

ST. ANDREW'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

St. Andrew's is dedicated to supporting your spiritual life. Spirituality is how we are in relationship to God, to other people, to the world around us, and to ourselves.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

We are livestreaming the 10am service.

Prelude *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Now come, Savior of the gentiles)*

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Processional Hymn 76 "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry"

Winchester New

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever! Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days, you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgment; for you are our light and our salvation.

People Blessed be God for ever.

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer p. 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Trisagion S102 (front section of hymnal)

Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Together we pray,

People Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson: Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16, The Song of Zechariah

Richard Clark

The congregation is encouraged to sing the psalm.



- 1 Blessèd be the Lord, the ¹God of ¹Israel; *
he has come to his ¹people and ¹set them ¹free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a ¹mighty ¹savior, *
born of the ¹house of his ¹servant ¹David.

- 3 Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would ¹save us from our ¹enemies, *
from the ¹hands of ¹all who ¹hate us.
- 4 He promised to show ¹mercy to our ¹fathers *
and to re¹member his ¹holy ¹covenant.
- 5 This was the oath he swore to our ¹father ¹Abraham, *
to set us ¹free from the ¹hands of our ¹enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him with ¹out ¹fear, *
holy and righteous in his ¹sight all the ¹days of our ¹life.
- 7 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the ¹Möst ¹High, *
for you will go before the ¹Lord to pre¹pare his ¹way,
- 8 To give his people ¹knowledge of sal¹vation *
by the for¹giveness ¹of their ¹sins.
- 9 In the tender com¹passion of our ¹God *
the dawn from on ¹high shall ¹break up ¹on us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
¹shadow of ¹death, *
and to guide our ¹feet into the ¹way of ¹peace.

Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprison-

ment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 65 "Prepare the way, O Zion"

Bereden väg för Herran

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Clergy The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a

baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Clergy The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

After each bidding the Reader says, Lord, in your mercy.

The People reply, Hear our prayer.

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Presentation of Bread and Wine

Offertory *If ye love me*

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

*If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
And he shall give you another comforter
That he may 'bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth*

Doxology Hymn 380 "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

S129 Sanctus (front section of hymnal)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will direct the congregation.

You may sip from the chalice or dip your wafer in the intinction cup.

Gluten free wafers are available.

S 156 Fraction Anthem (front section of hymnal) *Christ our Passover*

Gerald Near

Communion Anthem *Teach me, O Lord*

Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

text Psalm 119:33

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes,

And I shall keep it unto the end.

Communion Hymn 67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

Psalm 42

Thanksgiving after Communion

BCP p. 365

Blessing

Recessional Hymn 59 "Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding"

Merton

Dismissal

Clergy Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott (To God we render thanks and praise)*

J.S. Bach

**Please join us after the service for the Alternative Gift Fair at coffee hour,
hosted today by the outreach committee.**

How to use your smartphone to connect to the listening system



We recently installed *Listen Everywhere* for parishioners who use hearing aids with Bluetooth capabilities. Download the *Listen Everywhere* app from your app store. Then follow the instructions at the ushers table for how to connect your app to the church system.





The altar flowers are given in memory of
Corydon P. Cronk by Carol C. Cole and Caspar Cronk.

Serving St. Andrew's this week

Altar Guild Dell Beggs, Judith Boland, Jean Childs, Kim Francour,
Erica Gelser, Peter Mahoney, Heather Schaefer, and Liz J. Tecca
Flowers the flower guild

Serving at 8am

Lay Eucharistic Minister Tom Palmer
Ushers Nancy Kohl and Bob Ware

Serving at 10am

Acolytes Crucifer, Jason Lowe; Torch, Emmy Svedlund;
and Torch, Katherine Svedlund

Broadcast Tech Volunteer Rob Brandt

Greeter Nicole Schmidt

Lay Eucharistic Ministers David Hamlin, Ann Johnson,
Cam McCormick, and Margaret Zusky

Readers Megan Burns and Paul Merry

Ushers Travis Anza, Matthew Benfer, Frank Hunnewell, Justin Wahls, and Paul Zusky

Intercessions from the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Churches of the Alewife Deanery

St. Paul's Church, Bedford

All Saints' Church, Belmont

St. Mark's Church, Burlington

The Officers of the Diocese

Racial Justice Commission

If this is your first time at St. Andrew's, Welcome!

We are happy you found us. Please use this QR code to fill out a *seeker information form* or check with a member of our membership committee in the narthex so that our clergy and members of our congregation can welcome you and help you get engaged with our church





Icon of the Week

St. John of the Cross

1542–1591

John was born in 1542 at Fontiveros, near Avila, Spain. After his third birthday, his father died leaving his mother and her children reduced to poverty. John received elementary education in an orphanage in Medina del Campo. By the age of 17, he had learned carpentry, tailoring, sculpturing, and painting through apprenticeships to local craftsmen. After university studies with the Jesuits, John entered the Carmelite Order and completed his theological studies in Salamanca. By the age of 35 he had studied extensively, had been spiritual director to many including St. Teresa of Avila, and yet devoted himself to the search for God so fully that he reached the peak of the mystical experience: a complete transformation in God.

St. Teresa recruited St. John to help her crusade to return the order of the Carmelites to a life centered on prayer. Feeling threatened by this reform, The Carmelites of St. John's own order kidnapped him, locked him in a small dark cell, and regularly beat him. During this isolation of cold, and darkness, God gave him illumination and consolation, which St. John expressed in a series of mystical poems written in his cell. After nine months, he miraculously escaped. From then on, his life was devoted to sharing and explaining his experience of God's love. He expresses his journey in the spiritual classic, "The Dark Night of the Soul."

His feast day is December 14

Never give up prayer, and should you find dryness and difficulty, persevere in it for this very reason. God often desires to see what love your soul has, and love is not tried by ease and satisfaction. —St. John of the Cross.



Family Advent & Christmas Events

Advent Lessons & Carols

Today, December 8, at 5pm (*will be broadcast*)

This service will include seven readings followed by advent hymns and anthems. This is a candlelit service with Thomas Handel as guest organist.

There will be a reception following.

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 15, 9am gather for 10am service

Christmas pageant participants gather for the pageant at 9am on Sunday, December 15. The pageant replaces the lessons and sermon for our 10am Eucharistic service.

Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 18, at 7pm

If you or someone you care about has had a hard year and are longing to make room for spirit in a time of struggle or loss, please join us. We will rest in the promise of Christ, remembering that God's love and grace endure. We can each choose to light a candle to honor the person or time we are acknowledging. Join us in the transept chapel.



Christmas & Epiphany Services

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24, (3pm & 5pm will be broadcast)

Children's Service at 3pm

This half-hour service is aimed at young children. We sing carols, hear the Christmas story, and have a children's homily (no Holy Communion). The service is followed by cupcakes.

Family Eucharist at 5pm

This hour-long Holy Communion service is the most well attended Christmas Eve service at St. Andrew's. The service ends with the church darkened and everyone holding a candle as we sing "Silent Night."

Holy Eucharist

Choral Service at 10pm

This is a traditional service with communion, carols, a sermon, and choral anthems. A 20-minute musical prelude precedes the hour-long service with the full choir and a string quartet.

Christmas Day Services

Wednesday, December 25,

Barn Service 9am

A service of carols, readings, and prayers among the hay bales, and animals. At the red Hunnewell Barn on Washington St.

Church Service 10am

A relaxed one-hour service with communion, Christmas carols, and a short homily.

Epiphany Fireside Service & Dinner

Sunday, January 5, at 5pm

This Holy Communion service—in the parish hall with a roaring fire—is attended by an intergenerational congregation. We hear a short Epiphany homily and sing Epiphany hymns followed by dinner.



Outreach Holiday Projects

During the Christmas season, we are called to remember and be generous to those facing financial poverty. Our outreach ministry invites you to make donations in the following ways.

Alternative Gift Fair (AGF)

For over 20 years we have offered parishioners a fresh way to give gifts to family and friends *without shopping and wrapping!* You can choose to feed, educate, provide shelter and warmth through our list of projects. You will get pretty gift cards on **to-day, December 8** to give to your loved ones. Donations will be accepted until the New Year.

Gifts of Love 2024

The season of giving is upon us and we are gearing up to offer gifts to St. Stephen's, our sister church in the South End. The money we collect for *Holiday Dinners* goes a long way:

- Christmas gift bags for seniors, including hand-knitted hats and scarves from St. Andrew's stitchers and decorated home-made cookies from the congregation.

You can put your generous check in the envelopes scattered in the pews or you can enter your gift via Realm.

The Giving Tree

At the rear of the church every year, a Giving Tree rises. Please take a tag or contribute in another way listed below.

- Children at St. Stephen's are given the chance to ask for specific gifts. You can take a tag, purchase your gift, then put it under the tree **by Wednesday, December 11.**
- Diapers for Bridges to Moms at Brigham and Women's: diapers are a constant and an expensive need for these women.
- "Welcome Home" gift cards for Family Promise families who are moving to their own homes.

Circle of Hope

Circle of Hope wants your gently worn, warm winter coats, all sizes, shapes, and colors are welcome. It's getting cold outside so please downsize your closets to those in need. Collection boxes are in the narthex (entry way) and the parish hall.



Notices and Announcements

Note: all staff email addresses are on the second to last page. Deadline for materials is noon on Tuesdays for both the bulletin and the e-Pistle.

Church School Today

- **Godly Play I** Pre-K to first grade meet in the children's chapel adjacent to the church sanctuary
- **Godly Play II** Grades two and three meet in Room 203, on the second floor
- **Upper School/Way of Love** Grades four and five meet in Room 204, on the second floor
- **Rite-13** Grades six and seven meet in Room 202, on the second floor

9am Adult Christian Learning

Today, December 8, Joanna Horobin teaches a class in *Silence: A Medieval Practice We Need in 2024*. Join us **in Room 2 or on Zoom** (the link will be in the e-Pistle). Next **Sunday, December 15**, Margaret Schwarzer leads a class on *Experiences of Christmas Around the World*. Come every week, once a month, or just when a class lines up with your interests. — [Margaret Schwarzer](#)

Kids' Place/Child Care on Sundays

Kids' Place is open from **8:55am to 11:15am today**. You are welcome to join the 9am adult Christian learning, senior choir (please speak to Wardie), or in worship. Your children will have fun while you participate in other activities.

Confirmation Class

Dates for the remaining confirmation classes are: **Mondays, December 9, January 6, 13, 20, and 27.**

Advent Lessons & Carols Reception

Lessons & Carols is **tonight, December 8, at 5pm**, followed by a candlelight reception in the parish hall. Set up and clean up help welcomed. You may drop off your ready to serve food in the kitchen prior to the concert.

Youth Group

- **Today, December 8** starting at 5pm attend Lessons & Carols and help with reception.
- **December 15, Café Night** Have dinner, take an Epiphany card photo (you are invited to wear something white), get ready for the Epiphany Fireside service, and other merriment.
- **January 5** We will need readers and a preacher for this service. Any volunteers?

Parking on Denton Road

In this holiday season, please be careful that you do not obstruct the driveways of our neighbors. We wish to maintain good relations with our neighbors and to extend the courtesy we would expect from others to them. Thanks for your help with this!

Church School Holiday Break

All church school classes end **Sunday, December 8. The pageant is on Sunday, December 15.** Please note Kids' Place will be open through Sunday, December 22 and then closed for all Christmas Eve services, as well as Sunday, December 29. We will resume all programs on **January 5!**

Pageant

If you have out of town guests with children or a child who cannot make the pageant rehearsals, there are walk-on opportunities.

Just have the children dress as an angel (white clothing), a shepherd (bathrobe and a tea-towel on the head), or a barnyard animal costume, and arrive **at church at 9am on Sunday, December 15.** Please see Benedict for more details.

Bible Studies

- **Men's Bible Study** Join us [online the first and third Saturday of every month at 8am](#) for the study of the Gospel of Luke. The Zoom link is in the e-Pistle.
- **Beginner's Bible Study** Join us [online every Thursday at noon](#) for the study of John's Gospel. The Zoom link is also in the e-Pistle. — [Adrian Robbins-Cole](#)
- **Open Bible Study** This month, we study *The Epistle of James, Chapter 3 and Chapter 4: Faith & God*. Bring you Bible or use one of ours. No homework. We will meet on [Tuesday, December 10 at 11am](#) and on [Wednesday, December 11 at 7 pm](#). The Zoom links are in the e-Pistle. — [Margaret Schwarzer](#)

Roric Cunningham Cello Concert

Boston Symphony Orchestra cellist Roric Cunningham, and Jenny Tang, piano, will be giving a free concert at St. Andrew's on **Sunday, December 15, at 2 pm.** The program is as follows:

- Francis Poulenc *Sonata pour violoncelle et piano, FP 143*
- Camille Saint-Saëns *Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix*
- Johannes Brahms *Sonata for Piano and Violoncello in F Major, Op. 99*

Request for Payment or Reimbursement

The requests for payment or reimbursement forms have been updated and are in a mailbox in the volunteer room on green paper. Please be sure to fill in the applicable ministry to be charged and attach receipts. *In order to comply with auditing guidelines, all requests must be submitted within 30 days of purchase.* This allows us to have our financial records better reflect the proper timing of expenditures. Checks are cut and mailed weekly with a slight delay for larger amounts. Contact me with any questions or to receive an emailed copy of the form.
—Joanne Butler

Name Tag Reminder

Please remember to wear your name tag and introduce yourself to one another. If you need a new name tag, please reach out to membership@standrewswellesley.org. If you ordered nametags, you will find them on the small white board in the narthex.

Year End Donations

Looking towards year end, please observe the following best practices to complete your pledge(s):

- **Stock donations** Please have stock donations processed **by Monday, December 9** and send me an email documenting the stock name, number of shares and how it should be applied (2024 Pledge, 2025 Pre-paid Pledge, etc.)
- **In-person** Drop in the collection plate **by Monday, December 29** or at the church office by noon on December 31.
- **Online Realm or website** If paying by credit card, please process your request **by Thursday, December 26**. If paying by ACH, process **by December 26**. Payments submitted online can take 48 hours to be received and will not be credited to your 2024 statement if received in 2025.
- **By mail** Please mail by **Monday, December 16** to allow for holiday mail delays.

For your 2024 pledge balance, log in to *Realm* and go to “Giving” where your payments and balance will be listed. **For 2025**, you can set up automatic payments within *Realm* specifying the amount and frequency as well as a start and end date to have your pledge payments paid and recorded. Please reach out with questions and thank you for your continued support of St. Andrew’s! —Joanne Butler

Parish Photo Release

We recognize that safety and privacy are of primary concern to members of our congregation. After researching best practices and reaching out to our national church, the communications committee developed a policy *not to identify anyone by name in website photos* in the fall of 2013. We also agreed to publish the following release language in registration forms, The Call, service leaflets, annual reports, and any future publications. This language is as follows:

Occasionally, we may take photographs or videos of St. Andrew’s-related activities. By appearing at and/or participating in any such activities, you are aware that you may appear in such pictures and agree to let us use such images in related communications (including print and web usage), and you agree to release St. Andrew’s from any liability, damages, or claims whatsoever that might arise from such use. This notice also applies to any members of your family appearing and/or participating in such church activities. Our policy is that we will not identify anyone by name on website photos.

For any questions or more information about photos and usage please contact Katharine Clark

Your Realm Account

Realm is our database, our giving platform, and our online directory. All our parishioners are there, and pictures of individuals are included! If you do not have an account, you will have received an invitation to join during the last week. The invite came from

St Andrew's Episcopal Church notifications@onrealmmail.org Please look in your spam or junk email box if you do not see it. **Please ask Kate Clark for help if you need it.** There is also an **app** for your phone called **Realm Connect**. Look for it in the App Store or Google Play Store.



Gratitude

Thank you to the Little Angels' Gift Shop volunteers and coordinators. Thank you also to the church school committee and youth group for helping with our various festive activities.

Thanks to members of the Taizé working group, members of our adult choir, and Kate Clark for the hard work and beautiful results manifested in our Advent Taizé-style service. Sixty-three of us chanted away the darkness and prayed for peace and renewal.

Vestry

- Any member of the vestry can be emailed at their ministry address. All addresses are on our website: <https://standrewswellesley.org/about/vestry/>

Adult Formation Carrie Hawley

Clerk Tad Heuer

Communications

Fellowship Ginny Snow

Finance Justin Wahls

Human Resources Laurin Baldwin

Membership Amanda Curtis

Outreach Herb Manning

Property Sam Schaefer

Stewardship Madison Riley

Treasurer Joe Hamilton

Wardens Megan Burns
Tom Faust

Worship Erica Gelser

Youth Formation Pamela Grossetti

Staff

- In an emergency, please contact Adrian on his cell phone, 603/831-4938. Additional clergy cell phone numbers are: Margaret Schwarzer, 617/733-0661, and Sarah Robbins-Cole, 603/831-4711.
- The clergy are available to assist you if you email or call them if you or a member of your family expects to be in the hospital and wishes to be visited.
- Please let the clergy know of names that should be added to our prayer list.

Rector Rev. Adrian Robbins-Cole

adrian@standrewswellesley.org

Associate Rector for Adult Formation and Membership

Rev. Margaret Schwarzer

margaret@standrewswellesley.org

Associate Rector for Youth & Family

Rev. Dr. Sarah Robbins-Cole

sarah@standrewswellesley.org

Pastoral Associate Rev. Karen Vickers Budney

revkar7@comcast.net

Parish Administrator Katharine L. Clark

kate@standrewswellesley.org

Financial Administrator Joanne Butler

joanne@standrewswellesley.org

Music Minister Helen Ward Mannix

wardie@standrewswellesley.org

Children's Choir Director Benedict Hensley

benedict@standrewswellesley.org

Christian Learning Coordinator Susan Jackson

susan@standrewswellesley.org

Sexton Steve Killeen

steve@standrewswellesley.org

Assistant Sexton Bill Clover

Weekly Calendar

- The **Holy Eucharist** is celebrated on **Sundays at 8am, 10am** (*also online*) and **5pm**. **Morning Prayer** is offered online **Monday through Thursday at 8:30am** on our website, our YouTube Channel (*use the QR code for a link to our YouTube channel*), and on Facebook.
- **Parish office hours** are **Monday through Thursday, 9am to 4pm**, and **Friday, 9am to 12pm**, unless otherwise announced. **Tuesday at 12pm is the deadline for all materials** to be included in the bulletin and/or by email, for the following Sunday.
- **12-Step Programs** Men's AA, Wednesdays at 8pm; Women's AA, Thursdays at 7pm; Emotions Anonymous, Saturdays at 9:30am; Sober Sisters AA, Saturdays at 10:30am.



Regular weekly meetings and gatherings, *unless otherwise announced below*

Sundays • 9am adult Christian learning • **8:55am** Kids' Place • **9:45am** church school programs • **11am** coffee hour • **6pm** youth group

Mondays • 4:30pm confirmation class

Thursdays • 12pm beginner's Bible study • **5pm** children's choir rehearsal
• **7:30pm** senior choir rehearsal

Sunday, December 8

11am alternative gift fair
5pm Advent lessons & carols

Tuesday, December 10

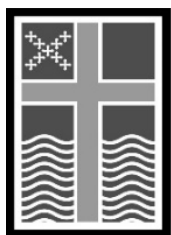
11am open Bible study
7pm outreach meeting

Wednesday, December 11

7pm open Bible study

Sunday, December 15

10am all parish Eucharist & Christmas pageant
2pm Roric Cunningham cello concert



ST. ANDREW'S
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79 DENTON ROAD

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