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**The Third Sunday of Advent :: *Gaudete!* Rejoice!  
Year A**

## From Randy DiPentima, Senior Warden

I write these words belatedly because, probably like many, I have gotten caught up in the mostly secular frenzy of December: parties, concerts, gift shopping, Christmas cards, decorations, baking, etc—all to be accomplished before Christmas. Have I missed something in my frenzy? I believe so.

For us as Episcopalians, Advent is the *beginning* of our church year—a time of preparation, of expectation for the birth of Christ *and* the final coming of Christ "in power and glory." Said another way, our faith does not allow us sit back Christmas Day night, breathe a sigh a relief and put our feet up. Advent is not just a time to prepare for Christmas ... but also to prepare for the Christian journey that lies ahead.

As we enter the third week of Advent, may we all find time to truly observe Advent—to reflect, to pray, to worship together and to rest ... to prepare ourselves for the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. For Advent is just the beginning.

My best wishes for a joyful and peaceful Christmas, and I look forward to sharing the church year ahead with you.

# This Week at St Andrew's



## ***Stir-up Sunday!***

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Tonight, 09 December :: 8:00 pm

Music in the Nave: *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Messiah Sing-in*

Saturday, 10 December :: 3:00 pm

Kent Singers: *Welcome Yule!*

Sunday, 11 December :: 8:30 am

**Holy Eucharist: *The Third Sunday of Advent*** (spoken)

Sunday, 11 December :: 9:15 am

Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 11 December :: 10:30 am

Church School

Sunday, 11 December :: 10:30 am

**Holy Eucharist: *The Third Sunday of Advent*** (with music) (*in-person and live-streamed*)

Sunday, 11 December :: 11:40 am

Coffee Hour

Sunday, 11 December :: 3:00 pm

Kent Singers: *Welcome Yule!*

Monday, 12 December :: 8:00 pm

LGBTQ+ A.A. meeting

Wednesday, 14 December :: 6:00 pm

**Mid-week Eucharist**

Wednesday, 14 December :: 7:00 pm

A.A. for Women (*Zoom meeting; email us for info*)

Thursday, 15 December :: 5:00 pm  
Vestry Meeting

Thursday, 15 December :: 7:00 pm  
A.A. meeting

Thursday, 15 December :: 7:00 pm  
Al-Anon meeting (Old Vestry Room)

## Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

**Details about many of these events can be found later  
in this issue of the *Epistle***

**Tonight, 8:00 pm**  
Music in the Nave presents our  
*Annual Messiah Sing-in!*

**Sunday, 18 December, 3:00 pm**  
**Blue Christmas Service**  
*Our friends at First Congregational will host us  
for a service of remembrance and reflection for those  
who find Christmas is a challenging time of year as they mourn the loss of  
loved*

Details about *all* of our many late Advent and Christmastide liturgies appear  
later in this *Epistle*.

## This Year's *Messiah* Sing-In: Tonight!



Hallelujah! Music in the Nave will offer our 11<sup>th</sup> annual *Messiah* Sing-In on Friday, 09 December at 8 pm. James Sinclair leads the Sherman Chamber Ensemble and guest soloists in a performance of Part One (The Nativity) and the Hallelujah Chorus of Handel's glorious *Messiah*.

And who did we get for a chorus? You! If you so desire, sit up front: we'll lend



you a score and you lend us your voice. Or sit anywhere else and just enjoy the show. Either way, it's going to be an evening of beautiful music and good times.

Tickets are \$20 and available at <https://bit.ly/messiah11> or the door. Students are free.

## Help Make a Christmas in Ukraine: Support Kent School Students' Efforts



This past Sunday, we were blessed to welcome to Coffee Hour Kent School student Lisa Popova, who hails from Ukraine. Lisa's immediate family is currently living in Italy, and her grandparents remain in Kyiv. Lisa gave a brief presentation on the history and culture of Ukraine ... the lead-up to the war being waged by Russia ... and some of the on-the-ground consequences of that war—and *also* the unbounded and heartening resilience of the Ukrainian people. We also had an opportunity to get to know Lisa a little, as well.

Lisa and her Ukrainian schoolmates at Kent are raising funds to help provide Christmas gifts for injured, displaced and orphaned children in Ukraine. These students are raising funds in the U.S. The money will then be used by folks in Italy to purchase gifts, which will then be driven to Ukraine in time for the holidays.

If you would like to contribute, ***you can drop off cash or a check (made payable to Kent School—REACH) at the Parish Office***, and we'll make sure all of your giving makes its way to Lisa and her cohorts.

This Saturday & Sunday:

# Kent Singers at St Andrew's



## WELCOME, YULE! A HOLIDAY RETROSPECTIVE

The Kent Singers will present Welcome, Yule! A Holiday Retrospective on Saturday, December 10, and Sunday, December 11, 2022, at 3:00 pm at St Andrew's Church.

Join us in celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary season with a festive concert featuring our favorite selections from our repertoire over the years. The concerts will feature piano, organ and brass accompaniment and will be conducted by our Music Director James Knox Sutterfield.

Tickets are \$20 in advance at <https://kentsingers.com/tickets/> or at the door, with children under 12 admitted free; further information available at 860-619-8110 or at <https://kentsingers.com/>.

## Advent & Christmastide at St Andrew's: Here Are All the Details

Sun, 18 Dec :: 8:30 & 10:30 am

### **Advent 4**

Children's Pageant *and*  
Procession to the Crèche (10:30 only)

Sun, 18 Dec :: 3:00 pm

### **Blue Christmas Service**

at First Congregational Church  
for those who are grieving

Sat, 24 Dec :: 4:00 pm

### **Family Christmas Eve Eucharist**

at St Joseph's Chapel, Kent School

reception follows

Sat, 24 Dec :: 9:00 pm

**Traditional**

**Christmas Eve Eucharist**

Choral Prelude begins at 8:40

Sun, 25 Dec :: 10:00 am

**Shared Christmas Liturgy**

at First Congregational Church

Sat, 31 Dec :: 6:00 pm

**New Year's Eve**

**Service of Self-Dedication**

Sun, 01 Jan :: 10:00 am

**Holy Eucharist:**

**Feast of the Holy Name**

only one service this day

## 2023 Offering Envelopes: Now Available



Offering envelopes for 2023 are now available. Whether you make a contribution every week ... or once a month ... or only occasionally, using an envelope really helps our counters record your contribution accurately.

If you have requested envelopes, they are available for pick-up in the Narthex. If you would like to request envelopes (we have plenty!), please be in touch with KC in the Parish Office or Steve Morocco, our Treasurer.

St Andrew's Current COVID Status



## THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in individual portions.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services.

## Help Support the Kent Food Bank



Please help our parish family continue to support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund  
P O Box 262  
Kent, CT 06757  
*memo: Food Bank*

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's new Social Services Director, Samantha Hasenflue. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Samantha's office in Town Hall or dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place it in the offering plate, marked for the Food Bank.)

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna**. Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the back of the Community House on Main Street. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

## Lections for this Week

### **The Third Sunday of Advent**

*Year A*

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Canticle 15  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11



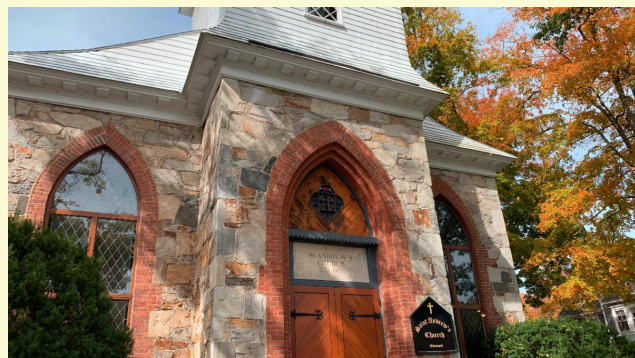
## Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order to view past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays located on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

## Worship Services

**-Sunday-  
Holy Eucharist**  
8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.  
(Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays)  
In person  
(10.30 a.m. available live  
stream on YouTube)



**-Wednesday-  
Holy Eucharist**  
6.00 p.m.





**-Holy Days-**  
**Holy Eucharist**  
9.00 a.m.



## 12 Step Meetings

### **Mondays**

LGBTQ+ A.A. - **new**  
(Parish House)

### **Wednesdays**

A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.  
*Zoom meeting*  
*email us for info.*

### **Thursdays**

Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.  
(Old Vestry Room)  
A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new**  
(Parish House)



## Parish Staff

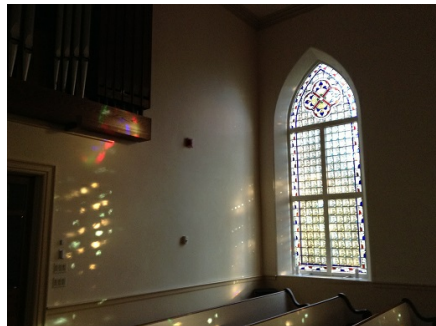
**The Rev Douglas S  
Worthington**  
Priest in Charge  
[frdouglas.sak@gmail.com](mailto:frdouglas.sak@gmail.com)  
860-592-0171

**Susan Guse**  
Organist & Director of Choirs

**Ron Marasco, Ph.D.**  
Director of Education

**KC Compton**  
Parish Administrator

**Jane Farnol**



Church School Leader

**Joan I Cassel**  
Financial Secretary

**Randy Osolin**  
Verger

**Gloria Contreras**  
Sexton



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Parish office open every day except Friday and Saturday from 10 am- 5 pm

Visit St Andrew's website at  
[www.standrewskentct.org](http://www.standrewskentct.org)

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut  
[www.episcopalct.org/](http://www.episcopalct.org/)

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