

St. Andrew Worship

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

July 2, 2023
Remembrance of Independence Day
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

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Welcome to worship today!

Thanks. We are glad to be here.

Even when things get hectic, always know that you will find welcome here.

We are grateful for the hospitality and friendship that are offered here.

Come, let us worship the God who always welcomes us.

Let us open our hearts to Christ who welcomed friend and stranger alike.

LET US WORSHIP GOD.

*Hymn 49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

***The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days, the God of love!
The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name, forever blest.***

***Your spirit still flows free, high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
Established is your law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart by your strong hand.***

***Your goodly land we seek, with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty and Sabbath rest.
There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.***

***You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!***

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We confess that, though we claim to love you, our lives do not always reflect that love. We offer hospitality out of obligation instead of love, out of care for our own well-being instead of that of others. We hesitate to welcome others out of fear of rejection instead of extending compassion as the fruit of your love for us. In our relationships at work, home, and even church, too often we choose expediency instead of integrity, believing the ends justify the means. Help us, we pray. Free us to live as your children who welcome, nurture, and love our neighbors as we learn to grow as disciples of Christ.

(Silent Reflection) *Amen.*

Assurance of Grace

Hear the good news! God has again blessed our lives with hope and joy. Be at peace, dear ones, for God is with us. AMEN.

Gloria Patri

Prayers of the People

Come and Fill

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!"

*Hymn 506

“Look Who Gathers at Christ’s Table” (Alt. tune Abbot’s Leigh)

Look who gathers at Christ’s table! Hear the stories that they bring. Some are weeping; some are laughing; some have songs they want to sing. Others ask why they’re invited, burdened by the wrong they’ve done. Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for everyone.

Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear, saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight; Paul relates his fruitless efforts to obliterate the light.

Their sad stories are repeated in a thousand different ways, but they share one thing in common: they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has invited north and south and east and west to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness, and prepare to be surprised by the host whose hands are wounded, who will open wide your eyes when he blesses bread and breaks it— truth and manna from above!— and then passes wine that wakens in your heart the taste of love.

Prayer of Illumination (Responsive)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.
Amen.

First Lesson: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵ Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

Second Lesson: Matthew 10:40-42

⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

Sermon

“Welcome and Rewards”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

Offertory

Don Adkins, Piano

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Mighty God, you have poured down on us all manner of gifts and blessings; the ledger of our lives is so overwhelmed with your goodness that we struggle with how small our offerings to you seem in comparison. The gospel reminds us that not even the smallest act of mercy and compassion – a cup of cold water – will go unnoticed by you. Give us the eyes to see those in need, the ears to hear those who cry for justice, and the hearts to comfort those hurting and grieving. If we all were to offer a cup of cold water, the world would be flooded with compassion. We ask this in Christ, our rock, and our redeemer.
Amen.

Communion

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

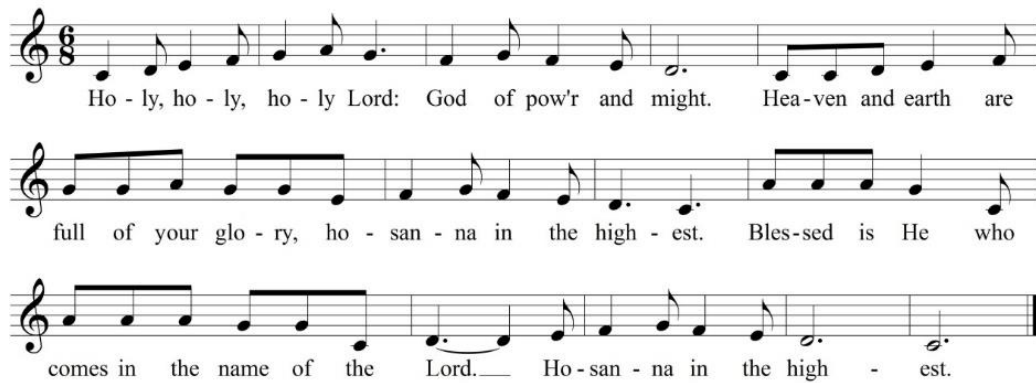
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise...

Sanctus

Don Adkins



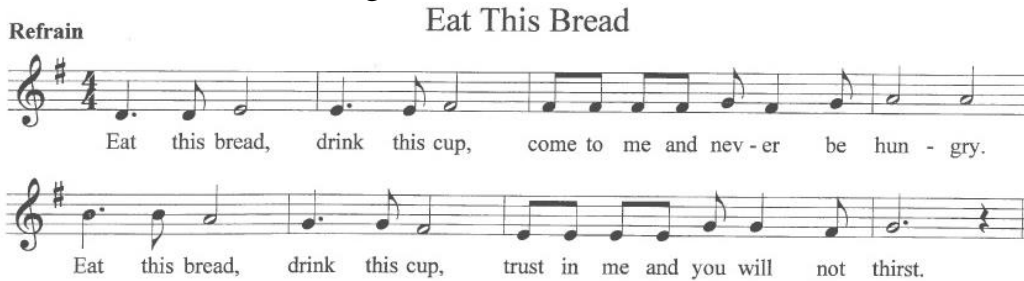
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord: God of pow'r and might. Hea-ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles-sed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na in the high - est.

...And so we remember again as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

(While communion is served sing)



Refrain **Eat This Bread**
Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Closing Prayer

*Hymn 837

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain { ***Leaning, leaning, (Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus)
safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, (Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus)
leaning on the everlasting arms.*** }

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Benediction