

St. Andrew Worship

September 18, 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.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Jesus reminds us today that, "You cannot serve God and wealth."

Open us to your truth, Lord. Open our hearts to honesty.

Let us enter worship humbly, ready to realign our faith according to God's Word

*Hymn 436

"God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us"

***God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.***

***Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unfailing.***

***Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
stilled our rude hearts with your word of consoling.***

***Wrap now your peace, like a mantle, around us,
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.***

***How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?***

***What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?***

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Savior God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to forgive our debtors. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Grant us a season of jubilee. Reorder our communities so that all may contribute, and all may thrive. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace

God lightens the load of those overly burdened, supports and strengthens those who have been knocked down. Claim the forgiveness God so graciously offers. Know the new life Christ has given us. Amen.

Response: ***Gloria Patri***

Anthem

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.*

*The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.*

*And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.*

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. As we approach your Word, may we be ready to receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

First Lesson:

Psalm 113

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

² Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

³ From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

⁴ The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,

⁶ who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?

⁷ He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸ to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

⁹ He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the Lord!

Second Lesson:

Luke 16:1-13

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

*Affirmation of Faith (Responsive)

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

We pledge to care for God's creation so that it will nourish and beautify the lives of all.

All humanity is God's creation.

We pledge to live in unity and fellowship so that all peoples can reflect God's goodness.

God has given us wisdom and sound minds.

We pledge to yield them to God's guidance so that we can receive God's instruction.

God has given us the liberty of moral choice.

We pledge to make decisions considerately so that our judgments will be wise and fair.

God has given us the Word as directive for living.

We pledge to establish it in our hearts so that we can live in meaningful obedience.

From each to whom much has been given, much is required.

We pledge to give freely of all that we have received so that God's generous gifts may be shared fairly and God's name be honored in all the earth, world without end. Amen.

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

*Hymn 697

"Take My Life"

*Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.*

*Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

Benediction