

St. Andrew Worship

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November 13, 2022
St. Andrew Day
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

Processional

David Brewer, Bagpipes

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

We enter this sacred space and look around for a trace of the Holy,
hopeful of a divine meeting, yet cautious, too, for God's call can be surprising.

*We bring world weariness and hidden hungers, yet music soothes our
fractured spirits and the community prays with us to a deeper truth.*

Into this sacred moment we enter.

The Holy One is here. Alleluia!

God is waiting for us. Alleluia!

*Hymn 385

"All People that on Earth Do Dwell"

*All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell.
Come ye before him and rejoice.*

*Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk; he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.*

*O enter then his gates with praise;
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.*

*For why? The Lord our God is good;
his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.*

Call to Confession

Search us, O God; you know our hearts. Put everything we are, as well as all we feel and think, to the test of your love and your grace for us, as together we offer our confession:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess we have often failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray, and free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

In freedom, Christ has set you free.

Free to give as well as to receive; free to fail as well as to succeed; free to serve as well as to be served.

As stewards of new life in Christ, you are heirs to the promise. Live in the hope of God's continuing care.

We are forgiven, so we forgive one another. In Christ's name we are bold to say, "Amen!"

Prayers of the People

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

Kirking of the Clans

Elder, Myles Billheimer

Remembering our forebears

Prayer (Unison)

Gracious God, we thank you this day for the goodly heritage given to us by forebears whose clan name we have mentioned. We thank you for all the families who have gone before us, who have been faithful in your service and on whose shoulders we stand in witness to your continuing power, presence and purpose in our world today. May we be known as the Clan of Christ, whose bond knows no state or nation, race or class, but only the freedom of faith, hope and love that we have come to know in Him by whose name we go, and in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Hymn 450

"Be Thou My Vision"

***Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;***

***Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.***

***Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;***

***Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.***

***Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;***

***Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.***

***High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!***

***Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.***

Prayer of Illumination

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and truth. Open now our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your love; through Christ we pray. ***Amen.***

Old Testament Lesson:

Psalm 1 (*Responsive Reading*)

¹ Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers,

² ***but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.***

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ ***The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.***

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

⁶ ***for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.***

New Testament Lesson:

Revelation 8:1-6

¹When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. ³Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that is before the throne. ⁴And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. ⁵Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. ⁶Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets made ready to blow them.

Sermon

“Fire on the Earth”

Rev. Jim Bender

Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

“That same eternal God and Father, who by grace alone chose us in his son Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world was laid, appointed him to be our head, our brother, our pastor, and the great bishop of our souls. But since the opposition between the justice of God and our sins was such that no flesh by itself could or might have attained unto God, it behooved the son of God to descend unto us and take himself a body of our body, flesh of our flesh, and bone of our bone, and so become the mediator between God and humanity, giving power to as many as believe in him to be the children of God.”

(The Scots Confession, Chapter VIII)

Offertory

David Brewer, Bagpipes

Doxology

Offertory Prayer (Unison)

O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received, accept this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given, and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace, justice and goodwill among all people, and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Hymn 307

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.*

*Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.*

Benediction

Recessional

David Brewer, Bagpipes