



st. andrew's episcopal church

Shining the Light

Welcoming. Growing. Caring. All with Joyous Hearts.



September 22, 2021

Dear Saint Andrews,

Today officially marks the first day of autumn, and I tend to agree with C.S. Lewis that “autumn is really the best of the seasons.” For some reason I can’t quite articulate, autumn feels emotionally stimulating—with feelings of both melancholy and warmth characterizing the autumn mood for many. Reflecting on this autumnal mood, it seems to be bound up with feelings of longing—nostalgia for experiences of autumns past and yearning for new experiences that will again bring warmth and joy.

This feeling in some ways characterizes the longing I feel for our Saint Andrews community—a nostalgia for traditions we’ve experienced together in the past as well as a yearning to experience new things together. I find myself hoping that the cooler weather will afford us opportunities to gather outside to enjoy the season together. As a vestry we have discussed how we might come together and honor our community traditions in new ways as we continue to navigate uncertainty. We will continue to look for ways to do this and welcome feedback from the parish.

I recently came across this lovely reflection that I hope will give you feelings of both nostalgia and hope as we enter this new season together.

*In the fading of the summer sun,
the shortening of days, cooling breeze,*

*swallows' flight and moonlight rays
We see the Creator's hand.
In the browning of leaves once green,
morning mists, autumn chill,
fruit that falls, frost's first kiss
We see the Creator's hand. - Unknown*

Sarah Flowers
Vestry Member

This Sunday at St. Andrew's

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday September 26, 2021**

8:00 a.m. Spoken Eucharist in the Sanctuary

- **Crucifer:** Cullen Thomas
- **Prayer Leader:** Susan Thomas
- **Lector:** Susan Thomas
- **Altar server:** Marc Hone



10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist in the Sanctuary, plus Family Service

- **Crucifer:** Dana Madsen
- **Prayer Leader:** Dana Madsen
- **Lector:** Jen Madsen, Jim Williams
- **Altar server:** Ana White
- **Ushers:** Karen White, Anne Williams

Counters: Joyce Fall, Joy Oakes

Readings: [Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10](#); [9: 20-22](#), [James 5: 13-20](#) and [Mark 9: 38-50](#)

Rev. Rachel's Sermon from September 19: "I Can't Do It All, And I Don't Have To"

We struggle as we compare ourselves to the ideals of our society. To have perfect bodies, be perfect parents, or pursue the most successful careers, to name a few. But there is no perfect person except the one sent to save the world. Once we accept that we can't be a savior for ourselves and everyone around us, only then can we turn, in humility, to our Lord, who calls us to lives of faith, not perfection.



Book Study with Rev. Rachel Tonight at 7:30pm

Whenever we gather for worship, there is a certain pattern and flow to what we do. You may not think about it as



worship goes on, but it is all intentional, and through it, God forms us for our everyday lives. In her book *Liturgy of the Ordinary*, The Rev. Tish Harrison Warren writes about how our daily habits, like brushing teeth and making the bed, can actually be sacred moments.

[Join us tonight on Zoom at 7:30pm](#) as we talk about how what we do everyday, even the mundane, is intricately linked to how we worship God.

For this evening's session, please read chapters 1-3, and for our next meeting on September 29, please read chapters 4 and 5.

Glorious Companions

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, September 29, at 10:30 am** in the Lounge – masked and socially-distanced.

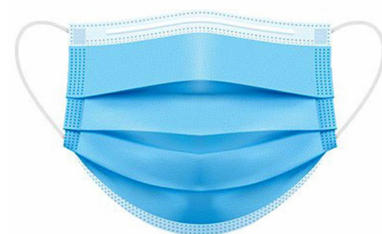
Please read the chapter on Dietrich Bonhoeffer in our book, *7 Men and 7 Women* by George Metaxas.

Save the Date: The Blessing of the Animals Sunday October 3 at 1:00pm



Updated Mask and Physical Distancing Guidelines

Arlington County now has a High level of community transmission, per the CDC covid tracker website. The Wardens and Vestry have made the decision to shift our mask protocols to requiring everyone over the age of 2, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, to be masked when gathering indoors AND to adhere to physical distancing.



These measures, however long they remain a requirement, are things we can do to show our love and care for one another. Thank you for your patience and grace as we navigate worshiping together safely during changing COVID circumstances.

Who to Contact at St. Andrew's While Rev. Dorota is on Leave

While Rev. Dorota is on parental leave, please reach out to the following individuals for support:

- The [Rev. Rachel Rickenbaker, Supply Priest](#), for concerns related to pastoral care or worship
 - [Susan Thomas, Senior Warden](#) and [Christine Ensley, Junior Warden](#) for all other matters
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In Our Prayers

This week we pray for:

Helen Justus
Henry Schmidt
Richard Vaughn
Trudy Koczyk
Laura Ingles
John Ingles
Chuck Shelton

Prayers for the repose of the soul of Diane Harms and for comfort for her family.

Would you like to add a name to the prayer list? If so, please [email the church office](#) with your request. Names will be kept on the prayer list for about a month unless otherwise specified, and will be published weekly in *Shining the Light*.



The Garden is in full stride. Please join us on Saturday Morning September 25 at 9:00am!

On Saturday, September 18th, seventeen volunteers, from the parish, Marymount, JLNV, FOUA and others including Jen, Nate, Bas, Susanna, Ella, Lauren, Caroline, Sofia, Lauren, Felicia, Shelby, Katy, Alex, Sade, Steve, Dave, and Doris harvested 183.5 lbs of squash, peppers, tomatoes, and pumpkins. The produce was delivered to Rock Spring Congregational Church on Monday for further distribution to the food banks. As the season winds down, the butternut squash has weaved its way through the garden. We are looking forward to a large fall harvest of squash.

To date, the garden has produced for donation, 2,933.5 lbs of fresh organic vegetables for local food banks.

The Garden of Hope at St. Andrew's is doing well but we would like to see **more St. Andrew's Volunteers**. We have room for 20 volunteers during our Saturday morning workday. Tomato and pepper picking season is upon us. We hope to see more St. Andrew's volunteers and look forward to seeing our regular volunteers in the garden Saturday. Volunteers are also needed on Tuesdays and Thursdays to water. If you have questions, please contact Emily Blecksmith, our Parish Administrator.

Our next work day is **Saturday, September 25** starting at 9:00am (Sunday September 26 at 11:30am if it is too wet on Saturday). If you have an interest in volunteering in the St. Andrew's Garden for Hope, please sign-up through [Sign Up Genius](#).

Buildings and Grounds has an old 4'x8' plywood sheet and what appear to be two brand-new 4'x8' wallboard sheets to give away. Please address inquiries to Jim Williams, cell 703-340-6018.

Donation Opportunities

A-SPAN is Now PathForward! Virtual Donation Opportunity

PathForward (www.pathforwardva.org - formerly A-SPAN) has updated their [Amazon Wish List](#) to reflect their current needs and we wanted to pass along the link in. PathForward is in active need of **foot powder and incontinence pads and underwear, as well as household cleaning supplies**. An address should pre-populate for you with the Wish List, however, if it does not, please use this address: PathForward, 2020A 14th St. N., Arlington VA 22201. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

AFAC FOOD DRIVE

If you'd like to make an in-kind food donation, we invite you to drop off the following items inside the the main entrance to the church, during church office hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm: canned tuna or chicken, canned tomatoes or vegetables, canned soup, and peanut butter in plastic jars. Low sodium items are preferred, and **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** will be accepted.

We are always looking for volunteers to drop off the in-kind donations. If you are able to drive the donations to AFAC for a contactless delivery, please contact the [Parish Administrator](#).

Thank you to the Len-Gowetski family for taking our most recent donation to AFAC!

Compline on Wednesday Evenings

Each Wednesday at 8:30pm members of St. Andrew's meet via this Zoom [Compline link](#) for a brief service of contemplative nighttime prayers. All are welcome to join. For those who do not have a copy of the *BCP* at home, you may download [this Compline booklet](#).

