

## St Andrew Worship February 20, 2022

Dial- 669 900 9128  
Meeting ID 831 688 4211  
Password 9850  
Use \*6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Time  
Sunday at 10:30 Worship

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship (Responsive)

Your steadfast love, O Lord,  
*Extends to the heavens,*  
Your faithfulness to the clouds.  
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
Your judgments are like the great deep;  
*You save all of creation, O Lord. So please help us to depend fully upon you.*

#### Hymn 445 God, How Can We Forgive

God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn? How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn? When human loving fails and every hope is gone, your love gives strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow, how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe? The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs. A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.

Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin, when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again? No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live. As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

#### Prayer of Confession

*Loving God, you are always ready to forgive our sins. We are much less eager to forgive those with whom we disagree. So often when we have something against our friends, family, or strangers, we escalate the conflict rather than working for unity. We resist your call to be ambassadors of reconciliation. We wish we could turn the other cheek, but it feels so much more satisfying to demonize the other side. Forgive us for these and all of our sins, and hear us now as we continue to confess our sins in silence...Time for silent reflection.*

#### Assurance of Grace

Jesus has opened the doors for service to each one of us. We have been freed from our fears and doubts. Rejoice, dear fiends! In Jesus' Name, we are forgiven and healed. **AMEN.**

Special Music

Meditation on Dunlap's Creek

Played by Eileen Mihm

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

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

### **Hymn 661 Why Should I Feel Discouraged?**

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home, when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he: his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me; his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy) I sing because I'm free, (I'm free) for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” his tender word I hear, and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears; though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see: his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me; his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy) I sing because I'm free, (I'm free) for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies, I draw the closer to him. from care he sets me free: his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me; his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy, (I'm happy) I sing because I'm free, (I'm free) for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. *Amen.*

#### **First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-11,15**

<sup>3</sup> Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.<sup>4</sup> Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.”<sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.<sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest.<sup>7</sup> God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.<sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.<sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.’<sup>10</sup> You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.<sup>11</sup> I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’<sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Second Lesson: Luke 6:27-38

<sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you. <sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. <sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup> give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Sermon

“Love Your Enemies”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

Affirmation Confession of 1967

*I believe in Jesus of Nazareth and that in him, true humanity was realized once for all. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all people stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways - the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement for a priest. The Risen Christ is the Savior for all people and this same Jesus is the judge of all.*

*God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our mind, but human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people.*

*God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in humanity. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. He enables them to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, he gives them power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all people.*

## **Offering**

Doxology

Offering Prayer

*Father, truly, we are your servants. In you, we live and move and have our being. We offer you our thanksgiving and call on your name. We love you, Lord, for you hear us and respond in graciousness and compassion and righteousness. You deliver our souls from death, our feet from stumbling, and our eyes from tears. Now receive our tithes and offerings, we pray. Multiply them so that your work and word can go forth. Amen.*

## **Hymn 435 There's a Wideness is God's Mercy**

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

## **Benediction**