



ST. ANDREW
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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October 2026

*"Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said,
'Surely the Lord is in this place – and I did not know it'"*
Genesis 28:16

To many of us this bible verse sounds familiar because we frequently sing these words on Sunday following communion. For me, at that time in the service, I can truly feel the presence of God. But there are so many other times when I ask myself, "Where is God in all this?" On those days, when things are not going particularly well, or at least not going the way I think they should be going, I wonder to myself, "where is God?"

God is always with us, whether we are aware of it or not. Our lack of awareness is lousy evidence that God is not there! On the contrary God is always there. Whether we are standing or sleeping, walking or working, playing or eating, on vacation or tangled in an argument, watching TV or kneeling in church, behaving or misbehaving, God is there.

God can even be with us through a stranger, and we don't even recognize it. Jacob's grandfather, Abraham, welcomed and fed three traveling strangers. Those three turned out to be angels bearing marvelous news that Abraham and Sarah were desperate for. Strangers cross our paths every day, but we usually do not take notice. Perhaps we should start paying a little more attention to those who cross our paths.

The psalmist asks the question, "Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?" (Psalm 139:7) The answer is nowhere. No matter what we do or where we go, we cannot hide from the presence or the love of God. We simply need to take notice.

God's love and mine,
Rev. Pam

October 2026 Lectionary and Ministry Schedule

Lectionary

October 4 – Proper 22

Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-14
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 – Proper 23

Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

October 18 – Proper 24

Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 19 – St. Luke the Evangelist

Sirach 38:1-4, 6-10, 12-14
2 Timothy 4:5-13
Luke 4:14-21
Psalm 147 or 147:1-7

October 23 – St. James of Jerusalem

Acts 15:12-22a
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Matthew 13:54-58
Psalm 1

October 25 – Proper 25

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

October 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude

Deuteronomy 32:1-4
Ephesians 2:13-22
John 15:17-27
Psalm 119:89-96

Worship Schedule

October 4 – Blessing of the Animals and Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam
Readers: Charlotte
Eucharistic Minister: Scott
Broadcast: Tom & Kevin

October 11 – Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam
Reader: Kathy
Eucharistic Minister: Michelle
Broadcast: Doug & Joan

October 18 – Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam
Reader: Joan
Eucharistic Minister: Lori
Broadcast: Tom & Kevin

October 25 – Holy Eucharist

Presider: Rev. Pam
Reader/Prayer Leader: Jackie
Eucharistic Minister: Scott
Broadcast: Doug & Joan

Sunday
WORSHIP



October 2026 Parish and Diocesan Events

FOOD PANTRY FUND RAISING EVENT



How about dinner out on Tuesday! Culvers is sponsoring the Otsego County Food Pantry with a "Donate while you Dine" event on **Tuesday, October 6 from 5:00-8:00 pm**. The Food Pantry will receive a percentage of all sales on that day! Why not take a cooking sabbath and enjoy dinner out while supporting a good cause!

EXTENDED COFFEE HOUR



We will be holding an extended Coffee Hour on **Sunday, October 11** to hear what our bishop nominees have to say and to have a discussion around that. This will be our first Bishop Diocesan since becoming the Diocese of the Great Lakes and choosing the right person for the job is important! A light lunch will be served. We hope you can join us.

SOUP FOR HOPE

The Refuge is hosting Homelessness Awareness event on **Tuesday, October 13 from 11:30-12:45** under the downtown pavilion. Speakers will be giving information about the Refuge and about the homeless situation in Otsego County. Soup and Sandwiches will be served. There is no cost to attend.

POP-UP HYGIENE CLOSET



St. Andrew is hosting it's third Pop-Up Hygiene Closet on **Friday, October 16 from 12-2**. All products are free to anyone who needs them. We could use a couple folks to help set-up and take down the products. Please speak with Rev. Pam or George Haas if you are able to help.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION



The Third Diocesan Convention will be held on **October 23 and 24 in Muskegon**. Please keep the delegates and clergy in your prayers as we elect our first Bishop Diocesan.

SERVICE TIME

Rev. Pam will be ending her ministry at St. Mark's in Atlanta on Sunday, December 27. This means that we are free to change our service time here at St. Andrew. Historically, our service was at 10:00 am. I'm wondering if you would like to return to that time after the first of the year. Please think about this as a survey will be sent out soon.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



All Saints Sunday is **November 1st**. We will be remembering and celebrating our loved ones who have gone on to the greater glory of God. Please fill out a remembrance sheet which are on the table in Hewitt Hall.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Michelle's Bible reflection at Aspen Ridge is on **Wednesday, October 7 at 10:30 am**.

Vestry Meeting: Sunday, October 18 following the worship service.

Food Pantry: Thursday, October 15 from 11:45-2:00. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

SOSA is at Aspen Ridge on **Thursday, October 15** at 3:00 pm

Jack Pine Mission Council next meets on **Saturday, November 21 at 10:00 am**.

Patriot Place is the **Second Sunday** of the month.

Rector's Discretionary Fund is the **Fourth Sunday** of the month.

Bible Study meets most **Wednesdays from 12:00-2:00 pm**. We are currently studying **The Sermon on the Mount** which is found in Matthew's gospel chapters 5-7. We'd love to have you join us for some fun and learning!

October 2026 Building, Business, and Finance



Income and Expense as of September 30

Operating Income	\$38,042.83
Operating Expenses	\$37,385.15
Mission Income	\$ 1,639.82
Mission Expenses	\$ 2,563.23
Capital Improvement Income	\$ 4,150.00
Capital Improvement Expenses	\$11,074.50
Discretionary Fund Income	\$ 253.00
Discretionary Fund Expenses	\$ 730.67

Bank Balances as of September 30

Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 909.02
Checking Accounts	
General Operating Account	\$12,064.77
Mission Fund	\$ 775.98
Music Fund	\$ 1,408.00
Patriot Place Fund	\$ 395.74
Capitol Improvement	\$ 4,150.00
Total	\$21,005.85
General Savings Account	\$ 6,293.35
Money Market Account	\$26,541.29
Total All Accounts:	\$54,749.31

If you have any questions regarding our finances, please speak with Jackie Skinner, our treasurer.

Our thanks for your continued financial support of St. Andrew.

FALL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



October is the month when we begin our Stewardship program for the upcoming year. It is also the time when the Vestry begins working on the budget for 2027. Very soon you will receive a letter and a pledge card in the mail. Please consider carefully your pledge of Time, Talent, and Treasure for the upcoming year.

NORTH FACING BUTTRESS

The buttress on the north side of the church needs repair. It is estimated that the cost will be around \$4,000.00. Thanks to the generosity of our people, we have raised \$4,150.00! Thank you for your donations to this cause.

ALTAR GUILD



Joan Goolsby is the director of the Altar Guild and she is looking for a couple folks to help out with this ministry. It is a rewarding ministry that doesn't take a lot of time. If you are interested, please speak with Joan.



VESTRY

The Vestry will hold it's next meeting on **Sunday, October 18 following the service.** They have set their meeting schedule for the year. They will meet on the second Sunday of the even months following the service. The last vestry meeting of the year will be on **Sunday, December 13** following the service.

October 2026 Prayers of the People



Pray for those who are ill or otherwise in need

Lori Beaudoin, Kevin Everman, Judy Doyen,
Bev and Josh Howell, Jim & Holly Donovan,
Susan Nye, Kathy & Ed Blom, Roxann Morin,
Darin Polla & family, Donald Polla & family,
Rita and Steve Skinner, Kathryn Rakich, David
Doyen, Henry VanOrmer, Scott VanOrmer,
Anthony Santini, Rev. Karen Thompson, Jane
Hutson, Mehrdad, Hunter Lobre, Bob and
Michelle Clausen, Ed Heath, Bonnie Zachary,
Jeri Deprey, Jackie Tobias, Marcia Olds, Gloria
Hermann, Sally Bird, Trevor, Bill, Beverly

*All grieving from the loss of a loved one.
An end to the wars in our world.
An end to gun violence.*

Pray for our Church

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop
Julia Ayala Harris, President of the HOD
The Standing Committee of our Diocese
The Diocesan Council of our Diocese
Candidates for our First Bishop Diocesan
The Rev Pamela Lenartowicz, Rector
Vestry Members and Lay leaders
Our Parish family

Pray for our Country

President Donald Trump
Vice-President JD Vance
Governor Gretchen Whitmer
Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist
The congresses of our country and state
Our service men and women

Pray for our Community

The people of our country
The people of our community
Our Police, Sheriff, and State Troopers
The hungry and homeless that may find food and
safe shelter.

October Birthdays

Alicia Howell – October 26

October Anniversaries

No known October Anniversaries to celebrate.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

October 4

Holy Family, Blue Water - Mary Shortt, Priest
St. Mark's, Coldwater - J Barrett Lee, Rector
St. Phillip's, Grand Rapids - Sachariah Char,
Priest-in-Charge

October 11

Diocesan Council Members of The Episcopal
Diocese of the Great Lakes
The Diocesan Staff of The Episcopal Diocese of
the Great Lakes
Emmanuel, Hastings - Alicia Hager, Rector

October 18

For the Diocesan Convention
St. James, Cheboygan - Lewis Cursoe, Priest-in-
Charge

October 25

Trinity, Lexington - Mary Shortt, Priest
Christ Church, Charlevoix - Mark Heydlauff,
Senior Warden
Monastic Solitary - Sarah Swart

An Episcopal Glossary

When I first started “becoming Episcopalian,” I realized very quickly that I hadn’t just joined a church, I had moved to a foreign country with its own dialect and obscure rules of etiquette. Some people dress to the nines every Sunday. Some people dress to the ones. They both sit on the same pew, pass the peace and thoroughly enjoy each other’s presence.

In most churches, the lobby is a lobby. In an Episcopal church, it’s a “narthex.” In most places, a hat is a hat. Here, if a bishop is wearing it, it would be a “mitre,” and it probably looks like an open fish mouth, but they’ll tell you it looks like flames (wishful thinking).

To help my fellow travelers (and to give the “cradle Episcopalians” a chance to laugh at themselves), I’ve compiled this glossary of terms you’ll encounter on a typical Sunday. Consider this your liturgical Rosetta Stone.

1. **Acolyte:** Usually, a youth in a long robe carrying a very heavy cross while desperately trying not to trip in front of God and country.
2. **Altar Guild:** The Liturgical SWAT Team. They handle linens and silver with a level of precision that would intimidate a surgeon. No stain is too big for them; they are backed by Jesus.
3. **Altar Rail:** The spiritual “finish line” where you kneel for communion and pray that you can get back up again without using the person next to you for leverage (though they likely wouldn’t mind lending a hand).
4. **BCP (Book of Common Prayer):** A “Choose Your Own Adventure” novel that requires at least three fingers and four silk ribbons to navigate successfully.
5. **Chalice:** A fancy cup. We share it because we’re a family, and we wipe it with a napkin because we’re a family that doesn’t want the flu.
6. **Coffee Hour:** The unofficial eighth sacrament. A high-stakes social gauntlet involving caffeine, cookies and the distinct possibility of being recruited for a committee you didn’t know existed.
7. **Collect:** A single, very long sentence that contains more commas than a Dickens novel and is designed to be read in one breath.
8. **Dismissal:** The part at the very end where you’re essentially told to leave the building and actually be a good person, right when you were finally starting to feel comfortable in your pew.
9. **Episcopal Aerobics:** The repetitive liturgical sequence of standing to sing, sitting to listen, and kneeling to pray. It’s the original HIIT workout.
10. **Great Litany:** A prayer that is so long you eventually start praying for it to be over.
11. **Hymnal 1982:** A collection of songs, approximately 30% of which are impossible to sing unless you are a professional soprano or a medieval monk.
12. **Lectionary:** A schedule that tells the church exactly which part of the Bible to read today so no one accidentally gets too creative.

13. **Narthex:** The “lobby,” but also kind of like a chapel on Wednesdays, and also kind of like a breakroom. For the first six months, I was 100% sure this was the “Nave.” It’s better than a hospital waiting room and the coffee is tastier, too.
14. **Nave:** The main seating area where the pews are. I used to get this confused with the Narthex *constantly* until I realized “Nave” is Latin for “ship” which is fitting, because to me anyway, the front area where the show is going down looks a lot like a ship deck with the pulpit being the steering wheel and the giant cross being the sails. We’re all just along for the ride in those pews.
15. **Offertory:** That awkward minute where you try to find your wallet while a smiling usher looks at you with hope and glee.
16. **Parish Hall:** The multi-purpose room that smells faintly of crayons and casserole. It is simultaneously a dining room, a boardroom, and literally anything else the church needs it to be.
17. **Passing the Peace:** A three-minute athletic event where you attempt to shake hands with everyone in a 30-foot radius without causing a pile-up in the aisle. “Peace be with you” is typically replied to with “And also with you.” But “thanks” works too.
18. **Pulpit:** The elevated wooden fortress where the Rector delivers “10-minute” sermons that usually last just long enough for you to start wondering if Sue brought oatmeal raisin cookies.
19. **Rector:** The priest in charge, whose primary job is to listen to 400 different opinions on why the heat should be different from what it is right now. He’s really more concerned with whether or not he can cut down the holly tree outside his window.
20. **Rite I (is the right one):** The “vintage” liturgy. It’s heavy on the thees, thous, and vouchsafes, making you feel like you’re auditioning for a Shakespeare play while repenting for sins you didn’t even know you had.
21. **Rite II (is for me & you):** The “modern” liturgy. It uses the same English you’d use at Starbucks, which is much easier to follow but lacks the dramatic “thou art” flair of its older sibling.
22. **Sacristy:** The Altar Guild’s high-security staging area. Part walk-in closet for the altar cloths, part silver-polishing lab, and the official storage facility for the specific brand of grocery store port wine that makes the Eucharist possible.
23. **Stole:** The liturgical scarf that acts as a seasonal mood ring. Green means “business as usual,” Purple means “we’re thinking about our sins,” and Red means “the Holy Spirit is here and things are getting spicy.”
24. **Vestry:** A group of dedicated volunteers who spend 10% of their time in deep spiritual discernment and 90% of their time discussing the structural integrity of the church’s HVAC system.
25. **Via Media:** Latin for “The Middle Way.” Essentially: “We couldn’t agree on the theology, so we decided to have really nice music and Family Grill Night instead.”