

# St Andrew

December 2017— February 2018

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Magazine of the English speaking church in Gothenburg



# Who's Who at St Andrew's

## Chaplain

Revd David Bruce

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Heather Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Secretary

Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581

### Treasurer

Steven Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Synod representative

Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581  
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### Ladies' Guild

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### British Factory Representative

Monica Edholm 031 - 29 30 40

### Other Elected Members

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Clifford Elliott 070 - 534 63 22  
Charity Ezeilo 076 - 238 66 01  
Tomas Fredén 073 - 626 19 16  
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Gillian Thylander 031 27 92 70

### Caretaker and Environmental Officer

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### Fire Officer

Alan Taylor 031 - 42 38 64

### Gardening Group

Cecilia Klevedal 031 - 12 75 08

### Safeguarding Officer

Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581

### ID Checking

Heather Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Ladies' Evening Group

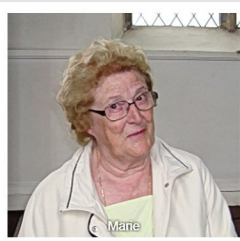
Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581  
Rosa James 031 - 19 49 75

## Our Vision for St Andrew's

*Seeking God's will through  
prayer and worship, outreach, and nurturing community*



# Our Church Committee Members



The cover picture of St Andrew is from a drawing by Lana Svirejeva





## Letter from our Chaplain

Dear Friends and Family of St. Andrew's,

I have a life coach on You Tube whom I listen to every Saturday and he always begins his weekly blog with "Well hello everyone it's that time of week again." I was thinking of this today on this Black Friday weekend what with the St. Andrew's Day Celebration tomorrow and the First Sunday of Advent next Sunday on the third of December.

***"Well hello everyone! It's that time of year again."***

I chose blue as that is the colour we will be using this year for reasons I will be getting into later in this message.

Yes it is that time of year again, and it seems to come around faster every year as I get older! We all remember when we were children it seemed like it would never arrive and, with the excitement building, I wondered why my parent's mood didn't match mine of joyful expectation. Now I have an idea why, as to them it meant another round of making this time of year happy for us kids and it seemed to them that it had been only yesterday.

Yet I don't think even the most jaded of us can approach this time of year without having those feelings of joyful expectation stir in us as our inner child awakens and we think back to a previous time and those who in the past helped to make this season special for us. Now it is our turn to make it happy for someone else and, as we approach and enter into Advent, let us remember that this season is one of hopeful and joyful anticipation when we wait for the one this season is all about, who comes to give us "life so that we may live it abundantly."

In the Prologue of the Gospel of St. John Jesus is described as the "true light that enlightens every person." As the light outside continues to diminish we await the coming of



him "who is the light of the world." That light that the darkness could not overcome.

In the rituals which are part of our worship this season we are reminded of this. We light candles on the wreath as we approach Christmas to light our way in the encroaching darkness. To remind us that the light will return and "will not be overpowered." The church will be decorated in blue to remind us that God is coming into our lives from the highest heavens and to "dwell among us face to face." Evergreen will adorn the altar and make up the Advent Wreath to remind us that God's promises are everlasting.

So let us enter into the Joyful Expectation of this season and be prepared to receive Jesus face to face as we greet each other with the sign of Peace and Joy at the altar rail as Christ gives himself in love to us in the Eucharist.



*The opportunities for receiving him in our church will be during the following times:*

**First Sunday of Advent**

December 3rd, 9 am and Family Service 11 am.

**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 10th, 11 am.

**Third Sunday of Advent**

December 17th, 11 am.

**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

December 17th and

Wednesday the 20th @ 6 pm.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 24th 11 am.

Blessing of the Christmas Crib with the Children.

Decorating of the Church for Christmas Day after church.

**The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

Monday December 25th 11 am. Commonly called Christmas Day.

**The 1st Sunday after Christmas**

December 31st 11 am.

*One last note, above all, this is the time of year for sharing the Good News! Invite your family and friends to come and join us in sharing in the Good News by passing the peace and welcoming our Lord into our lives.*

Wishing you a Blessed Advent and a Joyful Christmastide.

David Bruce, Chaplain.

*Joy to the World, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.*





# Services: December — February

Unless otherwise stated, there is just one service on Sunday: Parish Communion at 11.00

## **DECEMBER 10, Advent 2**

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Gillian Thylander

## **DECEMBER 17, Advent 3**

LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Alan Taylor

18.00 Nine Lessons and Carols

## **DECEMBER 20, Wednesday**

18.00 Nine Lessons and Carols

## **DECEMBER 24, Advent 4**

*Blessing of the Christmas Creche with Children.*

LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Jeanette Munro

*Decorating of the Church for Christmas Day after church.*

## **DECEMBER 25, Christmas Day**

### **The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Charity Ezeilo

## **DECEMBER 31, First after Christmas**

LA: Alan Taylor, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Ann Gustafsson

## **JANUARY 7, Epiphany 1**

10.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Family Eucharist

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Clifford Elliott

## **JANUARY 14, Epiphany 2**

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Happiness Ezeilo

## **JANUARY 21, Epiphany 3**

LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: The Willy Family

## **JANUARY 28, Epiphany 4**

LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Keith Barnard

## **FEBRUARY 4, Epiphany 5**

10.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Family Eucharist

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Jennifer Abbås

## **FEBRUARY 11, Epiphany 6**

LA: Alan Taylor, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Gisela Barnard

## **FEBRUARY 18, Lent 1**

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Cecilia Klevedal

## **FEBRUARY 25, Lent 2**

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Gillian Thylander

## **MARCH 4, Lent 3**

10.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Family Eucharist

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Alan Taylor

## **MARCH 11, Lent 4 Mothering Sunday**

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Jeanette Munro



## International Service

As usual we found ourselves in the German Church on Norra Hamngatan together with six other Lutheran congregations in Gothenburg. It is always something extra to listen to the combined choirs sing together during the service. Refreshments afterwards are also much appreciated by all.





## St Andrew's Day

Lunch after the service was most enjoyable. The buffé included a selection of delicious food, drinks, etc generously donated by the members of the congregation. The Xmas table with cakes, etc was a wonderful addition, not forgetting the gingerbread house made for us by Eva. Her creation gets more interesting for every year. Young Ria Samuel was jumping for joy when her lucky number was drawn. A big thank you is due to everyone who made it all worthwhile.



## First Sunday in Advent

With the dark season it is a comfort to light the first candle of Advent and to celebrate a new year in the Christian calendar.

Our Chaplain David Bruce had set up a green wreath, a sign of life and hope, around a stand with the four Advent candles, three in blue and one in pink, and a fifth and white one in the centre to be lit on Christmas day.

On this first Sunday it was Ria Samuel who lit the candle and her father read a prayer after David had explained to the children the meaning of Advent, the wreath and the candles.

Altogether it was a beautiful service with lovely, well known hymns, perhaps the most memorable one being *"This little light of mine"* sung by three children.

*Gisela Barnard*





## Message of the Angels

At the side of the altar in the chancel of our Church is a beautiful window of Angels each carrying a message of hope and praise . I have looked at this window many times and each time discover some detail which I find beautiful as well as inspiring. You will see a picture of it here and sometime when you are in the Church come forward and look at the window 'again for the first time' and see what it says to you. The original intention of stained glass was to teach as well as inspire and I find that this window of late has brought on a new meaning especially as we approach the season of Advent. in the Gospel of Luke the Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus and Angels announced to the shepherds the birth of Jesus. Angels occupy that place between the Divine and Human realms and are intermediaries between heaven and Earth acting as messengers and sometimes guardians of us here. They are not a uniquely Christian belief but they transcend many spiritual traditions of the ancient world and are something we inherited from them. It is in the stillness that we hear and feel their presence and sometimes we may feel their presence as being very close to us in our daily lives. The following incident told in a Sermon by a former Rector of my mother Church at home in the USA illustrates how the Angels may reach out to us and how we may feel their presence.

During training for the ordained ministry your first summer is spent in a clinical setting such as a hospital , prison or other caring or crisis institution in order to give you first hand experience in ministering to individuals in a crisis or other critical situation. When my Rector was doing his clinical summer he related how he was serving as a student chaplain in a hospital in the New York City area. He was called in on a Saturday night to

render pastoral care to a family whose baby was in the final hours of life. He remembered finding the family gathered in a room around the child and everyone was very still and a peace seemed to permeate the the room. The child had been born with a condition which the doctors said it might not survive and everyone's worst fears had come true. The child's life was drawing to a close. He was asked to say the prayers for the dying child which he did and when he was finished he said he was aware of another presence in the room surrounding him and the family. The peace and quiet in the room was profound and the presence was very real as if others were standing there with them. He said that he could feel their physical presence as truly as his own and the family's. In time the child did pass away that evening and the 'other presence' left the room as well. He says to this day that he believes that the presence was that of angels come to bring comfort to those gathered and to bring the child home.

This and every Advent the message of the Angels is Peace and hope and that God enters our lives in the stillness of those times when we need most that message of Peace and Hope. It is for us to listen in the Stillness and we will feel the presence all around us as the world outside goes on its way. During this Advent take time out from the noise of the Season to enter into its stillness and be aware of the Angel's presence all around as they carry you to the one born to us and whose mission was announced by the Angels.

"Glory to God in Highest Heavens and Peace to his people of good will."

A blessed Advent and Peaceful Christmas to you all and may the Angels carry you joyfully through this season and always.

*Chaplain David*







## TAIZÉ

At St Andrew's we often sing chants from the Taizé Community during Holy Communion. They have been important as our choir has become so small as a result of members retiring or moving to "pastures new", and these simple songs, often based on biblical texts, have the ability to create an atmosphere of peace and calm during Communion. Of course, some of the chants are both louder and more lively and are used on special occasions to express solidarity. Some of you may remember "Laudate omnes gentes", for instance, which we often sang during the earlier ecumenical services we have had together with the six other s.c. Protestant churches in Göteborg since 1991.

The free Net encyclopaedia Wikipedia has a lot of information about the Taizé Community that may be of interest to some newer members of our congregation.

*The Taizé Community is an ecumenical monastic order in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers, from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about thirty countries across*

*the world. It was founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, a Reformed Protestant. Guidelines for the community's life are contained in The Rule of Taizé[1] written by Brother Roger and first published in French in 1954.*

*The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Through the community's ecumenical outlook, they are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation. Owing to the founder's commitment, since its inception the community has evolved into an important site for Catholic–Lutheran ecumenism, with Catholic Brother Alois succeeding as prior after his predecessor's death in 2005.*

Here are two of the Taizé chants that the choir sang on Remembrance Sunday. Those of you who are unfamiliar with them might like to learn them by heart so that you can sing along with us next time we include them in the service

Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
Come to me and never be hungry,  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
Trust in me and you will not thirst.

Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.  
*Don't be afraid of the Latin! It means "Where charity and love are found, God himself is there."*

Gillian Thylander, Choirmistress

## The St.Andrews Guild

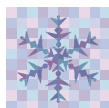
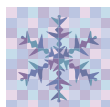
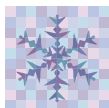
### Social meeting

The Guild will be meeting four times in the coming new year and I hope that some of you will come along and spend a happy hour or two chatting and laughing together. We will meet at the **café in Villa Belparc, Slottsskogen**. It's quite near the tram stop (Botanical Gardens) and I'll be there from 11.00 until about 13.00.

It's a lovely café and all family members are welcome, so please try and come.  
The dates are: January 11th : February 9th : March 8th : and April 12th.  
Looking forward to seeing you all  
Marie Lygonis, tel. 0705 92 08 77.  
email: marie@lygonis.com



## Remember your Spirit



Quietly and tentatively the third candle remarked: 'My name is LOVE. I do not have the energy to burn anymore. The people have become such egoists. They only see themselves and are not prepared to make others happy.' And with a last flicker this candle too went out.

Then a child came into the room. It looked in surprise at the candles and said: 'You should all be burning and not be out.'

Then the fourth candle came to word. She said: 'Don't be afraid, as long as I burn all the other candles can be set alight again. My name is HOPE.'

With a little piece of wood the child took a light from this candle and woke Peace, Faith and Love to new life.

## The four candles

Four candles were alight on the advents wreath and it was very still outside. It was so still, that one could hear how the candles were talking to each other.

The first candle sighed and said: 'My name is PEACE. My light gives security, but the people are not keeping peace. They don't want me'. The flame got smaller and smaller and at last went out.

The second candle flickered and said: 'My name is FAITH. But I feel I am not needed. The people do not believe in anything anymore. It is no use that I am burning.' A breeze went through the room and the second candle went out.





## LOTTERY 2017

*The following organisations, shops and restaurants have kindly given us their support:*

BioRoy

Cafe Majviken, Karl Johansgatan

Chapmans Blommor

Chumphon Thai Restaurang, Chapmans Torg

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Musik Utan Gränser

Nordic Wellness

Pensionat Styrso Skäret

Stadsteatern

Stena Line

Thai Oriental, Kaserntorget

Öckerö-FISK, Feskekörka

The Anglo-Swedish Society Program is now on-line:

[www.angloswedish.wordpress.com](http://www.angloswedish.wordpress.com)

Members of St. Andrew's community are invited to apply for membership of the British Club.

Membership benefits include an active social programme.

[www.britishclub.se](http://www.britishclub.se)



The annual fee per family is 100.00 SEK. Anyone interested should contact Gisela Barnard (031 147101) or send an email to [membership@britishclub.se](mailto:membership@britishclub.se) to request more information.

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på  
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18 - 20 juli : Akvarell



*Välkommen*





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