

St. Andrew Worship

October 30, 2022

Dial: 669 900 9128

Zoom Meeting ID: 831 688 4211

Password: 9850

Use *6 to unmute your phone

Meeting Time
Sunday at 10:30 AM Worship

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)

We rejoice, O God, in the Spirit which worked through ancient people of faith to call them from a distant land to a land which they knew not.

We rejoice, O God, in knowing that the Spirit which led our ancestors through the wilderness is our possession today.

We give you thanks Almighty God, for those who walked along the Way, for their faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ and their steadfast love for you.

We give you thanks, Almighty God, for those whose dedication to the Gospel caused them to express a vital faith and establish a tradition, of which we are grateful descendants. Amen.

*Hymn 193

"Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"

Jesus, take us to the mountain, where, with Peter, James, and John, we are dazzled by your glory, light as blinding as the sun.

There prepare us for the night by the vision of that sight.

What do you want us to see there, that your close companions saw? Your divinity revealed there fills us with the selfsame awe.

Clothed in flesh like ours you go, matched to meet our deadliest foe.

What do you want us to hear there, that your dear disciples heard? Once again the voice from heaven says of the Incarnate Word,

"Listen, listen, everyone: this is my beloved Son."

Take us to that other mountain where we see you glorified, where you shouted "It is finished!" where for all the world you died.

Hear the stunned centurion: "Truly this was God's own Son!"

We who have beheld your glory, risen and ascended Lord, cannot help but tell the story, all that we have seen and heard;

Say with Peter, James, and John: "You are God's beloved Son!"

Prayer of Confession (Unison) (by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell)

God of Justice and Mercy, we know that we have fallen silent when we should have spoken up. We have ignored the cries of the innocent and joined the crowds in calls of judgment. We have mistaken justice for revenge and have sought punishment to ease our pain. Forgive us, God, for not seeing our own faults, our own sins, and for not holding ourselves responsible for our inaction and injustice. Restore us, God, to the ways Jesus taught us, to drop our stones and instead seek forgiveness and restoration. Call us into the paths of love and reconciliation, knowing Your mercy extends to all of us, Your grace is a gift, and there is nothing we can do to deserve or earn it. Guide us into living into Your forgiveness, peace and reconciliation, in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace

God has opened our ears and our hearts to know God's love and forgiveness. There is nothing we need to do other than love one another and love God, for all things come from God's love. Go forth knowing You have been forgiven and You are restored to God. Live in the way of Christ. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Pilgrim Commission to the Mosaic of Peace for Anne McAnelly

Rev. Karla Kress

Special Music

"Turn Your Radio On"

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*Hymn 65

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

***Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.***

***Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.***

***Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.***

***Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.***

***When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.***

***Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.***

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

First Lesson:

Exodus 34:21-24

²¹ "Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even in plowing time and in harvest time you shall rest. ²² You shall observe the Festival of Weeks, the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the Festival of Ingathering at the turn of the year. ²³ Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel. ²⁴ For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land when you go up to appear before the Lord your God three times in the year.

Second Lesson:

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹ Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

God our Father, Be with us on our pilgrim journey of faith. Give us the grace and courage to step forward in faith and hope on the road ahead.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to see your face in all those we encounter. Open our ears to hear your voice in those who are often ignored. Open our hearts that we might be faithful disciples of mercy and truth.

Holy Spirit, Transform us. Empower us to give of ourselves to the poor; to welcome the lost; to forgive those who hurt us; to comfort those who suffer and are marginalized.

Like the disciples who journeyed up the mountain to witness the Transfiguration, may this experience be an encounter that strengthens us for our work in the world.

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer. As we journey through this life grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 69

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Benediction