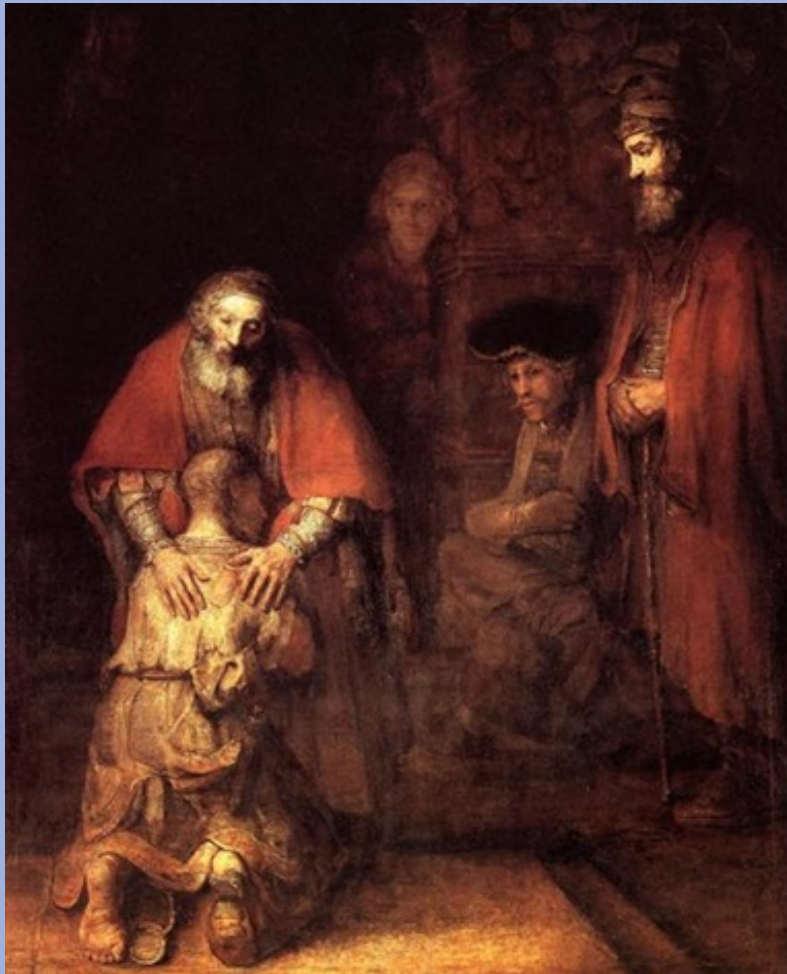




www.standrewskentct.org * 860.927.3486 * st.andrew.kent@snet.net



The Return of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15)
(Rembrandt, 1669)

From Katherine Almquist, Junior Warden

This is a three-part column, so please stick with me.

First Part: Last July, I had the great good fortune to meet Leslie Elias, who has had her “Grumbling Gryphons Traveling Children Theatre” for 41 years. I assisted her, and for one week, was immersed in a world of children. This was the first time in ... ever. Their absolute delight in make-believe, their boundless energy, their complete ability to BE IN THE MOMENT, was really not all that far removed from a Master Class in Acting. And may I mention the lack of devices?

I was especially taken with two little brothers: Alpha, age 7, and Primo, age 4 ½. To say I was taken is truly an understatement. They utterly captivated

me. Their mother was French, and father American, and they chattered back and forth in both languages. A highlight of the day (for me) was when the parents picked up their children. That is when I met Alpha and Primo's mother, Joy. She was an artist and exquisite. So perfectly named. She had her third son, Tempo (got to love those names!), in tow. I marveled at her energy and *joie de vivre*, and asked her how she managed it all. She smiled, "I am so lucky. I have everything I ever wanted. Children, and a husband I love, and I live in such a beautiful place."

End of First Part.

Second Part: David and I just took a trip to Arizona. I was excited to see my dear Sister and brother-in-law, and to re-connect with treasured friends. A trip to the Grand Canyon was also on the docket. I was really looking forward to the "people part" and was not giving much thought to the backdrop. I was totally unprepared for the beauty of Arizona—at an elevation of 7,000 feet, to see a plateau that stretched the skyline, with snow-capped mountains on the horizon. And the Grand Canyon? No poet or painter can begin to convey its majesty. Of course, it was crowded. Lots and lots of people. And lots and lots of devices. And everyone was respectful. So respectful. And polite. So polite. It seemed (to quote "Camelot") "for one brief, shining moment" we all knew we were witnessing a miracle.

End of Second Part.

Part Three: Every day for the past three years, I have walked the three-and-a-half-mile loop around Keeler Road, Weber Road, and Macedonia Brook Road. It is my mental and physical therapy and keeps me grounded. I let my thoughts go where they will. I am conscious of the beauty: the heron, the large pond, the ducks and the landscape that changes with each season. Yesterday, I saw a fellow-traveler, and it turned out to be Tom Holcombe. I've seen him before, and he was doing what he always does—picking up road side trash.

Conclusion: This Sunday I will be attending the Memorial Service to celebrate Joy's life. In January, she literally dropped dead of a brain aneurysm. When I heard this, one of my first thoughts was "Her youngest sons won't remember her. Alpha will have some memory." I also think of the happiness she spread. Alpha, Primo, and Tempo knew nothing but her love. That will surely stay with them.

I think of the Grand Canyon and will never forget my first gut-punch of the sheer blasting beauty.

I am so grateful to Tom for doing a kindness that makes the world a better place.

I am so increasingly aware that every day is to be lived, loved and cherished. We have been given so much.

This Week at St Andrew's

Friday, 25 March

Prayer & Meditation

5:30 pm

Friday, 25 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>The Feast of the Annunciation (in person and live-streamed)</i>	6:00 pm
Saturday, 26 March	"HERstory:" A Celebration of Famous Women	3:00 pm (note time change)
Sunday, 27 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>Lent 4 (in person only)</i>	8:30 am
Sunday, 27 March	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am
Sunday, 27 March	Holy Eucharist: <i>Lent 4 (in person and live-streamed)</i>	10:30 am
Sunday, 27 March	Adult Forum: <i>The Plans for St Andrew's New Church School</i>	12:00 noon
Sunday, 27 March	Joint Prayer Service and Fund-raising Reception for Ukranian War Relief	3:00 pm at the Congregational Church
Tuesday, 28 March	Small Group: <i>The Way of Love</i>	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 29 March	Rite of Reconciliation (private Confession)	5:00 pm
Wednesday, 29 March	<i>The Way of the Cross</i>	5:30 pm
Wednesday, 29 March	Mid-week Eucharist	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 29 March	A.A. for Women (<i>Zoom meeting; email us for info</i>)	7:00 pm
Thursday, 30 March	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	7:30 am
Thursday, 30 March	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	7:00 pm
Thursday, 30 March	Al-Anon Meeting	7:00 pm

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

Details about each of these events can be found later in this issue of the *Epistle*

Sunday, 3 April & 10 April	Adult Forum: <i>An Introduction to the Liturgies of Holy Week</i>	12:00 noon
Sunday, 3 April	Bricks & Books: The History of the Kent Library	3:00 pm

Sunday, 10 April

Palm Procession & Palm/
Passion Sunday (*no 8:30
liturgy this day*)

10:00 am

*See the full worship and event schedule for Holy Week
and Easter Week, below*

The War in Ukraine: An Ecumenical Prayer Service & Fund-raiser



The Congregational Church has graciously invited us to be part of a **prayer service for the people of Ukraine this Sunday, 27 March, at 3:00 pm**, in their sanctuary. There is much that we can, and should, do for these victims of war, violence and injustice, but there is no higher calling than to prayer—and all the more so when we can join our prayers with those of our siblings in other denominations.

Immediately following the service, a team from St Andrew's will be hosting a **reception** at which we will be collecting funds for Ukrainian relief efforts, to supplement the funds that St Andrew's and the Congregational Church, respectively, are already donating. This will be a *free-will offering*. Please do consider bringing some cash or a check with which to make a contribution.

We need volunteers to help with the reception: both preparing food in advance and helping on the day-of. **If you're willing to lend a hand, please be in touch with George-Ann Gowan at (860) 946-9232/ gagowan@mac.com or George Potts at (860) 614-7927/ gpotts@snet.net**

For Maundy Thursday: The Sneaker Collection Returns!



Many of you will recall that during Lent last year, we collected more than 130 pairs of new sneakers and bushels of new socks to donate to Abraham House, a community in the South Bronx that offers extensive services—and hope—to many in that neighborhood who are living at the very margins of society. We were introduced to Abraham House by Sr Mary Lanning just before she died, unexpectedly, a year ago.

We've been in touch with Abraham House, and they will only too gladly welcome another sneaker drive this year. Althea Brooks, their executive director, recently told us that the shoes, sneakers and socks we sent them last Eastertide, "went to those in need in our community, many who were beaming as they tried them on. In fact, we were able to share this blessing by donating I believe seven pairs of shoes/sneakers and some socks to a women's shelter in the Grand Central area of NYC, that I was introduced to through Catholic Charities."

So, once again, **we are now collecting new shoes, sneakers and socks, for women, men and children.** Before we donate them, we will **bless and ritually 'wash' them, during our Maundy Thursday liturgy** ... a symbolic act of our washing the feet of those who are poor, hungry and without a home. The wisdom Sr Mary shared with us last year still applies: "SNEAKERS (colorful, diverse, sparkling new) are much more needed than business or dress shoes, although a 'lending library of dress shoes' would indeed be welcome for special occasions such as job interviews. Most of our people are not yet equipped to apply for jobs where shoes are a prerequisite; clean dress sneakers and trousers with a crease in them are the mark of readiness."

Please bring your donations with you to worship on any **Sunday between now and 10 April**, or you can drop them off in the Parish Office or the breezeway behind the rectory before **5:00 pm on Maundy Thursday, 14 April**. If you would like to place a short message of hope or love or happiness or inspiration in the shoes or socks you give, it will make your gift that much more personal. And feel free to spread the word to any family members, friends and neighbors who might wish to donate, too. Together we can top last year's bumper crop!

**From Susan, Our Interim Director of Music:
Here Come the Handbells!**



Have you heard the handbells during psalm singing in Lent? St. Andrews Episcopal has a lovely set of Schulmerich handbells - a total of 39 bells. We have plans to use some of them during Palm Sunday worship (April 10), the Easter Vigil (April 16) and Easter Sunday (April 17) morning services. If you are interested in learning about them, the bells will be out at coffee hour this Sunday, March 27th. Stop by and try ringing - WARNING - ringing handbells may be habit forming!!! If you have any questions, contact the Interim Director of Music, Susan Guse; sjbguse@gmail.com or 845-242-1478.

The Church Speaks: A Statement from the House of Bishops on the Conflict in Ukraine



To the faithful in Christ Jesus throughout The Episcopal Church,

We are gathered at a moment of profound jeopardy to the principles of

international law and peace. As we meet and pray together as a House of Bishops, Ukraine—an independent, sovereign nation that has posed no threat to others beyond its borders—has been invaded by military forces of Russia, without provocation and without justification.

On December 1, 1991, the people of Ukraine voted in a nationwide referendum on the question of their future. Nearly eighty-five percent of the electorate took part in that referendum. The question set before them was simply this: "Do you support the Act of Declaration of Independence of Ukraine?" More than ninety percent of those casting a vote voted yes. The independence of Ukraine was, and remains, an act of clear, principled self-determination. In the thirty years since then the people of Ukraine have, through challenges and difficulties, forged a strong sense of national purpose and identity.

There is a direct link between our baptismal covenant to respect the dignity of all people in Christ and the demand to respect the will of nations to determine their own destiny—the rule of *jus cogens*, in international law—when expressed freely through the ballot box. We acknowledge and lament the failure of many of the nations where The Episcopal Church lives and gathers to respect and defend that fundamental principle in their own policies and actions in the years since the founding of the United Nations.

Yet that acknowledgment must not stay us from denouncing the utter depravity of the war now unfolding in Ukraine. It is evident that Russian military forces have directly and indiscriminately attacked civilian residences, medical facilities, even agreed corridors for the humanitarian withdrawal of civilians in areas of combat. These actions are a fundamental violation of the rights and dignity rightly accorded all people, and a flagrant breach of international norms.

As the bishops of The Episcopal Church, we pray:

- That the nations of the world call upon the Russian government to cease immediately this unjustifiable violence, especially against the innocent;
- That our siblings in the churches of Russia and Ukraine remind their leaders of Christ's commandment that we love our neighbors as we love ourselves—a commandment we believe provides no justification for violent conflict unless in the defense of women, children, the elderly and those otherwise vulnerable;
- That God protect and defend those who, with great courage, have stood and spoken against the choice for war in the counsels of their governments, their churches, and in the public square;
- That God support and encourage our churches in Europe, and our sister churches of the Anglican Communion present there as well, who even now are receiving refugees in the cities they serve, and helping them rebuild shattered lives;
- That all refugees, regardless of the reasons for their flight or the country of their origin, be received with equal dignity, equal hospitality, and equal treatment;
- That the work of diplomats and peacemakers and the voices of all those

in authority labor without ceasing to bring a swift and just end to this conflict, and the preservation of Ukraine's independence and autonomy under conditions of security and tranquility;

And that the Prince of Peace, whom we know also to be the Judge of Nations, will work through us and all followers of Christ to build a more peaceful and just world—where all people can live in safety, where the will of all for their nations can be freely expressed and fully lived out, and where God's dream of a Beloved Community of all people and nations is realized through the works of mercy and compassion.

We urge all faithful members of the Church to support the relief of the Ukrainian people as it is being carried out by [Episcopal Relief and Development](#) and by the [Convocation of the Episcopal Churches in Europe](#).

Camp Allen, Texas
March 19, 2022

The War in Ukraine: Spiritual and Practical Resources

The ongoing unprovoked and unjustified Russian aggression in Ukraine is causing many of us anxiety, anger and an urge to 'do something' to help address it.



On the most fundamental and practical level, Episcopal Relief and Development, our Church's principal charitable agency, is collecting monetary donations to assist the people of Ukraine. You may donate using [this link](#).

Here are some additional resources, compiled by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, that you may wish to explore:

- [Call and Prayer for Averting Conflict](#) (Episcopal Church Executive Council)
- [A Faith Vigil for Peace in Ukraine](#) (The Episcopal Church and Friends Committee on National Legislation)
- [An Interfaith Call to Peace for Ukraine](#) (TEC Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Other Interfaith Leaders)
- [Statement on Russian divestment from Episcopal Church CFO Kurt Barnes](#)
- [Joint Statement from Archbishops of Canterbury and York](#)

- [World Central Kitchen](#)
- [Amnesty International](#)
- [UN High Commission on Refugees](#)
- [UNICEF](#)
- [Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders](#)
- [Voices of Children](#) (A Ukrainian Charitable Foundation working with children traumatized by armed conflict)
- [Sunflower of Peace](#) (Provides first aid medical tactical backpacks for paramedics and doctors on the front lines of the conflict)
- [Save the Children](#)
- [CARE](#)
- [International Medical Corps](#)

Finally, the *Book of Common Prayer* is a treasury of spiritual expressions that, like the Psalms, address almost every human experience, in every age. I urge you to leaf through it during these times and see how Christ may speak to you through its words. I find the Collect for Peace (p 258), especially comforting, for both the open-handedness and boldness of the vision it prays:

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

In April: Adult Forums on the Liturgies of Holy Week



Have you ever suffered liturgical whiplash on Palm Sunday, as we experience both Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the Passion narrative on a single day? Do you find Maundy Thursday's ritual foot washing off-putting? Is visual veneration of the Cross on Good Friday a new experience for you? And have you ever wondered what, exactly, takes place at the Great Vigil on the evening before Easter Day?

Holy Week offers the richest, most textured and nuanced liturgies of the entire Church year. While they echo, to a degree, the pattern of the Holy Eucharist we're all accustomed to, they have additional rites and ceremonies (and omit others) that we experience only once-a-year. This celebration of the great Paschal Mystery—of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection—is the summit of the Christian calendar, and yet it can feel unfamiliar (perhaps even a little

uncomfortable) to some.

If this is true for you, please plan to attend our Adult Forums on Sunday, 03 April (*Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday*), and Sunday, 10 April (*Good Friday and the Great Vigil*). Father Douglas will give a brief overview and explanation of these liturgies and answer all (hopefully!) of your questions. Both sessions will be at 12:00 noon, following coffee hour.

St Andrew's Holy Week and Easter Week Worship Schedule



Sunday, 10 April	Palm Procession (beginning at Kent Green)	10:00 am
Sunday, 10 April	Holy Eucharist: Palm/ Passion Sunday	10:30 am (no 8:30 service this week)
Monday, 11 April	Holy Week Daily Eucharist	6:00 pm
Tuesday, 12 April	Holy Week Daily Eucharist	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	Rite of Reconciliation (Confession)	5:00 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	The Way of the Cross	5:30 pm
Wednesday, 13 April	Service of Tenebrae	6:00 pm
Thursday, 14 April	Maundy Thursday Parish Potluck	6:00 pm
Thursday, 14 April	Maundy Thursday Liturgy (& Stripping of the Altar)	7:30 pm
Friday, 15 April	Good Friday Liturgy	7:30 pm
Saturday, 16 April	Holy Saturday Liturgy	11:00 am
Saturday, 16 April	The Great Vigil of Easter	7:30 pm
Sunday, 17 April	Holy Eucharist: Easter Day (with hymns)	8:30 am
Sunday, 17 April	Holy Eucharist: Easter Day (with hymns and choir)	10:30 am

Sunday, 17 April	Family Easter Egg Hunt and Grand Coffee Hour	11:40 am
Sunday, 17 April	Eastertide Evening Prayer and Benediction	4:30 pm
Monday, 18 April	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Tuesday, 19 April	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Wednesday, 20 April	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	6:00 pm
Thursday, 21 April	Easter Week Daily Eucharist	9:00 am
Friday, 22 April	Holy Eucharist: <i>Easter 2</i>	9:00 am
Saturday, 23 April	Eastertide Evening Prayer and Benediction	9:00 am
Sunday, 24 April		8:30 & 10:30 am
Sunday, 24 April		4:30 pm

Start Spreading the Word: The Great Family Easter Egg Hunt Returns!



We're still ironing out the details ... but it's not too soon to start spreading the word to friends, neighbors, grandchildren, etc: Once again, St Andrew's will be having a Great Family Easter Egg Hunt on the parish lawn, **following the 10:30 Eucharist on Easter Day, 17 April**. There will *also* be a wonderful Coffee Hour for those who may be a little past the age (or the spryness) to hunt for colored

eggs under bushes and in flower beds.

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in individual portions.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services.

Worship During Lent: Wednesday Evenings



On **Wednesday evenings during Lent**, our customary 6:00 pm Eucharist will be preceded by an opportunity for the Rite of Reconciliation (more popularly known as "Confession"; *Book of Common Prayer*, p 447), in private, at 5:00 pm; and, at 5:30 pm, by the *Way of the Cross*, a liturgy of 14 very short lessons that lead us to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice and death ... and our need of the forgiveness He's already given us. (You may come for one, two or all three of these offerings. They are separate rites, and you needn't be present for all of them.)

If you have never attended a mid-week Eucharist ... or if you're interested in exploring Confession or the Way of the Cross ... Lent is an excellent time to 'try on' one of these new liturgical practices and reflect on how it draws you closer to God. Please come!

Tomorrow: HERstory Comes to St Andrew's



Voices of *HER*story:

a millinery musical celebrating the world's most memorable women

Sat., 3/26 at 3:00 p.m.
St. Andrew's Church, Kent, CT

written & performed by SUZANNE TANNER

Celebrate some of history's most memorable women in this one-woman whirlwind honoring:
*Helen Keller, Peggy Guggenheim, Eleanor Roosevelt, Katharine Hepburn, Jackie Kennedy,
Rosa Parks, Golda Meir, & Mother Teresa*

"Capturing Timeless Wisdom... Harnessing the Power of One"

narrated by KATHERINE ALMQUIST

with dance sequences by LYRA WILDER

Suggested donation \$20 at door (cash or check)/Reception following

Reservations recommended: PoeTessProductions@gmail.com

Join the fun! Wear a hat!

St. Andrew's Church, 1 No. Main St., Kent, CT

There is simply no better way to celebrate Women's History Month.

Suzanne is a true chanteuse and brings each of her characters to blazing life. She has performed in regional theatres across the country, and was featured in the United Solo Festival in NYC. This production is dedicated to the memory of her daughter, Tess (1998 - 2011.) Tess was a poet and Suzanne's hope is to create a space in her name specifically for art, music and poetry to blossom.

Katherine Almquist

**Sunday 03 April:
Kent Memorial Library Celebration
at St Andrew's**

In Conjunction with the Kent Memorial Library's Centennial Celebration

BRICKS & BOOKS

A Dramatized History of the Kent Memorial Library

Compiled and Written by **GEORGIANNE ENSIGN KENT** | Directed by **JANE FARNOL**

**new
date**

**Sunday, April 3, 2022
at 2:00 p.m.**

St. Andrew's Parish House, 1 North Main Street



A reception will follow. Free & open to the public. Please register.
Masks Required. Proof of Vaccination is Required for Entry.

The readers for this event are all members of the St Andrew's family: Katherine Almquist, Herman Compton, Ryan Foote, Joanna Tucker, Lyra Wilder and Fr Douglas. Please let the Library know if you are planning to come! You may reach them at 860.927.3761 or kmlinfo@biblio.org.

In Pawling: A Gallery Exhibit in the Key of Lent



St Peter (David Morrison)

David Morrison shares "A Time of Reflection," a diverse collection of 40 works in pen and ink, acrylic paint, and glass art, at the Live 4 Art Gallery in Pawling, NY, which is owned by parishioner Ned Reade, during the month of March.

His journey of creating "The Passion of Christ" started 20 years ago with his first piece in pen and ink, an abstracted Christ on the Cross entitled "You Are Not Alone." His desire to show the whole collection together gives observers a time to reflect, not only on The Passion of Christ, but also on their own journeys in life. It is a wonderful show to see during the penitential season of Lent.

This show went up on Friday, 04 March, and is up through Sunday, 27 March. Hours are Wednesday and Thursday 11 to 5, Friday and Saturday 11 to 6, and Sunday 11 to 3. The gallery is closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

They're Almost Here: Refugee Family is Now in Virginia!



We received word this week that the Turquoise Mountain families, one of whom we will be helping to resettle in New Milford, are now living at a reception center in Virginia and will be coming to Connecticut sometime next week. This is exciting news, and we look forward to sharing your welcome cards with them and helping them get settled in their new home!

Help Support the Kent Food Bank



Please help our parish family continue to support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund
P O Box 262
Kent, CT 06757
memo: Food Bank

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's Social Services Director. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Town Hall or dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place it in the offering plate, marked for the Food Bank.)

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna.** Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the back of the Community House on Main Street. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

Lectons for this Week

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Year C

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order to view past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays located on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

Worship Services

-Sunday-

Holy Eucharist

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays;

Healing Service at 8.30,

Third Sunday

In person

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

(10.30 a.m. available live stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.

-Friday-

Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

-Holy Days-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays

Narcotics Anonymous - **new**
(Parish House)

Wednesdays

A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
email us for info.

Thursdays

A.A. at 7.30 a.m.
(Parish House)
resumed
Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Old Vestry Room)
A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new**
(Parish House)

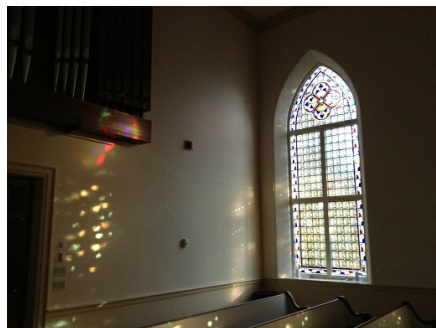
Fridays

A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)
temporarily until First Church opens
resumed



Parish Staff

The Rev Douglas S
Worthington,
Priest in Charge
frdouglas.sak@gmail.com
860-592-0171



Susan Guse
Organist & Director of Choirs

KC Compton,
Parish Administrator

Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin,
Verger



St Andrew's Church
P. O. Box 309
1 N. Main St.
Kent, CT 06757

860.927.3486
st.andrew.kent@snet.net

Parish office open everyday except Friday from 10 am- 5 pm
(2 pm on Thursdays)

Visit St Andrew's website at
www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

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