

St. Andrew Worship

September 11, 2022

Meeting Time

Sunday at 10:30 AM Worship

Dial: 669 900 9128

Zoom Meeting ID: 831 688 4211

Password: 9850

Use *6 to unmute your phone

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: www.aptopresbyterianchurch.org

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice!

Today we choose to rejoice. Today we choose to worship and give thanks.

Seek the peace of God that will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Today we choose God's peace; today we place our trust in God.

Turn your hearts away from the distractions and disappointments of life that will always flow in and flow out like the tide. Set your affections on things above and worship the Lord who loves you and cares for you.

We come to worship God who alone is excellent and worthy of praise!

*Hymn 12

"Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise"

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,*

*Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:*

*Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.*

*We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.*

*All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Gracious and loving God, we find it difficult at times to place our trust in you. Too often we look at the world, and see only violence, pain, destruction, and signs of hopelessness and despair. Too often we rely on our own strength, our own plans, our own devices, rather than trusting in your hand to hold us, your love to sustain us, and your wisdom to see us through.

Forgive us, Holy One. Help us turn to you when we are lost, that we might find our way home. Help us navigate the treacherous waters of this world, that we might experience your abundant

grace, mercy, and love. Help us put our trust in you, that the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus may shine in our lives for all to see. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

I will trust in God's unfailing love;

I will rejoice because God has rescued me!

I will sing to the Lord,

because he has been so good to me.

Let us know and believe, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and found!

Response: ***Gloria Patri***

Anthem

"I Will Praise You" By Lloyd Larson

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*Hymn 442

"Just as I Am, without One Plea"

***Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!***

***Just as I am, though tossed about with many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!***

***Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!***

***Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!***

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

May the words that are spoken, and the reflections of our hearts, be worthy of your grace, O God, to whom all honor and glory is given now and forever more. Amen.

First Lesson:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Second Lesson:

Luke 15:1-10

¹⁵ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Sermon

“Rejoice with Me”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

(from The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968)

We are not alone; we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and other by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for these gifts and ask that they be used to help the needy in our community and throughout the world. As we offer you these gifts, we offer ourselves as well, that together we might transform the world with your grace and love. Amen.

*Hymn 649

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.*

Benediction