

THE PIPER

DECEMBER 2018



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Rev. Rob's Message

Fellow Parishioners:

December is upon us and with that the Holidays. I'm always amazed at how quickly time passes and this is the beginning of my fourth month with you all. A whole season has passed and we now begin to enter a new year together, liturgically and temporally.

I want to thank all of you who worked so hard this past month to make not only the Installation but also the Kirking go so well. Our community here maybe small but we are integral to the greater region and hopefully cast a meaningful shadow from out steeple into the lives of those around us.

As we close in on our Christmas celebration you will be hearing me this Advent speak about inviting in addition to our traditional welcoming. You come here for a reason. St. Andrews specifically and church more generally. Reflect upon what calls you to be part of our community. Reflect upon the grace you feel here and reach out to your relatives, friends and neighbors to come and join us for worship this Christmas. Many only make appearances for the high holy days of Easter and Christmas and this has been true for hundreds of years not just recently. Let us all make an effort to get those we know and love to come experience us as part of their holidays this year. Maybe some will stay or come back.

Keep your eyes and ears open for our Christmas worship schedule and invite, invite, invite. Then we can all welcome as I know you do and will those who grace our doors this Winter's eve.

That's all for now. Drop me a line at the rector's email starector@sbcglobal.net to make appointments to see me. We are making slow and steady progress on this front. I'd like to see more of you.

Blessings, I am happy to be and remain:
Yours in Christ

Rob+

California wildfires

[Episcopal Relief & Development](#) is partnering with the dioceses of Northern California and Los Angeles to provide emergency support for those impacted by deadly wildfires. The assistance includes food, gasoline, masks and other critical supplies, as well as emergency housing and the storage of belongings.

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern California has established a core disaster response team in Chico, CA, west of Paradise, to assess and respond to emergency needs of people who have been impacted by the fires. The diocese is working to provide emergency housing and shelter, food, masks, gasoline, and other basic supplies to those in need. The team is also arranging for storage of recovered belongings in short-term storage units.

Join us in praying for the individuals and families affected by the California wildfires, as well as the firefighters and first responders. Please donate to the [US Disaster Fund](#) to help those affected by the devastating wildfires. Read the full November 19 update at the [Episcopal Relief & Development website](#). Donation information for the Diocese of Northern California [is here](#).

Real Episcopal <elrond@realepiscopal.org> November 20, 2018



Rev. Rob, Bishop Mary and her Deacon. Rev. Robert Neville's Installation as Priest In Charge of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ben Lomond. Friday, November 16, 2018.

Junior Warden Reflections

Advent literally means "coming." We wait for the coming. Our whole life seems to be periods of waiting for something. Whether its waiting for school to end, waiting for work to be over, waiting for the bus, waiting for your turn in line, we seem to spend a great amount of time mentally and physically waiting for something. So, here we are in the 21st. century waiting for Christmas. I, personally, wait for Christmas to be over. It's not my favorite time of the year. However, as a Christian, I see a big difference between Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus. An no, I am not going to talk about the commercialism of the holiday or how St. Nicholas overshadows the incarnate birth.

I try and imagine this small baby born in a manger (which, by the way, is a trough where you put the animals food). There is Mary with her child. Narratives describe this scene with oxen, donkeys, cows and other animals. Then there is Joseph, Mary's husband, kneeling there looking at the new born; and like most new fathers he is most likely smiling and talking to the new life as fathers do. Taking his little fingers, saying things like goo goo and gaa gaa to the child or whatever the equivalent is in Hebrew. I guess this is a different image than some imagine. Jesus was, however, a baby who cried, nursed and needed diaper changes. We don't know his first words. We don't know much about Jesus growing up. One of the Gospels that didn't make it into the Bible, talked about Jesus at a middle school age getting angry with his playmates and did something mean to me. The Jesus of the Bible, for the most part, centers around his young adult life, his ministry, and his fulfilling of the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah. So we wait. Advent is upon us. "Come thou long expected Jesus."

What's important to me is that this birth signaled a new era, a reformation in the way people began to view God. This birth for me symbolizes a new focus in human interaction. The God that Jews worship becomes a repository of Love. Jesus was born, but more important than His birth was His purpose. He entered the world to love, heal, and forgive, and to teach others how to do the same. I see this season as waiting for that moment which stresses that our God is a God of love who asks us to love each other. "For greater love hath no man than he lay down his life for his friends."

And that is what that little baby laying there in that manger did for us. He gave his life to enable us to love, heal and forgive each other... So . . . Merry Christmas little baby Jesus!



Psalms for Everyday Life

Ps. 136 - Our corporate history. What we know because of our journey together. Why we need each other. (To remind us always who we belong to: each other and God.)

Ps. 90 - About death. It comes to us all...

Ps. 38 Sin and repentance. It comes to us all, too...

Ps. 65 - Giving thanks.

Ps. 100 - Praise to God

Ps. 73 - Wisdom in the face of the bad stuff in this world

December Babies

1 Jeannie Henry	20 Kathryn Free-Adoption Day
7 Bob Wolfe	23 Don Alves
12 Madison LeRoux	25 Carol Free
17 Connie Free-Adoption Day	



Angel in the Kitchen

*Feel good when cookn
Sharing the love of God through
your love of cooking*



For all my cooking friends, this recipe can be modified to whatever favorite box cake mix you like.

I recently made cookies with Red Velvet cake mix, strawberry cake mix and lemon cake mix and dusted them with powder sugar instead of a frosting.

If you like soft cookies, this will be your favorite recipe. And it's so easy to make!

Carrot Cake Cookies with Walnuts

Cookie Ingredients

1 carrot cake mix
2 eggs
1/3 cup oil
1 cup chopped walnuts

Frosting

1 pkg 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup (1stick) unsalted butter, softened
3 cups powdered sugar plus more for thickening
1/2 cup chopped walnuts to garnish



Instructions

Heat oven to 375. Mix cookie ingredients together. Roll cookies into golf-ball sized balls and place them onto cookie sheet. Cook for 7-9 minutes or until the edges start to brown. Dough will be firm but sticky. After taking cookies out of the oven, leave them on the cookie sheet to cool and continue baking.

Recipe Notes: Cool completely, then add frosting and sprinkles, or dust with powdered sugar. For chocolate cake mix cookies, roll your balls of dough through a pile of powdered sugar before baking.

Need to watch a video? Go to [Somewhat Simple](http://SomewhatSimple.com) web site.

Calendar & Events

Sundays, Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23: 8 am service-Rite I/10 am service-Rite II

Sunday, Dec. 30: One Service Only at 10:00 am-Lessons and Carols

Mondays at 6:30pm: AA upstairs

Wednesdays at 5:15 pm: Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary

Dec. 12 & 26 6:30 pm: Girl Scouts in the Parish Hall

7:00 pm: Choir Practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, Dec 20 at 6:45 pm: Vestry Meeting in the Parish Hall

Saturday, Dec 8 at 8:00 am: Men's Breakfast at Rocky's in Felton



Coming soon to your church
Starting 2019...

Rev. Rob's **Office hours** will be Thursdays and
Saturdays
Bible Study on Thursdays
Times TBD



This Congregation Welcomes
EVERYONE

Integrity/E Camino Real Welcoming Path
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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church