

December 23, 2018

SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1821 SW 37TH STREET TOPEKA, KANSAS 66611 (785) 266-7077

http://www.standrewstopeka.org standrewspresby@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones, Pastor

December 23, 2018

St. Andrews

11:00 AM

Presbyterian Church

"Loving People to New Life in Christ"

With God's grace, St. Andrews strives to be a growing inclusive community of faith, working together, sharing Jesus' love, and using our gifts to build and nurture a spiritual community.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION ~ for your personal reflection before worship.

Lord, be with us this morning as we encounter Mary and hear of the wondrous news that she received. Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News. We are called to proclaim hope, peace, joy, and love in your name, open our hearts and our spirits today to receive with great joy the love that you have for us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

ENTRANCE OF WORSHIP LEADERS

CHORAL INTROIT

O Come Let Us Adore Him John Francis Wade

GREETING

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. If you are interested in joining our church family, please speak to one of our elders, or you may call the church office during the week.

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, you can help us in our ministry by signing the worship registration pad, placed at the aisle end of your pew.

Please join us for time of fellowship following worship. We will gather in our Fellowship Hall for some light refreshments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ORGAN PRELUDE Christmas Lullaby Arr: Albin Whitworth

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Leader: Today we light four candles - the first Candle is called HOPE and it is a reminder that God's promises are true. The second Candle is called PEACE, God's gentle loving peace for our lives. The third Candle is called JOY, because of God's absolute presence in our lives. The fourth Candle is called LOVE, because of God's great love for us. Come, all is ready. Let the light of this these candles, called HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE, bring brightness to your spirits.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: God has one great things for us!

People: God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.

Liturgist: Holy is God's name!

People: God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.

Liturgist: God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

People: God's salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.

*HYMN O Come, O Come Emmanuel No. 88

(Vs. 1-4)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Loving God, even in the midst of this season of goodwill, there is much to confess. In spite of holiday cheer, stress and anxiety rule our lives. We miss the reason for the season, focusing instead on Christmas parties, long to-do lists, and trying to get the shopping done. We fail to think about your reordered world - a world where the lowly are lifted up and the hungry are filled with good things. Help us adjust our Christmas priorities, that we might join with you, O God, in preparing a world that welcomes the one who brings us peace.

SILENT PRAYERS

DECLARATION OF GOD'S PARDON

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria

Hymnal No. 113

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

(Refrain only)

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: Look around. This place is filled with those who thank God

> every time they think of you. By the Lord's grace and compassion, this place is filled with those who hold you in their hearts, those whose prayers for you are filled with joy.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And with you as well. People:

Share the peace of Christ with one another. Pastor:

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Pastor Stacey

(Children, please come forward at the singing of "JESUS LOVES ME.")

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 701 Sanctuary

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHORAL ANTHEM This Holy Night Aspinall/McDonald

Guest Cellist, Alexis Jones

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 1: 39-45 NT pg. 52

SERMON Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones

*HYMN OF RESPONSE While We Are Waiting, Come No. 92 CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Arr: Albin Whitworth

* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

No. 609

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Dear God, you blessed Mary by making her the mother of your only Son, Jesus Christ. You have blessed us, as well, with the gift of your Son, and indeed, with the gift of life itself. Out of all these blessings, we give you back these offerings this day. Knowing that your promises will be fulfilled, we pledge our lives to you in anticipation of the coming of the one who brings us peace. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

*HYMN No. 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION Come, Lord Jesus Ann Laura Page Extinguishing the candles of worship and taking the light of Christ into the world.

POSTLUDE Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Arr: Albin Whitworth

When you see an * please stand as you are able.

Today's Servants

Pastor Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones

Organist: Francene Beall

Music Director: Mark Camacho

Liturgist: Don Newman

Ushers: Don and Marguerite Newman

PRAYER CONCERNS

Keep these folks in your prayers this week: Dick O'Neill (home), Dick and Aggie (joy in upcoming birth of 14th grandchild), Gail Estes (treatment for hives), Betty DeShazer (fall, continued treatment), Rita Kelly, Karl Wilmers, Dolores Wilmers, John Lucero, Don and Olga Fluke, Marian Korup, Kathy Parks, Jerry Barton, Sally Shaffer, Sue McPherson, Don Doty (son of good friend of Norm and Jan, motorcycle accident), Ray Miller (friend of Charles Franks, parkinsons diagnosis); husband of Sandy Short (cancer diagnosis), Susan Blocker (friend of Gail Estes, cancer); Kelly Lindenmeyer Keep Marine 2nd Lt. Randy Luedke in your prayers, as well as all other active duty and

Keep Marine 2nd Lt. Randy Luedke in your prayers, as well as all other active duty and veteran personnel, firefighters, EMTs, and police officers, the victims of violence in our country; east coast floods and storms. Pray for peace for those countries suffering from war and conflict; the ongoing conflicts and violence in our own community, all our government officials, the hungry and the homeless.

Anniversaries

Duane and Dorothy Wulfkuhle, December 24, 1954

Tad and Gail Estes, December 25, 1986

Birthdays

Megan Reynolds, December 23rd
Richmond McDaniels, December 27th
Bob Bodenheimer, December 30th
Kelly Carr, December 31st

Thank You

We had some leftovers, that Francene and Pastor Stacey brought in last week, so it was all put to good use Sunday. I was not there, but was told there was biscotti, brownies, cookies, fresh fruit, crackers, and summer sausage, so I am pretty sure everyone who stayed after church last Sunday enjoyed all of it. Thank you again, Francene and Pastor Stacey, for sharing all of this.

Kathy

Fellowship Hall.

	Calendar
Today, December 23-	11:00 - Worship
Monday, December 24-	7:00 - Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service
Sunday, December 30-	11:00 - Worship
	_ Belated Christmas/Happy New Year Pot Luck