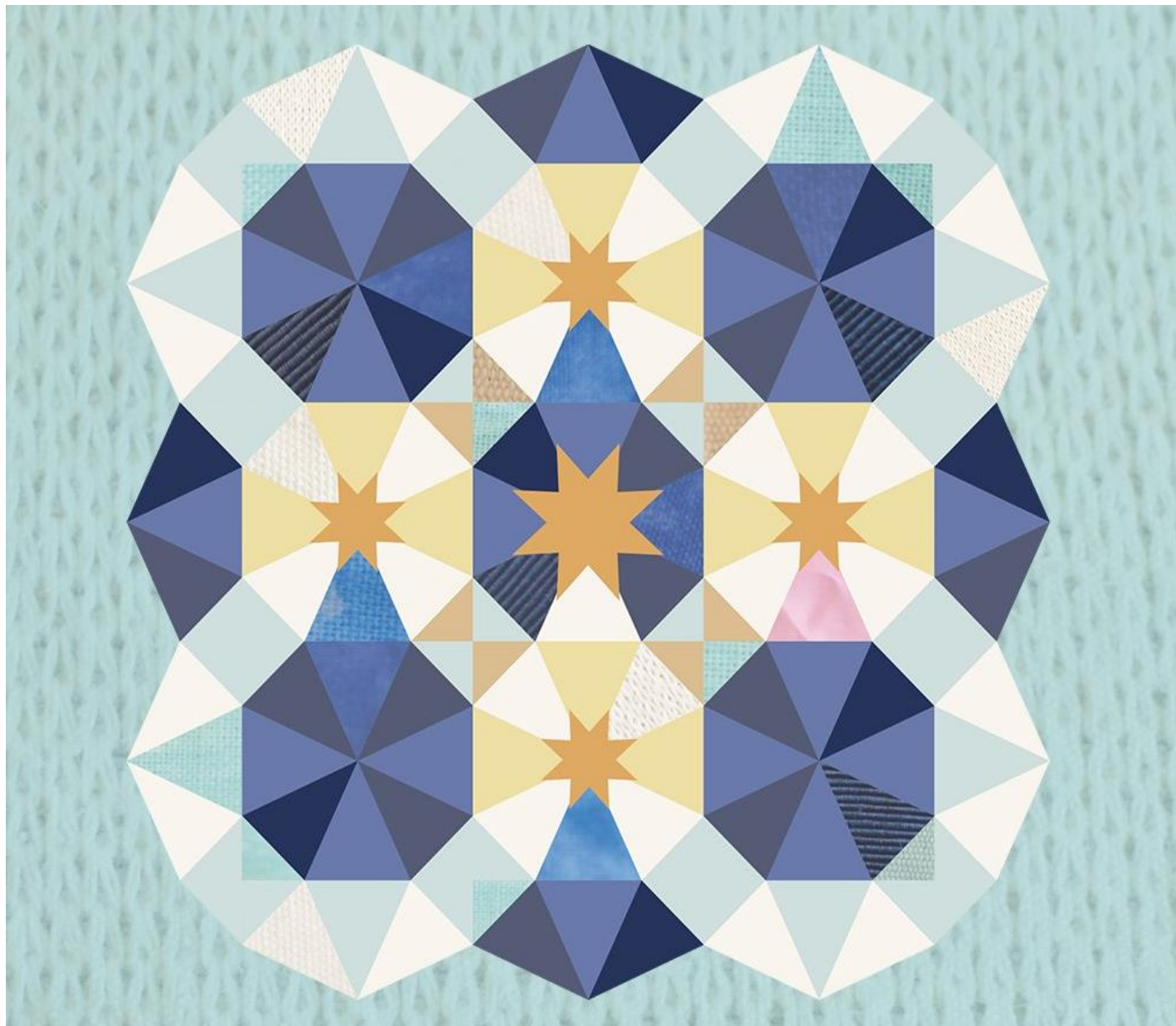


# Welcome to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



***“The Road Isn’t Straight”***

**January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

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\*Denotes to stand if able

## SUNDAY SHEPHERD

### GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

St. Andrew's Carillon

### PRAISE TO GOD

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: How did you get here?

**All: I walked, eyes looking up, following the star.**

Pastor: I ran, lunging for a love that is bigger than me.

**All: I tumbled and fell, tender step after tender step.**

Pastor: I ambled like a river, caught up in God's flow.

**All: I crawled, kissing the earth below me.**

Pastor: Tell me again. How did you get here?

**All: I am here by God's grace and love's pull.**

Pastor: Welcome home. This is God's house. There is room for you here.

**All: Let us worship our gracious God.**

\*HYMN # 288

*"We Three Kings of Orient Are" v. 1, 2 & 5*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In-Unison)

God of new beginnings, we admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before. Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread. On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star. Give us the courage to go home by another way. Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor. For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow. With hope on our hearts we wander, we travel. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)

Pastor: ...[Continues]... Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

**People: Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have every chance to begin again. Thanks be to God for a love like that!**

\*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 # 811**

*"Another Year is Dawning" v. 1 – 3*

**PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURES**

Second Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

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

**PEOPLE: Thanks be to GOD!**

**MESSAGE**

*"The Road Isn't Straight"*

Pastor Linda Graham

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (In-Unison)** from Sanctified Art- Words for the Beginning

**We believe in a with-us God, a God who is beside us in the mountains and valleys, holding our hand through every bump and turn. And the chaos of our journey, we believe that God sees what we cannot always see: a path home by another way. Therefore, trusting in this ever-present and guiding God, we lace up our shoes. We look for God's fingerprints in the world. We trust that there are paths still unexplored, paths that God has only begun to invite us down. And like the Magi, we dare to follow. May it be so, Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**\*RESPONSE HYMN # 815**

*"Doxology"*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In-Unison)**

**Thanks, be to you O God, maker of heaven and earth, giver of justice, lover of righteousness, hope of the afflicted, and friend of the poor. Your faithfulness never fails. Take and use these gifts we offer to further your purpose in the world and to fulfill the promise of the world to come; through Christ our Lord we pray. 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 # 258**

*"Go, Tell it on the Mountain" v. 1 – 3*

**CHARGE & BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*"Creator of the Stars"*

by St. John's Episcopal Church of Boulder, CO



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**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!**

## January Christmas Lectionary

[Second Sunday after Christmas Day](#)  
Jan 05, 2025

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
**or**  
*Sirach 24:1-12*

Psalm  
147:12-20  
**or**  
*Wisdom of Solomon 10:15-21*

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:(1-9), 10-18

## January Lectionary

[Epiphany of the Lord](#)  
Jan 06, 2025

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm  
72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

[Baptism of the Lord](#)  
Jan 12, 2025  
*First Sunday after the Epiphany*

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

[Second Sunday after the Epiphany](#)  
Jan 19, 2025

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm  
36:5-10

1 Corinthians  
12:1-11

John 2:1-11

[Third Sunday after the Epiphany](#)  
Jan 26, 2025

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians  
12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21