

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21st at 10 a.m. **St. Anselm's Episcopal Church**

Lafayette, California

Welcome to St. Anselm's!

Whether this is your first time visiting or you worship with us every week, **please know you are warmly welcome**. Restrooms are located next door in the Parish Hall. Children are a blessing and encouraged to participate in worship alongside their parents. On the left of the sanctuary is an area with toys, coloring sheets, and crayons. Feel free to enjoy the playground as well. Please accompany your child.

The people's responses are in bold. All hymns can be found in the Blue Hymnal.

This type of note, offering direction about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrics (red) - referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

THE ENTRANCE RITE

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We begin our worship as a gathered community for praising God in song. Sung by all.

H#72 "Hark! the glad sound!"

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

The Presider then continues

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Presider Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, *Have mercy upon us*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The People sit for the readings.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted:

Isaiah 7:10-16

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O LORD God of hosts, *

how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

THE SECOND LESSON

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

Romans 1:1-7

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

A period of silence follows.

The people stand as able for the introduction of the hymn.

GOSPEL HYMN

The Gospel hymn moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word – the reading of The Holy Gospel. Gospel means "good news" – specifically the "good news of Jesus."

H# 59 "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"

GOSPEL OF THE DAY

This reading is taken from the four Gospels (Mathew, Mark, Luke and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' word and actions.

Matthew 1:18-25

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the Presider.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Audrey Miskelley

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the spiritual readings and relates them to daily life. A period of silence follows the Sermon.

The people stand as able.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

St. Anselm's uses a variety of affirmations of the Christian faith, such as the Nicene Creed, this one is from the Iona Community.

Leader: Let us affirm our faith by saying together:

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.

We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven
to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

Silence

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;

People For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader For Sean our Presiding Bishop; and Austin our Bishop; and for all bishops and

other ministers;

People For all who serve God in God's Church.

Leader For the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Anglican Church of Brundi.

For the Diocesan Circle of Prayer we pray for Incarnation, San Francisco; Nativity, San Rafael; St. Stephen's, Belvedere; and St. Stephen's, Orinda. For

the St. Anselm's Cycle of Prayer we pray for our lectors.

Leader I invite those who are with us via Zoom to offer their prayers, either silently or aloud. When you have concluded, please say "In Your Mercy" to which the congregation is invited to respond "Hear Our Prayer."

When they are finished:

Leader I invite those who are present to offer their prayers, either silently or aloud. When you have concluded, please say "In Your Mercy" to which the congregation is invited to respond "Hear Our Prayer."

Leader Come, Lord of Light, shatter the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Hear the prayers we offer to you, and give us the courage and conviction to make these prayers a reality. We pray to you in the name of our hope, Jesus, the Christ. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Confessing our sins, receiving forgiveness (absolution), and showing sign of peace to one another prepare us to receive Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Leader We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

A11

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the wrongs that enslave us, the wrongs we have done, and the wrongs done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen

The Presider offers absolution, and the people respond, Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At this time, the deacon, presider and parish leaders may make announcements.

PRAYERS FOR THE INDIVIDUALS

Linda Carlson

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS: O Lord, watch over your children as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR ANNIVERSARIES: O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true Godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR TRAVELERS: O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel, surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

Loose plate offerings and checks so designated will go toward the Rector's Discretionary Fund on the 3^{rd} Sunday of each month. This fund is used primarily for charitable needs in the wider community at the discretion of the Rector.

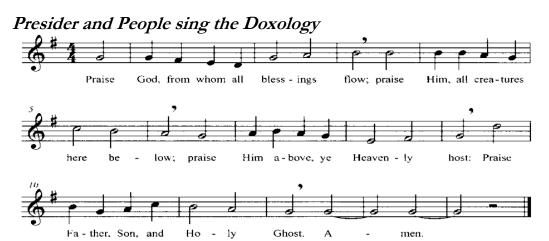
An offering is received to support the church's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed or online at: https://stanselms.us/give

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

H#54 "Savior of the nations, come!"

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."



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Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

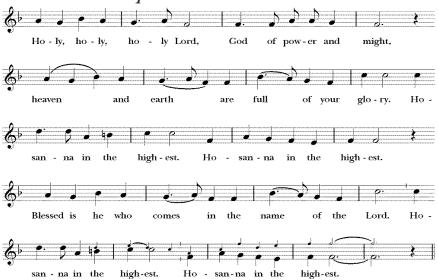
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Presider and People



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The Presider continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Anselm and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name forever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, forever and ever. *Amen.*

The people remain standing.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider & People

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *grant us peace.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The people are seated.

All are invited to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing.

Please proceed to the altar rail, depart your pew from the right, as directed by the ushers. Please return to your pew from the left. At St Anselm's we are sharing a common cup. If you wish grape juice, please tell the assistant.

Gluten free wafers are available. Please assist us by placing your right hand on your chest so that you may be served accordingly. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, but would like a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

If you are unable to approach the altar rail, please stand in place and the table ministers will bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION ANTHEM H#63 "O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light"

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The people stand as able.

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

THE BLESSING

The Presider blesses the people, and the people respond, **Amen.**

Presider

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. *Amen.* (source: from Saint Clare)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

H# 57 "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: Vestry

TRINITY CENTER

Each Holiday season since 2014, St. Anselm's has supported the work of Trinity Center (TC) and their lifeline to the working poor and homeless in our community. TC provides a way forward for their clients each weekday to socialize, wash clothes, take showers, eat meals and get help finding jobs, housing, medical services and counseling. You can help by visiting the TC website: http://www.trinitycenterwc.org to learn how you can provide financial support, volunteer, donate clothing and much needed support. Thank you for all your past support and for any help you can provide. For questions, please speak to Marty Fischer or Pam McGrath.

LOOSE PLATE OFFERINGS

Today's loose plate offering (and any checks so designated) will go towards the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This will be the first designated collection and will continue on the 3rd Sunday of each month going forward. This fund is used primarily for charitable needs in the wider community that will be designated at the discretion of the Rector.

CANTERBURY TALES DEADLINE

December 28th is the deadline to submit articles for the January issue of Canterbury Tales. Please email and announcements or articles to <u>margaret.w@stanselms.us</u>.

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Each week the altar is graced with a beautiful flower arrangement that is donated by our generous parishioners. Altar flower donations can be dedicated to the memory of a loved one, in honor of a family member or simply to the glory of God. The requested donation is \$50 per date. Please sign-up for your selected date and complete a green dedication card. The flower chart and dedication cards can be found next to the east entrance to the church. Please make your check payable to "St. Anselm's" and indicate "Altar Guild" on the memo line. You can submit the check and dedication card to the church office or put them in the collection plate. Thank you for your support!

COUNTERS NEEDED

Each week there is a team of two people, one Vestry member and one congregation member who will take responsibility for counting and recording cash and checks on a written counter form and preparing the deposit. Each vestry member is required to be a counter as a part of their commitment to the vestry. We have a few dedicated parishioners who have stepped up to fill the congregation member role. However, we don't have people signed up to perform this important role for the church. Please contact Peg Matson for more information and/or to volunteer at plmatson@comcast.net or #925-381-1074.

COFFEE HOSTS NEEDED

Everyone is invited to enjoy conversation and refreshments in Jackson Hall, immediately following the service. We are in need of volunteers to host coffee hour. Please sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044BADA722A2F85-coffee or contact Sylvia Williams at 925-586-0730 to reserve a date. Thank you!

ST. ANSELM'S PRAYER CHAIN

The St. Anselm's Prayer Chain is a list of our parishioners and loved ones for whom prayers have been requested. Prayer is voluntary and on your own whenever you wish to pray. If you would like to receive the Prayer Chain or if you would like to add someone to the Prayer Chain, please email Vicki at vrpappas@gmail.com.

FRAUD ALERT

Please be aware that fake emails and texts from members of the congregation are being sent out asking for unspecified help: I need a favor from you, please text/email me back as soon as possible. Please be careful and verify email addresses and phone numbers that you receive before responding to requests.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For personal inquiries, please contact Rector Will Scott: <u>rector@stanselms.us</u>.

For questions, please contact Office Manager Margaret Wolfe: <u>margaret.w@stanselms.us</u>. Please submit announcements by noon on Wednesday. Office hours: Monday, Wednesdays & Fridays 9am – noon, or by appointment. **Please note that office will be closed 12/15/25 to 1/3/26 and reopen on 1/5/25.**

For bookkeeping questions, please contact Bookkeeper Steve Zimmerman: bookkeeper@stanselms.us.

For choir questions, please contact Director of Music Chris Kula: choir@stanselms.music.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Jeremiah 31:15-17, Psalm 124, Revelation 21:1-7, Matthew 2:13-18

To receive the readings on a weekly basis, please email parish@stanselms.us.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES: December 21-27

Linda Carlson

COMING UP AT ST. ANSELM'S

Sunday, December 21st — Vestry Meeting in the Family Lounge at 11:15 a.m. All are welcome to attend. <u>Vestry Agenda</u>

Sunday, December 21st — Drop-in Christmas Pageant at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 23rd — Morning Prayer will be led by Deacon Naomi via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at <u>orchidsnrch@yahoo.com</u>.

Wednesday, December 24th — Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.

Friday, December 26th — Lamorinda Village Strength & Balance Class 11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, February 1st — **Annual Meeting** following the 10 a.m. service in the sanctuary.

SERVING TODAY:

Presider: The Rev. Will Scott, Preacher: The Rev. Audrey Miskelley, Deacon: The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Director of Music: Chris Kula, Lector: John Powers, Sally Fischer, Lay Eucharist Minister: Elisabeth Ward, Altar Guild: Sylvia Williams, Katie Taggart, Ushers: Hank Gatlin, Suzanne Gatlin, Coffee Host: Alan Swimmer, Sara Swimmer, Counters: Julia Starr, Katie Taggart, Vestry Person of the Day: Hank Gatlin, Videography: Chris Young, David Rowe, Henry Rosenberg

STAFF: The Rev. Will Scott, Rector; The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris, Deacon; Chris Kula, Director of Music; Margaret Wolfe, Office Manager; Steve Zimmerman, Bookkeeper; Holly Higgins, Preschool Director, Marian Mulkey, Treasurer

VESTRY:

Class of 2026: Bob Eddy, Peg Matson-Sr. Warden, Joni Pearce-Clerk, David Rowe

Class of 2027: Hank Gatlin, Dharmini Harichandran, Iris Hillman, Katie Taggart-Jr. Warden

Class of 2028: Pamela Green, Sheila Riedy, Maggie McCloskey, Julia Starr

DEANERY DELEGATES: Bob Eddy, Georganne Eddy, Marty Fischer

COMMISSIONS & MINISTRIES: Altar Guild-Sylvia Williams, Christian Formation-Anne Brown, Lay Eucharist Ministers/Lectors- Judy Peak, Parish Life-Sylvia Williams, Property-JP Zhang, Service/Outreach-Joni Pearce, Stephen Ministry-Vicki Pappas, Stewardship-Katie Taggart, Worship-Judy Peak

All are invited to make a gift to support St. Anselm's ministry of sharing God's love.

As the plate is passed * Online at https://stanselms.us/give
Thank you for your generosity.



Sign up for St. Anselm's Weekly Email News

Church worship services are livestreamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service you acknowledge that you may be visible on the live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please see an usher to be reseated in a more private area.

St. Anselm's Episcopal Church ~ 682 Michael Lane \sim Lafayette, CA 94549 (925) 284-7420

www.stanselms.us

[&]quot;St. Anselm's Episcopal Church is a nurturing community for people of all ages who seek to know God, grow, and serve."