

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

Sunday Worship Booklet

October 18, 2026 - 10:30am

21 Pentecost

Are You New?

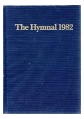
We are **SO** glad you are here!
St. Andrew's is a warm community just waiting to love you. If you like, you will definitely **find good friends** here.

- 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 Exuberant Praise Handbells

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



Hymn #705 As Those of Old

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

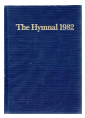
Procession

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 (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-280

The Collect (Prayer) of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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 people are seated for the lessons.

The First Lesson: Exodus 33:12-23

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth." The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Psalm 99

Psalm is read/prayed in unison

1 The LORD is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

2 The LORD is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

4 "O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.

9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

The Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

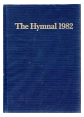
A Reading from Thessalonians

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to

God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able



Hymn #691 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

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

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

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.

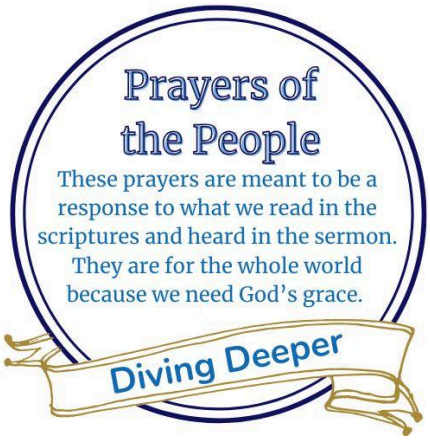
Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

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.

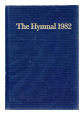


The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Music

Offertory Music: I Know that My Redeemer Liveth,
Soloist: Jim Cagle

After which the people stand and sing the Doxology.



Hymn 380 v 3

The Great Thanksgiving

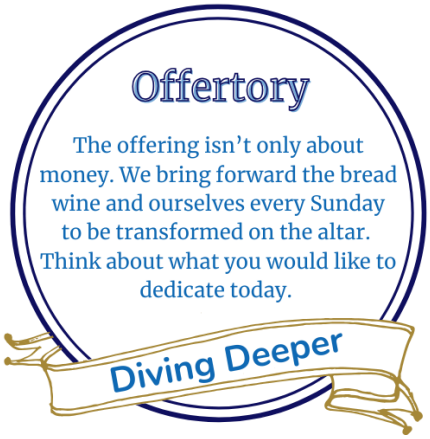
(Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP 369)
All stand as able

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.



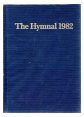
Glory to you for ever and ever.

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-130 "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

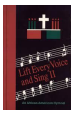
Lord God of our Fathers and mothers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Lea; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; 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,
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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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 O Taste and See
Trio: Rosemary, Hannah, and Kimla

Post Communion Prayer

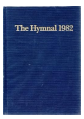
The people kneel as able

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

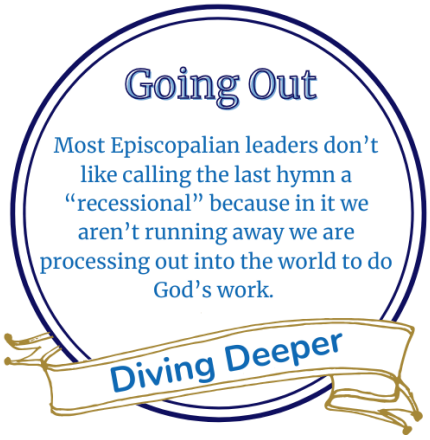
As you leave this place go forth in peace. Be assured that the past is forgiven. Know that the future is in God's hands. Return no person evil for evil. Remember the poor. Pray for the sick. And make no peace with injustice in this world. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit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



Hymn #490 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Dismissal

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



Postlude Organ Voluntary



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.

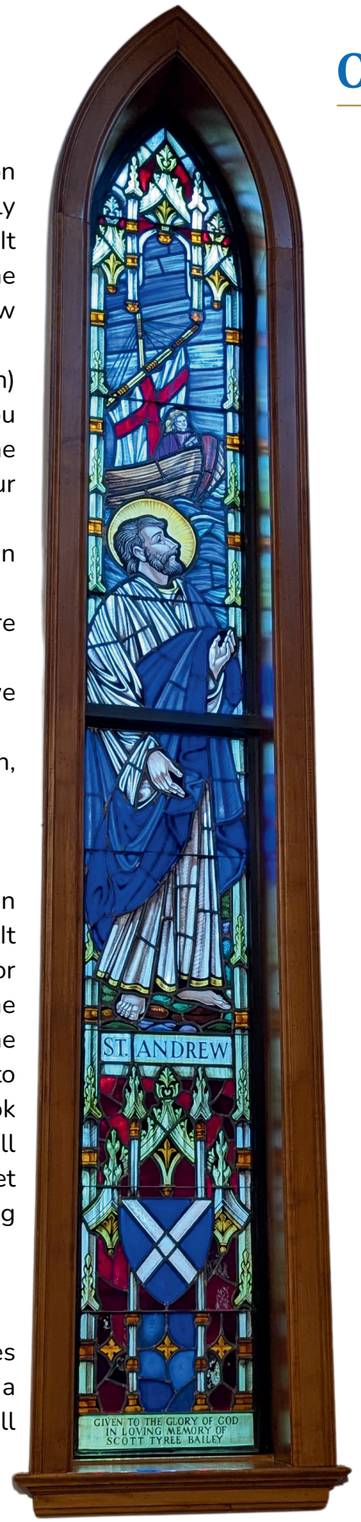
- All baptized people (regardless of Christian Tradition) are invited to receive Communion with us. If you prefer, you can come forward for a blessing. When the minister comes to you, cross your arms across your chest to indicate your preference
- If you don't want to come forward feel free to stay in 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 todays 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 Involed

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, Lisa, Jinx, Wayland, Teresa, Zanetta, Pris, Annette, Cyril, Dotsy, Judy, Cindy, Melissa, Peggy, Ray, Tarry, Mitza, Naomi, Linda, Jay, Elizabeth

For those serving in our Armed Forces:

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

For the Deceased: Victims of the shooting in Erie

On for Next Sunday? (check it out here)

8 AM

LAY: Dick Arnow
LEM: Pam Parker-Collwood

Food Pantry

Diane Dunstan
Rachel Dix

10:30 AM

LAY: Sandy Suggs
LEM: Sandy Suggs
Brandon Rollings
Acolytes: Landon and Liam
Ushers: Jan Arnold and John Lea
Vestry Greeters: Carly Thrower
Brad Earle

Altar Flowers today

are given to the Glory of God by
George and Claire Greer
In loving memory of Ann and George Greer
and Bob Houghtlin



Announcements

We Are Blooming - Stewardship 2027

As we look ahead to 2027, St. Andrew's is preparing to blossom! Grounded in deep roots of faith and love, our community is growing through vibrant worship, expanded youth and music ministries, and hands-on local outreach. This growth is only possible through the faithful stewardship of our church family.

Our 2027 Stewardship Season begins Sunday, October 18, and concludes on Commitment Sunday, November 15, 2026. Please prayerfully consider how you are called to support St. Andrew's with your time, talents, and financial gifts, and bring your completed pledge card with you on Commitment Sunday as we celebrate all the ways God is helping us bloom—please join us!



Wings of Love

This October our bags will bring Christmas Joy to Carriage Court Apartments. Each bag you prepare will be filled with love and gifts to bless the children and families in need. Your generosity can make Christmas brighter and put a smile on the faces of children who need it most!

Fill your bag for all ages:
Toys
Books
Clothes
Hygeine products
Etc.

Return all bags by Sunday, October 27th.

Substitutes for Meals on Wheels Routes

For anyone who is interested please contact Jan Thurkill 252-903-9330. It's the 3rd Thursday at 10am.

Healing Service

Wednesdays at 10:30am
Join us in the Sanctuary



Trunk-or-Treat

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
children@standrewsrmt.org





252-443-2070
standrewsrmt.org

301 South Circle Drive,
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church

21 Pentecost
10.18.26



Believe Become Belong

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

"Rooted"

Today's Homily
Preacher: Rev. Les Carpenter