

**DECEMBER 24** | Christmas Eve is a holy night, Lord. Tonight is the night to remember my dear Savior's birth. Just like that first night, I hear the angels' voices singing, ringing in my ears and warming my heart. What a glorious night to revel in your divine nature revealed to all the earth! Amen. *Hymn: O, Holy Night*

**DECEMBER 25 · Christmas Day & Hanukkah** | Holy Lord, how I wonder what it was like to be a shepherd while they watched their flocks by the darkness of night who heard and saw the angels fill the sky with their glorious light and proclaim the birth of Christ. Fill me with the same wonder and curiosity. May I also be filled with the same excitement as the shepherds to run and share, "Jesus Christ is born." Amen. *Hymn: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

**DECEMBER 26** | Who am I, Lord, that you would deign to notice me? You came to dwell among us, even to lie in a manger, having no crib for a bed. When the stars looked down upon your glory, they saw a baby come to redeem the world and to make each one of us whole. Amen. *Hymn: Away in a Manger*

**DECEMBER 27** | Dear Heavenly Father, while shepherds watched their flocks at night, you chose a small stable for the Virgin Mary to bring the Savior of the earth into this world. I sing with joy to the world knowing he is my Redeemer and everlasting Son of God. Let the whole world give thanks to you for this miraculous birth. Amen. *Hymn: Silent Night*

**DECEMBER 28** | Creator God, it feels like the whole world is singing your joyful praises in this season. Some days I do not feel like singing and then I'm reminded to rejoice in the light and echo the song, "Jesus is our Savior and King." Walk this day with me and show me your ways. Amen. *Hymn: There's a Song in the Air!*

**DECEMBER 29** | Father, in this season, I want to worship you just as the shepherds, the angels, and the wise men did so many years ago. Open my eyes to see the wonder of the season and help me to seek new ways to worship you in song and celebration. I will proclaim the Messiah's birth and will tell of the creation story to all who will listen. Amen. *Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory*

**DECEMBER 30** | Lord, Let me declare over the hills and the mountains that Jesus Christ has been born. Let all I encounter hear the good news of a Savior to the world! I am grateful to serve a God who chose a stable and used lowly shepherds to witness an incredible miracle. Amen. *Hymn: Go Tell it on the Mountain*

**DECEMBER 31 · New Year's Eve** | Everlasting God, as 2024 comes to a close and I reflect on the past year, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude for your love and grace. You continue to give me hope for years to come and continue to be my shelter from the stormy blast. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, takes me into 2025 where I know you will continue to guide me and give me hope into the new year. Amen. *Hymn: Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

**ST. ANDREW METHODIST CHURCH**

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# Prayer Calendar

December 2024



ST. ANDREW



**DECEMBER 1 · First Sunday of Advent** | Gracious God, in this season of Advent, you call me to come to the manger to see the Christ Child. Let me adore him with love and awe. You are the true God, Light from Light Eternal. May I give you all the glory. Amen. *Hymn: O, Come All Ye Faithful*

**DECEMBER 2** | Heavenly Father, I praise you for the tender rose of Christ, blossoming from ancient roots to bring life and light into our world. Just as a flower blooms in winter's chill, so your love has come to me in my darkness, radiant with hope and beauty. Make my heart like rich soil, ready to receive your grace, that I may grow in love, bearing your peace to all. Amen. *Hymn: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**DECEMBER 3** | Lord, prepare my heart to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to anticipate his return during this season of joy, anticipation, and profound hope. May I remember the birth of Jesus is news meant to be shouted from the mountaintops, not hidden in the quiet corners of my heart. Make me bold, Lord, to tell my family, friends, and community the light has broken through the darkness, and hope has been born. Amen. *Hymn: Go Tell it on the Mountain*

**DECEMBER 4** | Father, there are times in life when I forget the angel's song, "Peace on the earth, goodwill to men." Life gets heavy. I get caught in the frantic pace, and when I am nearing despair, help me to remember that our human efforts to make the world a better place can only be completed by a gracious act by you—who in the end will make all things new! "O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!" Amen. *Hymn: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

**DECEMBER 5** | Joyful Lord, Christmas brings the sights and sounds of the season all around me to bring joy to my heart: the bright green of the holly leaves with its vibrant red berries, the playing of the merry organ, and sweet singing in the choir. Let the joy of the birth of Christ overflow through me so I may reflect your light and love to all around me. Amen. *Hymn: The Holly and the Ivy*

**DECEMBER 12** | Holy Father, many times I get caught up in the busyness of this season. May I pause to rest and reflect on the birth of Christ our Savior to regain my focus of the tidings of comfort and joy only you can bring. Amen. *Hymn: God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

**DECEMBER 13** | Come, Emmanuel, come! Our hearts are lonely for you. We have been in this desert for so long, eagerly awaiting your appearance. Ransom us from our exile here and restore us to our joy. Amen. *Hymn: O, Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**DECEMBER 14** | Glorious Father, the three kings came bearing gifts to the precious Christ Child—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—to worship the newfound King. May I, too, bring my gifts of worshiping you with singing, praying, and reading your Word. Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path, just as the star over Bethlehem guided the wise men to "thy perfect light," Christ. Amen. *Hymn: We Three Kings*

**DECEMBER 15** | El Shaddai, as the days of this Advent season of waiting, longing, and preparing my heart for the coming of Christ are getting closer, may I remember Advent invites me to wait in faith, trust, and hope. Hold me firm to the belief that your promises are true and your love is steadfast. I am forever grateful for the gift of Jesus and joyfully anticipate his return. Amen. *Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

**DECEMBER 16** | Dear God, my heart unfolds like flowers at the announcement of the birth of your Son. Your Son was sent to rule the world with truth and grace. I am filled with the wonders of your love and will sing of your love to the ends of the earth. Glory to God in the highest! Amen. *Hymn: Joy to the World*

**DECEMBER 17** | Heavenly Father, I'm in awe of the gift of your Son, the babe, the Son of Mary. Mary trusted you with her life and her child without question. May I be found trusting in your plans for my life and be assured of your presence as I ask questions when life is difficult and unsure. Amen. *Hymn: What Child is This?*

**DECEMBER 6** | Emmanuel, may I rejoice at the news of the newborn King all the days of my life, not just at Christmastime. Direct my path to spread peace and mercy to everyone I meet and may I be bold to share the good news, including the promise of second birth. Glory to you, my God, and may the hark of angels singing ring in my ears all season long. In Christ's name. Amen. *Hymn: Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

**DECEMBER 7** | Redeemer, what a wondrous story for your Son to be born in the simplicity of a stable. I humbly fall at your feet and crown him Lord of all. Your gentle words of this hymn tell the story of Christ's birth, the grief and agony of Christ's death, and then the victory of Christ's resurrection. Guide me this day to the assurance of knowing you always have a plan. Amen. *Hymn: Who is He Born in the Stall*

**DECEMBER 8** | Prince of Peace, the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, was born to save so that humankind may be blessed for evermore. May I reflect on this precious gift today and rejoice with heart and soul and voice. Joy! Joy! Amen. *Hymn: Good Christian Men Rejoice*

**DECEMBER 9** | Dear God, let my heart sing joy to the world. Please prepare my heart and let every heart sing to heaven for the most precious gift of Christ the King. The wonders of your constant love for me are reminders of the salvation I have been given through Jesus Christ. Amen. *Hymn: Joy to the World*

**DECEMBER 10** | Lord, we listen intently for the sound of your voice. For many years, we have listened. Yet what do we hear? It is the sound of angels, sweetly singing your glory, announcing the day of your favor and the birth of our King. Amen. *Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High*

**DECEMBER 11** | Gracious God, I thank you for the gift of Love come down to dwell among us, the pure and holy love of Christ shining into my life. Help me to reflect this love, sharing its warmth and brightness with all, especially in a world in need of peace and compassion. Transform my heart by your Spirit, that I may love as Christ has loved me, selflessly and abundantly. Amen. *Hymn: Love Came Down at Christmas*

**DECEMBER 18** | God of Peace, the ringing of bells from a church belltower share the message of "Peace on earth, good will to men," reminding me that all is well with you at the helm. Fill me with your peace as I remember you never sleep, and that you watch over me every day and night. Amen. *Hymn: I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

**DECEMBER 19** | Father God, your everlasting light shines forever. I praise you for the gift of Jesus, who brings peace on earth. Help me to stop and find rest in your presence, so I can be a vessel of your peace to the world. Amen. *Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**DECEMBER 20** | One True God, the children of St. Andrew are so excited about the coming of Christmas and the celebration of the Children's Nativity service. They giggle with joy as they dress up as donkeys, sheep, angels, and more to reenact Jesus' birth. Fill my heart with the same excitement. Keep me focused on the simplicity of the season like the friendly beasts who gathered around the manger to welcome Emmanuel. Amen. *Hymn: The Friendly Beasts*

**DECEMBER 21** | As the days grow shorter and darkness comes more quickly, I turn to you, Jesus, for comfort in the cold. Fill my heart with light and warmth. To celebrate God's gift of salvation in the birth of Jesus, I give my heart to help others in the icy cold of winter or in difficult times that arrive all through the year. Amen. *Hymn: In the Bleak Midwinter*

**DECEMBER 22** | God of love, may I have eyes to see you are preparing each new day for me. As this hymn reflects on the preparation of the arrival of guests, planting for the arrival of spring, long starry nights and most of all your love, may I remember you prepare a path for me. Help me watch and listen. Amen. *Hymn: People Look East*

**DECEMBER 23** | As the shepherds kept watch over their flock at night, how surprised were they to be the first recipients of your good news, Lord? Even today, that same good news reverberates throughout my life. For you are the God of firsts, constantly redeeming and renewing every part of me. Amen. *Hymn: The First Noel*