

*Sunday, December 8, 2024*  
*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*10:00 AM*

*Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. All the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing, we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."*



**Welcome to Worship!**

***As we prepare for worship, we invite you to a time of silence and focus.***



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP:** It is our joy to welcome you to worship today, in-person and from wherever you may be viewing. We give thanks for whatever brought you, and pray that you may experience the love of God surrounding you and upholding you as we gather together to give thanks to God through Word and Sacrament.

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available to use in the Sanctuary for worship. They are located in the Sound Booth; ask the Sound Booth operator if you would like to use one.

**WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED** in the Faith and Family Center (located near the entrance doors to the large parking lot). Anyone is welcome to worship in that space.

**WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP!** Like Jesus who welcomed children to his ministry, Saint Andrew's welcomes children to our worship services. Re-usable activity bags (for readers and non-readers) with books, stickers, crayons, paper, and a snack are available from the usher/hospitality team; please return the bags following worship.

- "Younger Disciples Tips" are in the bulletin with ideas to engage children in worship.
- "A Time for Younger Disciples" during worship invites all God's children to listen to a message.

**Health Practices** in place to help reduce the spread of viruses and illness:

- Mask wearing is optional. Anyone who wishes to mask is welcome to do so.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.

**For other activities, events, meetings check our website: <https://SALC.church>**

**VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING IN PROGRESS**

**Saint Andrews livestreams and records its worship services to YouTube.**

**Video and Audio recording is currently in progress. It is possible that video footage and/or audio conversations of worshippers in the Saint Andrew's Sanctuary may appear on the YouTube livestream/recording.**

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

"Carol of the Birds"  
Will Simpson, Organ

Traditional French Carol

## BELL INTROIT

## WELCOME

Pastor Lara

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Worship leaders will say text in light print.  
Congregation will say/respond with bold text.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Tune: ELW 276 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Verse 2: Peace

**Candles glowing, promise showing holy peace so still and bright.  
New tomorrow, free from sorrow – living in Christ's holy light.  
Shunning violence, loving neighbor, joy of silence, trust our savior –  
Living in Christ's holy light! Living in Christ's holy light!**

The second Advent candle is lit as the hymn is sung.

*We pray to you for peace, O God.*

***Peace seems hard to come by these days. So many parts of our nation and our world are in turmoil. Violence seems to be winning. But in Jesus, you promise us peace that transcends all understanding. Give us the courage to share this promise with all whom we meet, fostering compassion, understanding, and reconciliation in our communities – trusting that it will be fulfilled. Amen.***

HYMN

# Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

## KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
mer - cy. Lord, have\_ mer - cy. Christ, have\_ mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
mer - cy. Lord, have\_ mer - cy. Lord, have\_ mer - cy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**  
**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have turned away from our neighbors.**  
**We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We plead: come to us.**  
**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth in Christ the Lord, our Savior.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

### **GREETING**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together. Holy God,  
**in the wilderness of the Jordan you sent a messenger to prepare people's hearts for  
the coming of your Son. Grant that we may hear his words and repent of our sins, so  
that we seek to live in the way of your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WORD**

**A TIME FOR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

Doug Johnson

*The Gospel story can be found in your Spark Bible on pg. 234*

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

### **Malachi 3:1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Word of God.

**Word of Life**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Sing two times*



### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

*You may be seated.*

**SERMON**

Jean Wahlstrom

*Please stand as you are able*

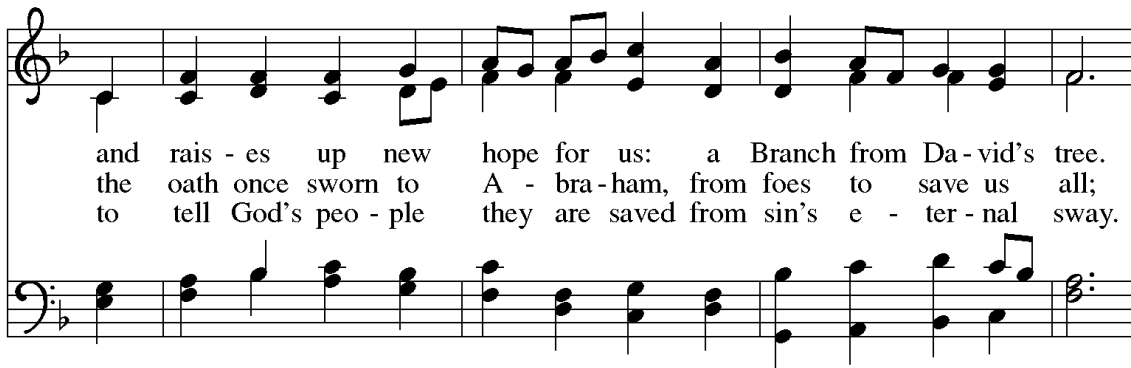


HYMN

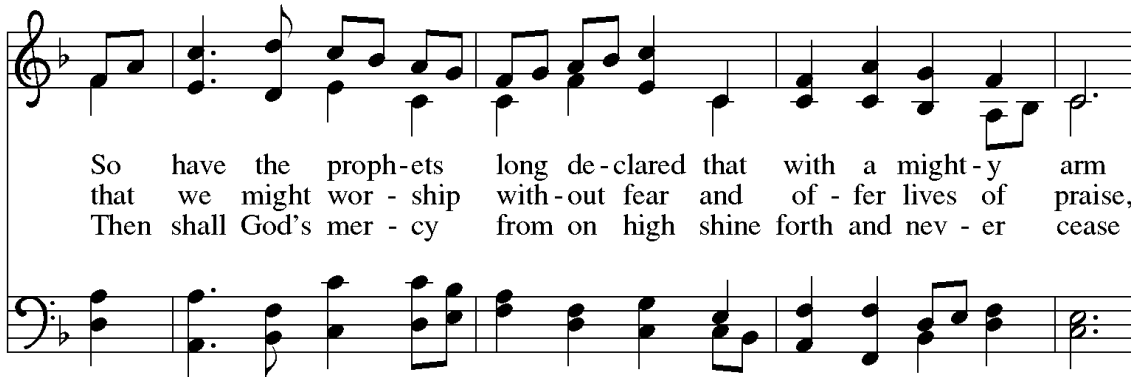
# Blessed Be the God of Israel



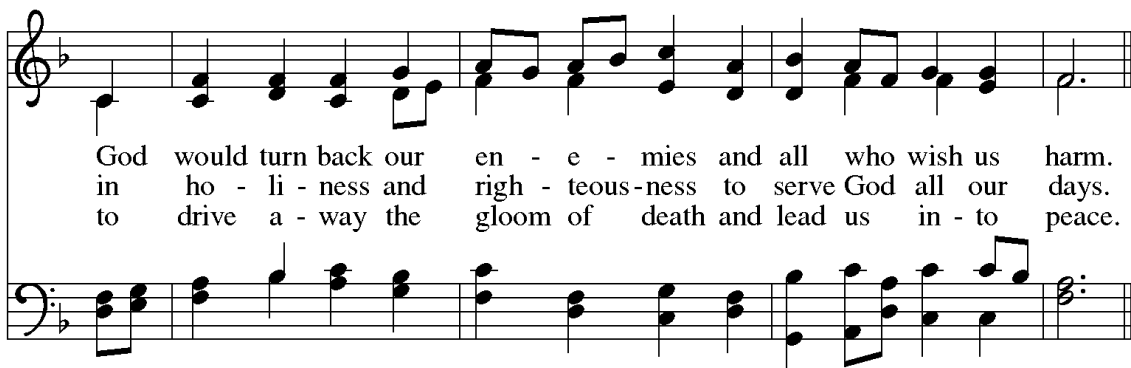
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-prepare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.  
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;  
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm  
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.  
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **Apostles' Creed**

*Trusting in God's baptismal promises,  
we affirm our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was  
buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and  
he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy \*catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\* here, "catholic" means the wholeness of the church in all times and places.*

*Younger Disciples Tip ~ Prayers/Offering: Invite children to write down who they want to pray for this week and one way they can serve their family/community.*

### **THE PRAYERS**

*After each petition, the leader will say. Lord, in your mercy;  
Your response is, **hear our prayer.***

### **THE PEACE**

*The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**And also with you.**

*Please greet people around you as you are comfortable.*

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Lara

**OFFERING** Our ushers will be passing offering plates. We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church. There are envelopes in the pews, or you can give online using the QR code.



**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"  
from (A Quiet Christmas Eve)  
Handbells

Jason W. Krug

## OFFERTORY VERSE



Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in ev-ery gen-er - a - tion. Praise



God, all crea-tures here be-low, who gives to us sal - va - tion. Praise



God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Let



all cre-a - tion praise the Lord with love and ad - or - a - tion.

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

We pray together. Creator God,  
**you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.**  
**We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that**  
**we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

## **MEAL**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# SANCTUS

## Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

*Sanctus*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [in One]

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with a 4-measure rest. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and\_ might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, blessed and broke it and shared it with his friends, saying, “Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his friends, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

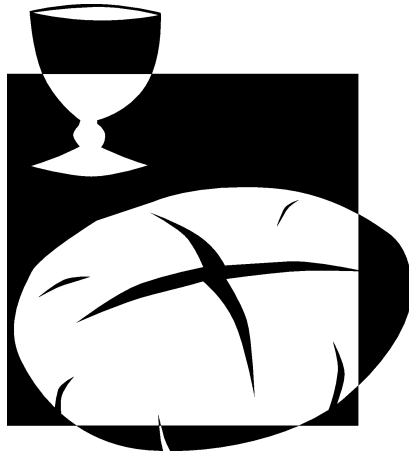
**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated. We wait silently as the participants who are worshiping online are  
communed.*



**LAMB OF GOD**

**O Lamb Of God**

*Fraction Anthem*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

**Gently [In One]**

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly  
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have  
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy  
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.  
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

Today, Communion is received continuously at two stations.

Please follow the directions of the ushers and use the hand sanitizer provided.

Bread is placed in the hands. Red wine and White grape juice are offered by individual cup. Please ask if you would like a gluten-free option.

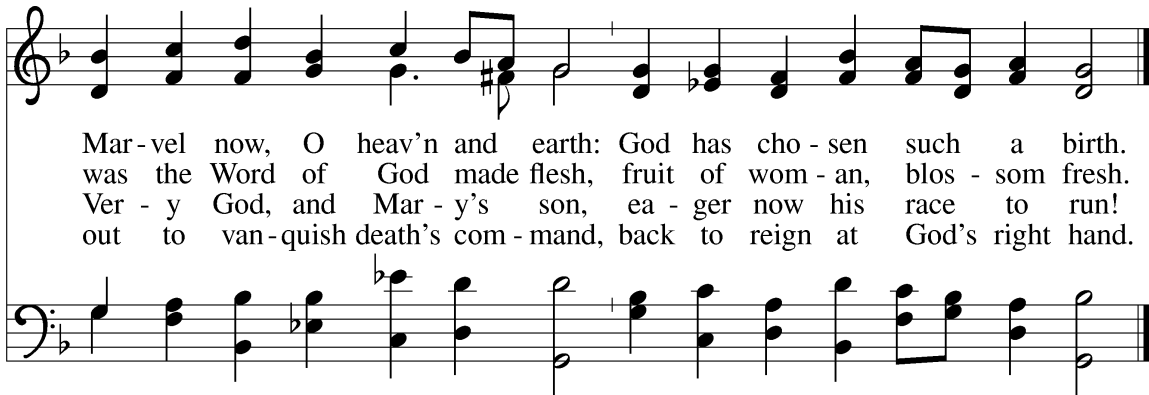
If you wish to be communed in your seat, please let one of the ushers/hospitality team know.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

**Savior of the Nations, Come**



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,  
3 Won - drous birth—oh, won - drous child— from his throne, a vir - gin mild!  
4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path - way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.  
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.  
Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
out to van - quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,  
hallows night with newborn light.  
Night cannot this light subdue;  
let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,  
virgin's son, incarnate Word!  
To the holy Trinity  
praise we sing eternally!

*Please stand as you are able.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together. Generous God,  
**we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation, for coming among us,  
and for leading us into peace. Go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.  
Amen.**



# SENDING

Younger Disciples Tip ~ Blessing: Mark the sign of the cross on your child's forehead as a reminder of this sending blessing

## BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever.  
Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

### Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace, to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## **SENDING**

*All children and youth are invited to come forward to participate in the sending.*

Go in peace. Prepare for Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**          "Silent Night" from (A Quiet Christmas Eve)          Jason W. Krug  
Handbells

## **Thank you to all who are assisting with worship today:**

Pastor Lara Forbes, *Presiding*  
Dr. Will Simpson, *Director of Music*  
Jean Wahlstrom, *Preaching*  
Joyce Nelson, *Lector*  
Amy Baro, *Assisting Minister*  
Elaine Koga, *Accompanist*  
Zoe Elien, *Acolyte*  
John Nelson and Art Gurtel, *Ushers*  
Jay Baxter, *Altar Guild*  
Johannes Grad, *Livestream video*  
Sharon Gurtel, *Audio*  
Judy and Howard Johnson, *Greeters*  
The Camrud Family, *Coffee hosts*

*Volunteers are always welcome! Contact Sherry ([sherry@salc.church](mailto:sherry@salc.church)) to serve as a greeter or coffee host!*

*Pick up our Christmas postcard and share with friends and neighbors!*

### **LITURGY and MUSIC:**

*Unless otherwise noted, liturgy, liturgical music, and hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS), and Scripture readings are from New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV. ) Liturgy and NRSV text from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress; streamed/reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006660. All rights reserved. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-718073. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under CCLI #2042297 and #CSPL048062. All rights reserved. Jason Krug pieces copyright 2020 Beckenhorst Press Inc.*

**Worship Texts for December 15**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Zephaniah 3:14-20**  
**Luke 3: 7-18**

## Calendar for the Week

### **Sunday, December 8**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

- 9:00 AM Discipleship Forum  
Sunday School (pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> gr)  
Youth Education (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> gr)
- 10:00 AM Worship (in person in the  
Sanctuary and livestreamed)
- 11:15 AM Advent “Stone Soup” lunch

### **Monday, December 9:**

- 1:00 PM Staff meeting
- 4:00 PM Congregational Council Mtg

### **Tuesday, December 10:**

- 8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men – Zoom
- 10:00 AM Bible Study w/Pr Lara
- 7:00 PM Handbell Choir rehearsal

### **Wednesday, December 11:**

- 1:00 PM Congregational Care Team
- 4:00 Pm Adult Education Planning Team

### **Thursday, December 12:**

- 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, December 13:**

*Office is closed*

### **Sunday, December 15:**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

- 9:00 AM Discipleship Forum  
Sunday School (pre-K-5<sup>th</sup> gr)  
Youth Education (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> gr)
- 10:00 AM Worship (in person in the  
Sanctuary and livestreamed)
- 11:15 AM Knit Wits
- 4:00 PM Bells of the Sound Concert.

**The Reverend Lara Forbes**, Lead Pastor  
pastor@SALC.church

**The Reverend Timothy T. Weber**,  
Shared-Time Pastor  
timweber@yaho.com

**Dr. Will Simpson**,  
Director of Music Ministries  
will@SALC.church

**Doug Johnson**,  
Director of Youth and Family Ministries  
doug@SALC.church

**Sherry Grindeland**, Fellowship Coordinator  
sherry@SALC.church

**Kurt Lutterman**, Facilities Manager  
kurt@SALC.church

**Mary Mills**, Office Administrator  
mary@SALC.church

**Kathy Fisher**, Communications Director  
kathy@SALC.church

**Vanessa Wilkie**, Handbell Choir Director

**Elaine Koga**, Choir Accompanist

**Soren Lester**, Facilities Set-up

**Ann Thorpe**, Sunday Church School  
Coordinator

**Joan Tweten**, Kitchen Team

**We welcome your  
support of our mission and  
ministry. Use the QR Code  
to give to SALC.**



Saint Andrew's  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



**We are a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation**



2650 148<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98007-6452  
425-746-2529 <https://SALC.church>  
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram  
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