

St. Andrew Worship

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

Mother's Day
May 14, 2023
Sunday at 10:30 AM

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

Opening Prayer (by Christine Sine)

God with a mother's heart,
You gather us as your children.
You comfort and hold us in your warm embrace.
When we hurt your arms enfold us.
When we are afraid your wings protect us.
When we are hungry you feed us with the bread of life.
God with a mother's heart,
Your love surrounds and supports us,
In good times and in tough,
In the midst of joy and pain,
Always and everywhere.
You will never leave nor abandon us.
God eternal and loving one,
God with a mother's heart,
We thank you this day,
For being part of your family.

*Hymn 686

"God of Our Life"

*God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee.
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
we own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.*

*God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land. Be thou our guide.
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
and faith's fair vision changes into sight.*

*God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Patient and forgiving God, we come to you this day. For many there is a celebration of Mother's Day and all that our mothers have given to us and taught us; but for some, these memories are too painful, of those who could not parent, who were afflicted or absent. Remind us that your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people. Give us the confident faith that reaches beyond our own lives to help others. Forgive us when we sink into our own selfishness and pettiness. For it is in those times that we turn our back on you. Bring us back to you, to the awareness of your eternal love. In Christ's Name, we pray. AMEN.

(Time of silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace

Christ, our cornerstone and our salvation, offers to us hope and comfort. On this Mother's Day Sunday, help us to make our home in you. AMEN.

Response: "***Gloria Patri***"

Anthem

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

"Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"

*Hymn 824

"There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

*There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain { *O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.* }

*There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain

*There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain

Prayer of Illumination (Responsive)

Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. ***Amen.***

First Lesson:

Acts 17:22-31

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

²⁹ Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Second Lesson:

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Sermon

"God and Mothers"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation of Faith from New Kilpatrick Parish Church (Responsive)

I believe

I awaken to

Jesus Christ

the one who walked our earth

and whose God-light shone through

God's only son

the one whose life came from the very life of God

our Lord

our guide, our teacher, our friend

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

whose life was an intent of God's creative imagination

born of the Virgin Mary

who sang love's song at his beginning and was blessed

suffered under Pontius Pilate

rejected by the powers of the world

was crucified

executed by those same powers

died

sharing the same death of us all

and was buried

love had been killed

he descended to the dead

and they thought this the end

but on the third day

nothing could contain, bind or hold the life Jesus began

he rose again

and the story continues to be believed

of renewal, transformation and life again.

I believe in

I awaken to

Jesus

Offertory

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Lord, we thank you for the many gifts you have poured into our lives for those who love us and nurture us; for those who teach us to be loving people. Bless those people and bless these gifts that we may work for you, bringing healing and hope to our fractured world. AMEN.

*Hymn 3

“Womb of Life and Source of Being”

Womb of life and source of being, home of every restless heart, in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start. We, your children, gather 'round you, at the table you prepare. Sharing stories, tears, and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth, you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth. Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life and Death of Death, risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend. When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend. Labor with us; aid the birthing of the new world yet to be, free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son: we would praise your name forever, one-in-three and three-in-one. We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new, ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.

Benediction