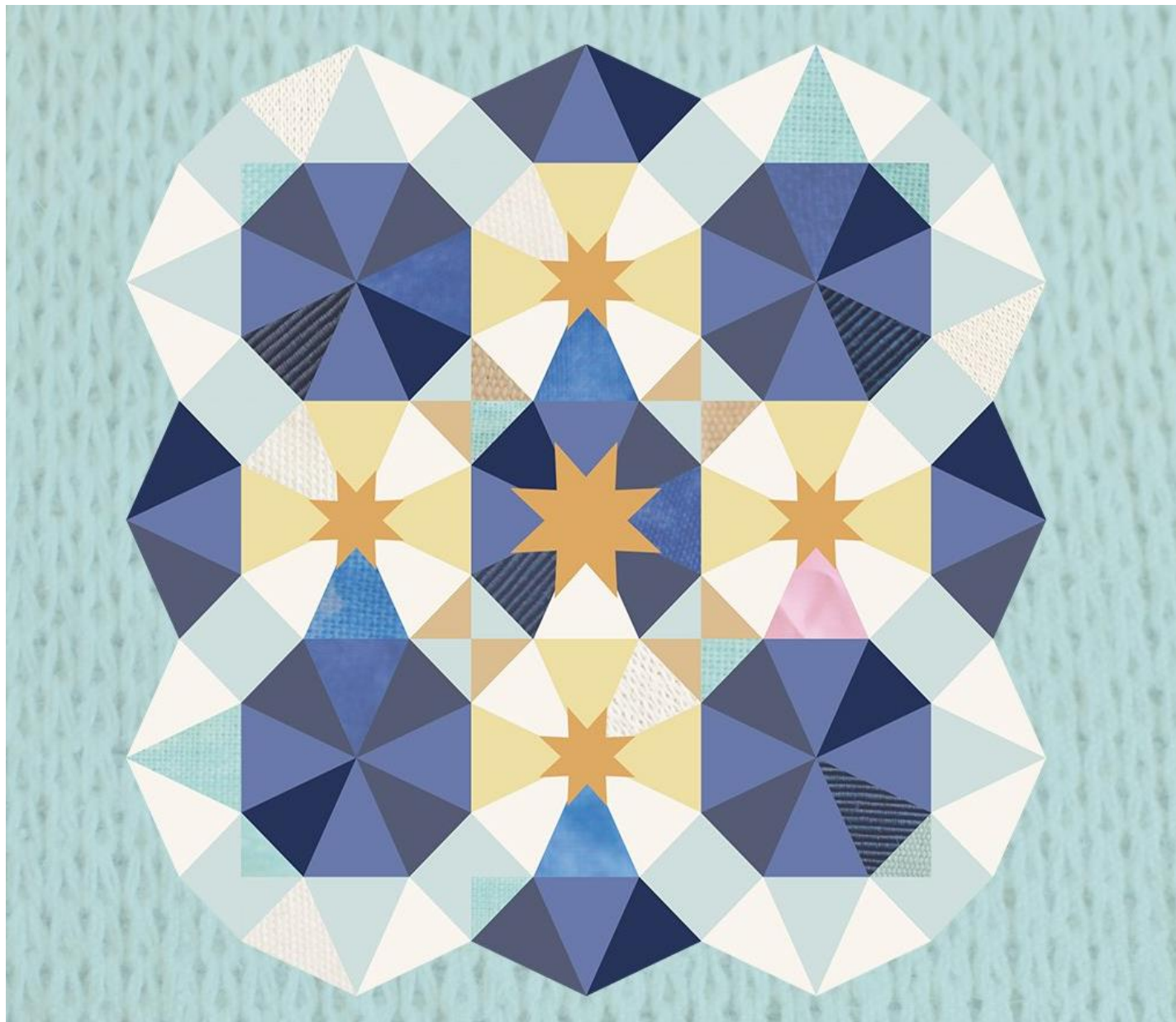


Welcome to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



“Don't Forget to Laugh”

December 29th, 2024

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

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

*Denotes to stand if able

SUNDAY SHEPHERD

Judy Bernethy

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

St. Andrew's Carillon

PRAISE TO GOD

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We have named our joy out loud, and it is clear—

People: God is our joy.

Pastor: God is in this room.

People: We have reason to celebrate.

Pastor: We have a reason to sing.

People: Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.

*HYMN

"Rise and Shine and Give God his Glory" v. 1, 2 & 5

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Pastor: Joyful God, you told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven,
we must be like children.

**People: Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered joy? Did you mean
that like children, we should lean into laughter, release our cynicism, and open
ourselves to delight?**

Pastor: In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit,

People: This often seems easier said than done.

Pastor: Forgive us, patient God, for the moments when we are so focused on the bad that we
miss the good.

**People: Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and staying in our seats instead of jumping
for joy.**

Pastor: We know that even now you are sowing delight in our lives.

People: Open our hearts up to it. With gratitude we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive)

Pastor: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven.

Pastor: That is news worth celebrating! That is news that should make us want to cheer, laugh,
cry with relief, dance, and sing all at the same time! So in response to God's goodness, I invite
you to rise in body or spirit and join me in the sung response. Let us make a joyful noise for
God's abundant mercy.

***RESPONSE: HYMN # 278** *“Angels we Have Heard On High” (Refrain Only)*

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Candi Keinath

LESSON ONE

LISTEN FOR JOY

Luke 2:10 and Isaiah 9:2-3

SING WITH JOY # 278 *“Angels we have heard on High” v. 1, 2 & 4*

PRACTICE JOY: Joy Found in Scripture

Pastor Linda Graham

Repeat after me Prayer-

Loving God, / You love when we laugh. / You love when we play. / You love when we share.

Remind us that your good news / is for all people. / Amen.

LESSON TWO

LISTEN FOR JOY

Matthew 2:10 and Psalm 148

SING WITH JOY # 249 *“O Come All Ye Faithful” v. 1 – 3*

PRACTICE JOY: Joy Found in Community

Pastor: Friends, the peace and joy of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pass joy and peace to one another.

LESSON THREE

LISTEN FOR JOY

Psalm 126:1-3 and Isaiah 55:12-13

SING WITH JOY *“I’ve Got the Joy”*

PRACTICE WITH JOY: Joy Found in Prayer & Giving

PRAYER (Responsive)

Pastor: ...[Continues]... We are grateful for... (Reads a few gratitude prayers out loud)

People: Holy God, when our joy becomes scarce, remind us of these prayers we have offered here tonight. When hope becomes dim, grant us laughter. When love seems absent, help us remember that we have much to be grateful for. Here, we can see it all so clearly. You are near and that is good news of great joy for all people. In your many names we pray, Amen.

***RESPONSE HYMN # 815**

“Doxology”

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.

SENDING

***HYMN # 502**

“In My Heart There Rings a Melody” v. 1 – 3

(Ring Bells during the refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: MAKE JOYFUL NOISE

(Play kazoos and ring bells)

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Please remember to take your balloons, kazoos, and bells home with you!



December Advent & Christmas Lectionary

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

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Psalm 148

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

[Holy Name
of Jesus](#)
Jan 01, 2025

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8

Galatians 4:4-7
or
Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 2:15-21

[New Year's
Day](#)
Jan 01, 2025

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Psalm 8

Revelation 21:1-6a

Matthew 25:31-46

[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