

St Andrew Worship January 2, 2022

Dial- 669 900 9128

Meeting ID 831 688 4211

Password 9850

Use *6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Times

Sunday at 10:30 Worship

www.aptospresbyterianchurch.com

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

We praise you O God, who is beyond understanding. It is you who set down the foundations of the earth. And it is you who sustains its inhabitants. We thank you that you strengthen us against adversity, and you bless us in surprising ways. As we enter into this year, let us remain alert to the movement of the Spirit in our lives, in our communities and in the world beyond. When the cold winds of uncertainty blow, let us warm ourselves by the hearth of your heart. Let our praise of the Lord overflow into Aptos and beyond. *Amen.*

Hymn 611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays; stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began. Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife. Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your mercy forgive us and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will for our lives and for the good of the world. (Silence). Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Anthem *Breath of Heaven* by Amy Grant

Harp arr by Cindy Blevins, Violin/Recorder arr. by Eileen Mihm Recorder

Prayers of the People *Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Hymn #110 *Love Has Come*

Love has come: a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; Hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his mother; What is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers. Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of the Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. *Amen.*

First Lesson Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Gospel Lesson John 1:10-18

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup, to be his faithful disciples, so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love, reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn *Trees of the Field (5x)*

You shall go out with joy _ and be led forth with peace; _ the mountains and the hills will break forth before you; there'll be shouts of joy – and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, - the trees of the field will clap their hands, - the trees of the field will clap their hands _ while you go out with joy.

Benediction

