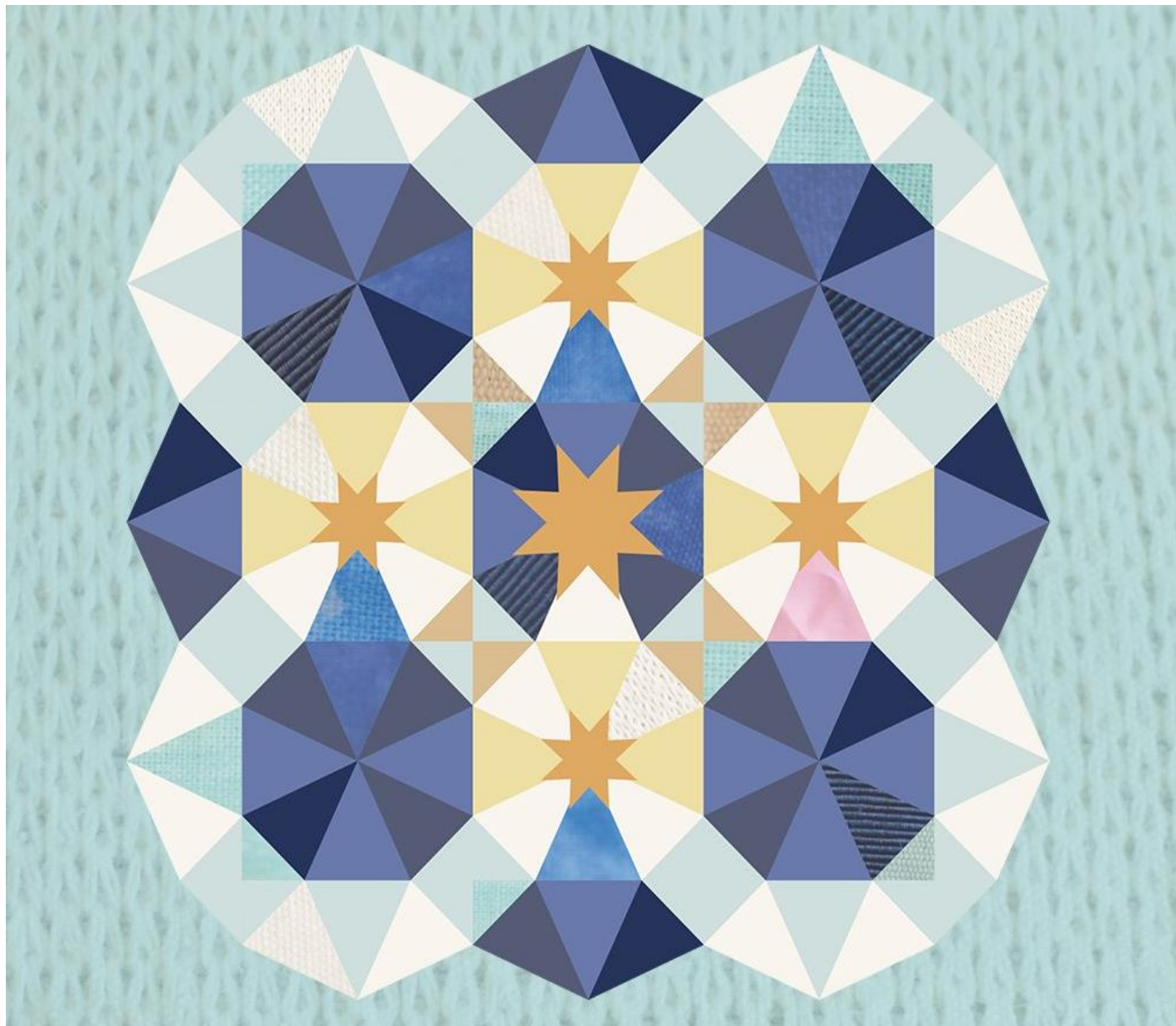


Welcome to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



“Hope is Worth the Risk”

December 22nd, 2024

***8192 Davison Rd., P.O. Box 386 Davison, MI 48423 ***

***(810) 653-6824 * office@standrewsdavison.org ***

*Denotes to stand if able

SUNDAY SHEPHERD

Julianne Princinsky

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

St. Andrew's Carillon

PRAISE TO GOD

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In this weary world,

People: We sing of joy.

Pastor: In this fragile world,

People: We lift each other up.

Pastor: In this beautiful world,

People: We look for God.

Pastor: In this tender world,

People: We hold onto hope.

Pastor: This is the invitation of faith. So in this time of worship, may we sing, lift up, look for, and hold onto our with-us God.

People: With hope in our hearts, Amen!

*HYMN # 271

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" v. 1 – 2

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

Reader: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

All: Let us begin with tenderness. Let us begin with our hearts on our sleeve.

Let us begin from a place of vulnerability and hope.

Reader: Yes, let us start with love. Today we light the candles of hope, peace, joy and love.

All: May the warmth of these lights be our cornerstone.

May the truth in these lights help us begin again.

Reader: May it be so! Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Pastor: Gracious God, you paint pictures of what could be,

People: But we declare those visions impossible.

Pastor: You speak of the lion lying down with the lamb,

People: But we spout skepticism and uncertainty.

Pastor: You dream of a more Just day,

People: But we poke holes in the plan, unable to fathom that horizon.

Pastor: Forgive us for losing sight of hope.

People: Forgive us for assuming that what we see is all there is.

Pastor: Open up our hearts to see the world as you see it.

People: Open up our hearts to risk hope, to dream dreams, and to not be afraid of either.

With gratitude we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE: HYMN # 812**

"Glory Be to the Father"

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Greet each other with the sign of peace)

HYMN # 245

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel v. 1 – 4

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kevin Strang

SCRIPTURES

Kevin Strang

First Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Second Gospel Reading: Luke 1: 46-55

Reader: This is the WORD of the LORD for His people.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to GOD!

MESSAGE

"Hope is Worth the Risk"

Pastor Linda Graham

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (In-Unison)** from Sanctified Art- Words for the Beginning
We believe in a God who gives us reason to hope, a God who fills our nights with stars, who follows winter with spring, who dwells with and among us. We believe that this God has dreams for creation, dreams of justice like a mighty stream and swords that will be beaten into plowshares. Therefore, we push cynicism aside. We risk vulnerability. We hold onto hope, and we declare: “My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior.”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

***RESPONSE HYMN # 815** *“Doxology”*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In-Unison)

God of righteousness, you have saved us from the worst the world can do and have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts of money and self, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now, as we watch for Christ’s coming in glory. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN** *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”* v. 1 – 3

CHARGE & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

St. Andrew’s Carillon

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!



December Advent & Christmas Lectionary

[Fourth Sunday of Advent](#)
Dec 22, 2024

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:46b-55
or
Psalm 80:1-7

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45,
(46-55)

[Nativity of the Lord - Proper I](#)
Dec 24, 2024
Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

[Nativity of the Lord - Proper II](#)
Dec 25, 2024
Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day

Isaiah 62:6-12

Psalm 97

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

[Nativity of the Lord - Proper III](#)
Dec 25, 2024
Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid-Day

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1:1-4,
(5-12)

John 1:1-14

[First Sunday after Christmas Day](#)
Dec 29, 2024

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Psalm 148

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52