

St. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014



**5802 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21210-1398
410-435-9470
www.saintandrewscc.org**

**THE REV. ERNEST R. D. SMART, *Pastor*
Patricia McKewen Amato, *Music Director***

Sunday, December 7, 2014

9:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE: O Come O Come Emmanuel 13 C Plainchant Arr. Jeanine Yeager

THE WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In this Advent season, our eyes are set on Table and Manger.

People: For there we see God's great love for us displayed.

Pastor: How shall we respond?

People: Let us ponder the significance of both, and discover what God is accomplishing.

All: Through hymns and prayers, Scripture read and expounded, and in anticipation of what God will do this hour, let us worship Almighty God.

* HYMN 119 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Veni Emmanuel

CALL TO PRAYER, PRAYER, AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Loving God, save us from the frantic pace and commercial intensity of this season, and bring us to the depth and wonder and welcome peacefulness. We confess that we allow ourselves to be overwhelmed by the shallow joy and forced celebration of the season, rather than to delve into the unfolding drama of God's love for us.

We confess our sins to You – the ones others know, the ones kept to ourselves, and those already known to You. Forgive us, and by Your Spirit, lead us into a rich season that heralds and celebrates our Lord's birth. In the name of Jesus, Lord of Manger and Table, we pray. Amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND PROMISE OF NEW LIFE

Pastor: We have come to know that God's forgiveness out-paces our sins.

People: Scripture tells us that if we confess our sins with sincerity and repentance, God is eager to forgive us.

All: By this we know that we can trust Jesus' assurance that our sins are forgiven. Amen.

CEREMONY OF LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

SPECIAL MUSIC: The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came Gabriel's Message,
arr. Nancy Raabe

GOSPEL LESSON

St. John 14: 15-27

*HYMN 321 Break Thou the Bread of Life Bread of Life

SERMON: PEACE! PEACE! WHERE ARE YOU? Rev. Ernest Smart

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY Of the Father's Love Begotten, CORDE NATUS,
art Malcolm Archer

THE DOXOLOGY

**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.**

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMUNION HYMN 419 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly Holy Manna

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(All are welcome at Christ's Holy Table)

COMMUNION MUSIC: O Little Town of Bethlehem Arr. Austin C. Lovelace

CAL TO PRAYER AND THE PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Let us pray . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*using trespasses*)

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

* HYMN 165 Once in Royal David's City Irby

THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Now Let all the Heavens Adore Thee Philipp Nicolai, arr. J.S. Bach

WELCOME NOTES TO YOU FOR THIS SEASON OF ADVENT

WELCOME TO WORSHIP. May everyone present this morning for the worship of Almighty God, be truly blessed with God's special gifts of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy for every day of this week.

A DELIGHTFUL RECEPTION has been prepared for you immediately following worship. Please join us.

MANY, MANY THANKS to everyone who contributed and attended our Pot-Luck dinner last Wednesday evening. A grand and glorious time was enjoyed by all.

THANKSGIVING CONTINUING. We do wish to thank those volunteers who helped to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season, and to the generous members of First Christian Church who enhanced the pews of the Church with pew cushions. Greatly appreciated by everyone.

ADVENT TOUR AT THE WALTERS will take place today, December 7, and also on Sunday, December 21. Barbara Pour will be our tour leader. Everyone is invited. Please come early at 12:15 p.m. for some lunch at the Café. The tour will begin at 1:00 p.m. Free of charge.

OUR NEXT P&R MEETING (Planning and Review) will be held on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7:00. in the Fellowship Hall. This is an open business meeting to which everyone is invited.

MUSICAL INVITATIONS:

- a) Come and participate in Patti Amato's Christmas Choir. Please meet in the Choir room at 10:10 a.m. This will help put you in the Christmas spirit.
- b) Baltimore Musicales will hold a Family Christmas concert on Saturday, December 13 at 3:00 P.M. here in the Sanctuary. Children are especially welcome.
- c) Baltimore Musical will also hold a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 21 at 6:30 P.M. Everyone is invited.

OUR SAINT ANDREW'S BOOK CLUB will hold a Wassail Night at Barbara Pour's home on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. Please give her a call for further details. (410-377-4046).

UPCOMING MUSICAL ARTISTS AT ST. ANDREW'S

- a) December 14, Thea Tullman Moore, soprano,
Claire Galloway Weber mezzo soprano.
- b) December 21, The Borowsky Trio: Ceylia, Elizabeth, and Emmanuel
- c) January 4, Baltimore Bronze Handbells!

Thought for the Week Ahead:

"Peace is the highest patriotism. Peace is our most sacred responsibility"
Paul Robeson (In Freedom, 1953)