# St. Andrew's Parish Church

Established 1706



The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ The Second Sunday of Epiphany

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m. January 19, 2025



# OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

The Clergy & Staff

THE REVEREND MARSHALL HUEY, Rector

THE REVEREND DAVID ALWINE, Assisting Priest

THE REVEREND LEE HERSHON, Deacon Emeritus

DAVID ACRES, Director of Music

KEVIN UPPERCUE, Piano

BRENDA RINDGE, Director of Christian Education

AMY AUSTEN, Parish Administrator

JEANNE GERHARDT, Parish Bookkeeper

JUDITH ACRES, Administrative Assistant

REED TODD, Sexton

PAUL PORWOLL, Historian

LARRY COOMER, Graveyard Administrator

MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN, AV Coordinator

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON

Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Retired

Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Retired

Bishop in Residence, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church

The Vestry

Debra Bays, 2025

Jim Beall, 2026

Wilson Blanton, 2025 Senior Warden

Stefanie Christensen, 2026

Rick Jennings, 2027

James Little, 2025 Junior Warden

Todd Lundgren, 2027

Randall Shealey, 2026

Romaine Smith, 2027

Michael Ulmer, 2027

Gail Wagaman, 2026

James Wilson, 2025

Vestry-elect

Kathy Abraham

Dean Bays

Pat Davis

T.J. Leavell

John Steinmeyer, Treasurer

Cindi Smith, Clerk

THE RT. REV. CHARLES F. EDGAR III, , Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

#### **SERVING TODAY**

The Rev. Lee Hershon HOMILIST

Kit Davis
James Little
LECTORS

The Patrick Davises
FAMILY OF THE DAY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - Mary Davis

CHALICE BEARER - Marie Connelly

VESTRY IN CHARGE - James Wilson, Michael Ulmer, Jim Beall

ALTAR GUILD - Janet Bex, Romaine Smith, Eric Smith, Andrea Ulmer

# The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ The Second Sunday of Epiphany

January 19, 2025 The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

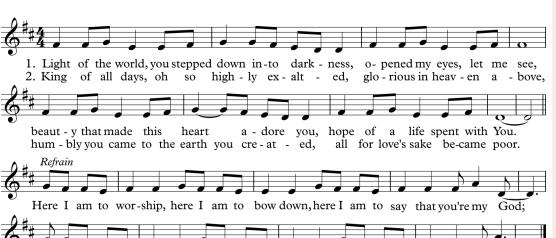
# We Gather in the Lord's Name

Welcome

to our historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

If you are visiting with us today, please take a welcome brochure (located in the envelope rack on the back of each pew) and fill out the visitor card. Please place it in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.

The Processional Song, standing



wor - thy,

love - ly, Words and music by Tim Hughes © 2000 Thankyou Music (admin. by EMI CMG). All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI #1984772

The Acclamation, standing

(BCP page 145)

al-to-geth-er won - der-ful to

Here I Am to Worship

Priest:

I will make you as a light for the nations.

al - to-geth-er

People:

That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

(BCP page 124)

*Priest:* 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.

The Summary of the Law

(BCP page 124)

*Priest:* Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The liturgy begins with the Acclamation, which is an eager expression of praise.

In the Collect for Purity, we ask God to cleanse our hearts and minds of anything that comes between Him and us, anything that would impede our worship of Him. Here we offer ourselves to the glory of Jesus Christ.

These words of Christ bring to our attention the perfect standard of God's righteousness and what He requires of us. Both The Summary of the Law and The Decalogue (Ten Commandments) are valid options for this movement of the liturgy. The Summary was first used in place of The Decalogue in 1718.

3

The words **Kyrie Eleison**. Christe Eleison. mean Lord, Have mercy. Christ, Have Mercy. Within the liturgy, it lifts our voices in a prayer for the compassion of Christ after the declaration of the Summary of the Law, which holds up the standard of God's righteousness. Kyrie Eleison first appeared in the Holy Communion Service as the response of a litany in the Antioch-Jerusalem liturgy after the middle of the 4th century. Around 595AD, Christe Eleison was added by St. Gregory the Great of Rome.

The Kyrie (BCP page 124)

Priest: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Priest: Lord, have mercy upon us.



The Collect is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

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The Collect of the Day, standing

(BCP page 123)

Priest: The Lord be with you. People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

Eternal Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son, and your Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove: Grant that we, who are born again by water and the Spirit, may be faithful as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

Please be seated for the Lessons.

# We Hear God's Word

The First Lesson Isaiah 42 verses 1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. <sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

The Second Lesson (will not be read)

Acts 10 verses 34-38

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

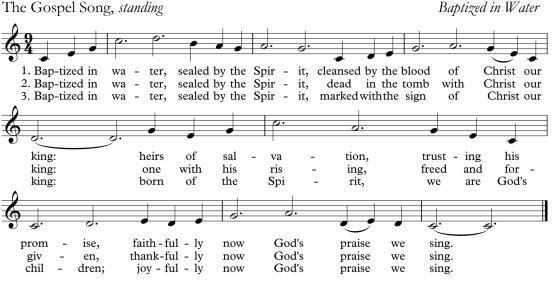
Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God.** 

The SPARK Bible Lesson, seated

Jesus' Baptism SPARK Bible, pg.424 The Scriptures teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the

**Liturgy** of the Word, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

Scriptures tell us that Jesus is the Word that became flesh and dwelled among us. In the reading of the Holy Gospel, the ministers process with the Gospel Book to the Crossing of the church to read the selected passage and symbolize the Word dwelling among us. The ministers process to the Crossing during this hymn.



Text: Michael Saward (b. 1932) Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic folk tune, arr. B. Wayne Bisbee (b. 1934) © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. OneLicense.net A-716890

The Holy Gospel

St. Luke 3 verses 15-22

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

Gospeller: Glory to you, Lord Christ. People:

<sup>15</sup> As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup> But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The word Gospel comes from the Old English word, god-spell, which means "good news" or "glad tidings." That word developed from the Latin word, evangelium, and Greek, evangelion, which also literally means "good news." These are the source of the English words "evangelist" and "evangelism."

The Homily, seated

Deacon Lee Hershon

# We Respond to God

The Nicene Creed, standing

(BCP page 127)

Celebrant: Let us stand and confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

*People:* We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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.

The **Nicene Creed** is a statement of what the Christian community believes to be true about God. It was born of rigorous intellectual debate in the fourth century, culminating in councils of the whole church at Nicaea in 325 and at Constantinople in 381. The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe."

The Prayers of the People, standing

(BCP page 128)

Reader: Let us offer our prayers to God.

Lord God, we thank you for the leaders of our Church, especially Archbishop Wood, Bishop Edgar; Bishop Skilton, Father Marshall, Father David, Deacon Lee, and our staff, and we ask you to bless them. We also pray for St. Andrew's Mission and their Vicar, Fr. Jimmy Gallant.

Lord God, we pray for all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others, in particular San José Church in the Dominican Republic, their Rector, Fr. Isaac Pringle Mejía and their Bishop, Moises Quezada; and Fr. Rob Sturdy, Anglican Chaplain at The Citadel.

Lord God, we pray for the leaders of our country, especially President Biden, Governor McMaster, Mayor Cogswell, and we ask you to bless them.

Lord God, we thank you for all our blessings, especially for people who love and care for us. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we ask you to take care of everyone who is sick or sad. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we pray for all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of resurrection, (interessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we know you hear us when we pray. We ask that you answer our prayers as may be best for us.

Priest:

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all people the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Christians pray. When we worship the living God, we bring before Him our concerns for ourselves and others, for the world, and for the church. We also thank God for hearing and responding to our prayers. At the Offertory, all of our prayers are presented to God along with our tithes and offerings.

About the "posture" of prayer: It has been commonly said that Anglicans kneel for prayer, but that is not the rule for posture in any edition of the Prayer Book. Various editions have assumed that standing is the normal posture for public prayer and have directed the people to kneel only for confessions, for reciting the Commandments, etc. However, in this parish it is the traditional discipline to kneel for the prayers. It is a posture of humility, which is something always worth cultivating in ourselves.

# We Ask for God's Forgiveness

The Confession of Sins

(BCP page 130)

Celebrant: Kneeling, let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God. (Silence)

People: 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.

We are all sinful people. Here, in the **Confession**, we admit our wrongdoings and lay our sins at the feet of Jesus on the cross.

In the Confession of Sin and Absolution, our sins, both individual and corporate, have been confessed, and we have been powerfully reassured of God's complete forgiveness through lesus Christ.

These verses of Scripture following the Absolution serve as a seal of assurance that for those who are truly penitent, the Lord has put

away their sins. They are comforting in that they give us the strength

to believe we are forgiven. The Comfortable Words come di-

rectly from the first Anglican Book

of Common Prayer 1549 written by Thomas Cranmer and were

included through German Lutheran

influence.

The Absolution, kneeling

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

The Comfortable Words

(BCP page 130)

Bishop or Priest:

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28* God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16* 

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

The Peace

(BCP page 131

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

The Peace is a particularly good time to welcome visitors and newcomers. Please take a moment to extend God's peace to those around you. That peace, which the world cannot give, comes only through the forgiving of Jesus Christ. This peace is not rooted in our circumstances but in the presence, promise and power of God and Christ's redeeming work.

# We Give in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings

The Offertory Song, seated

Be Unto Your Name (Robin Mark)

If you want to give an offering to Old St. Andrew's, you may scan this OR code



Or visit oldstandrews.org and click on the giving tab.

We are a moment, You are forever Lord of the Ages, God before time We are a vapor, You are eternal Love everlasting, reigning on high

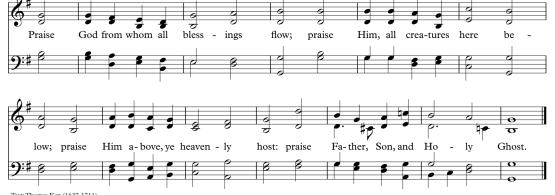
Chorus:

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain Highest praises, honor and glory Be unto Your name

We are the broken, You are the Healer Jesus, Redeemer, Mighty to save You are the love song we'll sing forever Bowing before You, blessing your name *Chorus* 

# The Presentation Song, standing

Doxology



Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711) Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

Celebrant: (BCP page 131)

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

(I Chronicles 29:11-14)

# We Share God's Holy Communion

The Sursum Corda, remain standing

(BCP page 132)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.People: And with your spirit.Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

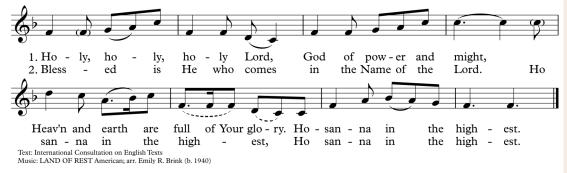
#### The Celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took on our mortal flesh to reveal His glory; that he might bring us out of darkness and into his own glorious light.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### The Sanctus



The Prayer of Consecration, kneeling

(BCP page 132)

# Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

Our altar is **The Lord's Table** and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine.

We offer two chalices for Holy Communion. The first, smaller chalice is for intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice.) The second, larger chalice is for consumption. If you would prefer to drink from the cup, please hold the wafer in front of you until the larger chalice is offered.

\* If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disci-remembrance of me." ples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

#### Celebrant:

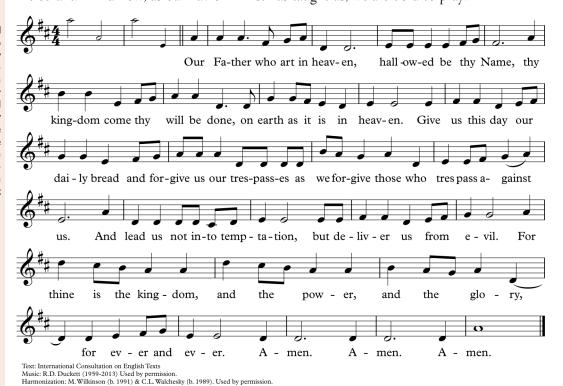
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

This AMEN is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:



The Lord's Prayer, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how to pray, has been a part of Eucharistic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ. When we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.

#### The Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Prayer of Humble Access

(BCP page 135)

Celebrant and People;

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Prayer of Humble Access is a very distinctive element of worship in the Anglican Tradition. Assembled in the earliest prayer books by Thomas Cranmer, it includes phrases and concepts from Mark 7:28, the Liturgy of St. Basil, a Gregorian collect, John 6:56, and some ideas of Thomas Aquinas

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



The Invitation to Communion *Celebrant:* 

(BCP page 136)

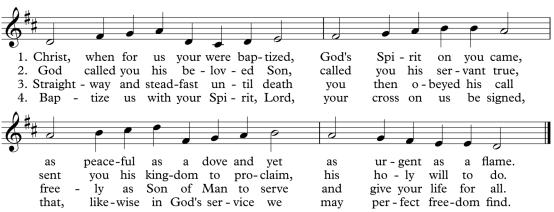
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(If you need Holy Communion brought to you in your pew, please ask the Usher.)

The Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words.

The First Communion Song, seated

Christ When For Us You Were Baptized

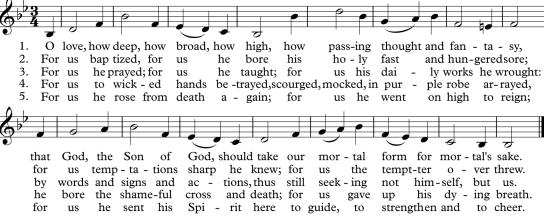


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At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after Communion. In this way all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of Jesus Christ.

The Second Communion Song, seated

Oh Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



Text: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM, from Antiphoner, 1753; adapt. The English Hymnal, 1906, alt.

The Post Communion Prayer, kneeling

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

# Heavenly Father,

We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing



## We Go Out to Serve God

The Dismissal and Commissioning

(BCP page 138)

Priest or Deacon: Our worship has concluded; our service begins.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

As the service ends, we are charged to "go," a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.

We have been blessed by being

here. Now, at the end of the service, we are reminded that God

takes loving delight in blessing us abundantly. We leave in peace,

forgiven, fed, and sent out with a purpose to make Christ known in

the world.

The Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.

### A Brief History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church

Built in 1706, this simple, elegant church is the oldest surviving structure used for worship south of Virginia. It is South Carolina's only remaining colonial cruciform church.

Our historic church holds a full schedule of worship services every Sunday. Some other early colonial churches in South Carolina are still used, but less often. (None is older.) Others have been replaced or augmented by newer buildings, some centuries old themselves, some modern. Still others have vanished, or their ruins stand in silence to ages past. Visitors to our national treasure see a beautifully restored building, but the church hides a past that left it for dead many times.

St. Andrew's Parish Church (commonly known as Old St. Andrew's) was one of ten Anglican churches in South Carolina established in 1706 by the Church Act. It was built to serve the Anglican planters along the Ashley River, a thriving tidal waterway that connected them to the city of Charles Town and to each other.

Rice, indigo, and slaves brought prosperity to the lands along the Ashley, where some of the wealthiest plantations in British North America were located. The church was expanded to the shape of a cross in 1723 to accommodate a growing population. It survived a major fire in the 1760s but was quickly rebuilt inside its existing walls. But the parish declined after the Revolution and into the antebellum era. Ministering to the slaves, at the church and three plantation chapels, became the focus of the clergy. From 1851 to 1891, the Rev. John Grimké Drayton, the renowned horticulturalist at Magnolia-on-the-Ashley just north of St. Andrew's, was rector.

The church was one of the few buildings along the Ashley that Union troops did not burn to the ground during the Civil War. It became a polling place and did not reopen until 1876, eleven years after the war ended. The parish found itself at the epicenter of two of the most important events of late nineteenth century Charleston: the phosphate mining boom along the Ashley and the Great Earthquake of 1886, which caused significant damage to the church. After Rev. Drayton died in 1891, St. Andrew's lay dormant for the next fifty-seven years.

In 1948 Episcopalians moving to the West Ashley suburbs reopened the dilapidated church, even though it was far away from new residential developments. Dogged perseverance brought slow but continual improvements. A parish house was built, and then expanded twice in quick succession. Hurricane Hugo (1989) caused major damage to the graveyard. Into the twenty-first century, the church undertook the most extensive restoration in its history and celebrated its tercentennial.

In 2013, the Parish left The Episcopal Church and aligned with the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina and later with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

For more than 300 years, St. Andrew's has survived, indeed has thrived, against all odds.

- Paul Porwoll, author of Against All Odds: History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church, Charleston, 1706-2013

