread and wine. It reminds us of Jesus, His teachings, His sacrifice on the Cross, and His continued presence in this church. A few more things about Holy Communion.

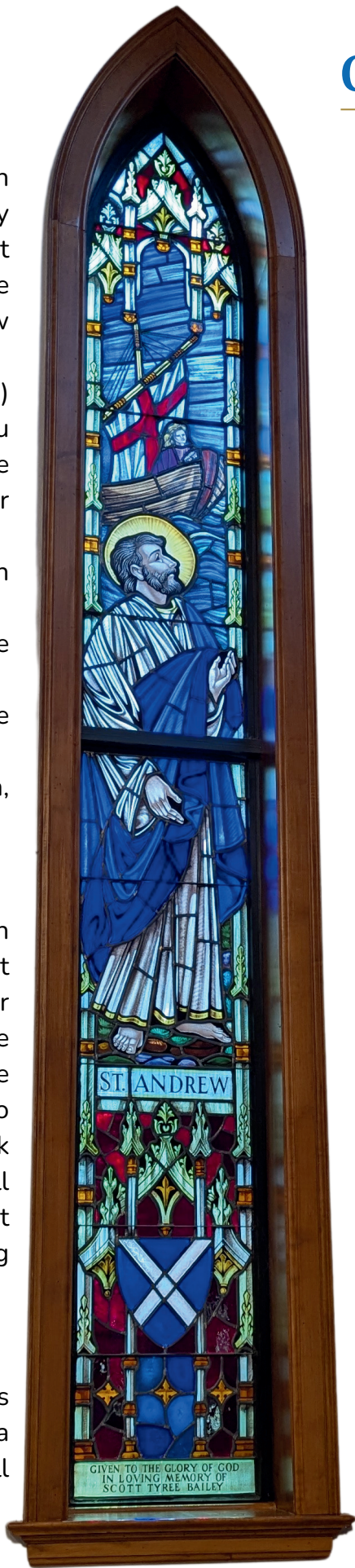
- All baptized people (regardless of Christian Tradition) are invited to receive Communion with us. If you prefer, you can come forward for a blessing. When the minister comes to you, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your preference
- If you don't want to come forward feel free to stay in your seat.
- If you have a gluten sensitivity, Gluten free wafers are available on request.
- If you have mobility concerns tell an usher and we would be happy to bring Communion to you.
- For more info on the basics of the Episcopal church, check out our "Priest Me" podcast on YouTube.

8 AM Rite I

Our 8 am service is smaller and more contemplative than our 10:30. Most Sundays, it is spoken (without music). It uses traditional (Old English) language throughout. For those new to this form of worship, it can take some getting used to, but it is also special to pray in the language of Shakespeare. For the service, you will need to use the *Book of Common Prayer*, which is the black book in your pews with the cross on the front. The priest will call out page numbers as we go. We also provide a sheet with today's readings, which will be helpful for praying the psalm and following today's teaching

10:30 AM Rite II

This is our principal (largest) service on Sunday. It includes music and singing in addition to prayer. We offer a "Sunday Booklet" to help you follow this service. You will also need the blue "1982 Hymnal" found in the pew.



Other Regular Offerings

Children's Chapel/Sunday School/Nursery

Children are always welcome in worship at St. Andrew's! To support our families, we do offer **nursery care** (0-PreK), and **Children's Chapel** (Elementary Age) during the 10:30 service. Ask an usher, and they will tell you where to drop off your kids prior to the service. Your children will join you for Communion.

Youth Ministries and Acolyting

We love to see our youth grow in service and fellowship with us. There is an active youth group. Indicate your interest on the Connection Card and we would love to reach out to you with more Info. Also, children and youth often participate in our Sunday Worship by serving as acolytes (Those in red robes with a white top). If you are interested in learning more ask Rev. Les or any member of the Vestry (church board)

Adult Sunday School

Meets at 9:15am in the Rector's Study. It is a lovely and informal Bible study. Join Us!

Getting Involved

We have so many active ministries, it can be difficult to know where to start. If you want to get more involved here, but aren't sure how to start, fill out one of the **connection cards** in your pew. We will follow up and make sure that you find a meaningful way to start. The Connection card is a way to make sure we have your correct contact info and you are getting the news you want.



Prayers and Celebrations

Prayers Requested

For the Sick and Those in Need:

Catherine	Ben	Melissa
Lisa	Dan	Peggy
Jinx	Marjorie	Ray
Wayland	Dotsy	Tarry
Teresa	Donna	Dana
Zanetta	Dale	Chris
Pris	Jim	Jim
Annette	Judy	Mitza
Cyril	Cindy	

For those serving in our Armed Forces:

Sean	Fletcher	James
Veronica	Will	Thomas
Jericca	Rodney	Austin
Matt	Jonathan	Landon M.
Eric	Adam	Dillon
Bradford	All Veterans	

For the Deceased:

On for Next Sunday? (check it out here)

8 AM

LAY: Virgil Evans

LEM: Brian Westcott

Food Pantry

Diane Dunstan

Rachel Dix

10:30 AM

LAY: Paul Stone

LEM: Carly Thrower & Lisa Stone

Acolytes: Jack and Annaclaire

Ushers: Billy Suggs & Steve Thurkill

Vestry Greeters: Tom Jenkins

Brad Earle



Altar Flowers today

are given to the Glory of God by
Jinx and Wayland Abernathy
in thanksgiving for their many blessings



Announcements



Oktoberfest
October 16 at 6pm
Dinner provided by the Men's Club.



Trunk-or-Treat

This year we are teaming up with Englewood United Methodist Church to put on a Trunk-or-Treat and Fall Festival in between our churches. It will be October 25th, from 5-6:30pm. We will have parts of Circle Drive blocked off. We are currently in need of volunteers to "dress up" their vehicle's trunk space and pass out candy to the families. We also need a few volunteers to help run simple stations, such as face-painting, temporary tattoos, crafts, and praying with festival goers. Can't volunteer but want to contribute? We will take bags of individually wrapped candy! To volunteer or ask questions contact Lora Pons [252-481-8526](tel:252-481-8526) children@standrewsrmt.org

Backpack Buddies

Packing lunches for Winstead Elementary school students will start back up today. After the 8am service, meet in the Parish Hall.

Food Pantry

We will pack bags for the food pantry today following the 10:30am service in the Parish Hall.

Our Wings of Love Bags

ministry is soaring into September with a heartfelt mission: supporting the next group of migrant workers arriving in our community and blessing the residents served by United Community Ministries. As you clean out closets, linen cabinets, and storage spaces this fall, your gently used items can become a lifeline for someone rebuilding stability, comfort, and dignity.



St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

18 Pentecost
9.27.26



Believe
Become
Along

Led by the Spirit, we lovingly serve God through worship, fellowship, spiritual growth, and ministry.

“Water and the Rock”

Today's Homily
Preacher: Rev. Les Carpenter

252-443-2070
standrewsrmt.org



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Rocky Mount, NC 27804