

# St. Andrew Worship

April 30, 2023  
Sunday at 10:30 AM

Dial: 669 900 9128  
Zoom Meeting ID: 831 688 4211  
Password: 9850

## ZOOM GUEST

Please keep your mic on  
“MUTE”, unless speaking.

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](http://www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org)

## Welcome and Announcement

\*Call to Worship (Responsive) *Psalm 23, The Message Translation*

God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing.

*You have bedded me down in lush meadows,  
you find me quiet pools to drink from.*

True to your word, you let me catch my breath and  
send me in the right direction.

*Even when the way goes through Death Valley,  
I'm not afraid when you walk at my side.*

*Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.*

You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.

You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.

*Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.  
I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life.*

\*Hymn 187 “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.*

*We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.  
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.*

*You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.*

*Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Gentle Shepherd, You guide us in right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. We have overreacted, we have taken more than our share, we have despised others that seem to have it all. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep, and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us to unclench our fists and lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.**

*(Time for Silent Reflection)*

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Friends, let us proclaim the Good News:

***In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***

Let us go out into the world as people made new by God.

***Amen.***

*Response: “Gloria Patri”*

Anthem

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

*“Lord Listen to Your Children Praying”*

\*Hymn 410

*“God is Calling through the Whisper”*

***God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit’s deepest sighs,  
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.  
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:***

***Refrain { God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear? }***

***God is calling through the voices of our neighbors’ urgent prayers,  
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.***

***Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:***

***Refrain***

***God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,  
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.***

***Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:***

***Refrain***

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

***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:

Ezekiel 34:11-15

<sup>11</sup> For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.

Second Lesson:

John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Sermon

“I Am the Gate”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

\*Affirmation (Unison)

Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.*

Doxology

Offering Prayer

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

\*Hymn 542

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

*God be with you till we meet again; loving  
counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care en-  
fold you: God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; unseen  
wings protecting hide you, daily manna still pro-  
vide you: God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; when life's  
perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms a-  
round you: God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; keep love's  
banner floating o'er you;  
smite death's threatening wave be-  
fore you: God be with you till we meet again.*

Benediction