

St. Andrew Worship

August 20, 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

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Turn us, O God,

away from the world's temptations and distractions.

Return us, O God,

to the quiet calm of your presence.

Restore us, O God,

to the path you call us to follow.

Orient us, O God,

to the hope of all that is possible through you.

*Hymn 318

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

*In Christ there is no east or west, in
him no south or north, but one great fellow-
ship of love throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their
high communion find; his service is the
golden cord close-binding humankind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith, what-
e'er your race may be. All children of the
living God are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west; in
him meet south and north. All Christly souls are
one in him throughout the whole wide earth.*

Service Online

Join on Zoom:

Dial: 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 831 688 4211

Password: 9850

Use *6 to unmute your phone

Live Streaming on YouTube:

@standrewpresbyterianchurch4863

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God our refuge, you hear our cries for mercy. You lift the lowly and offer hope to the hopeless. But we, who benefit from your grace, do not emulate you and your ways. We are quick to condemn, exaggerate critique and act mercilessly. We confess the ways we demean and dehumanize others. We pray for your forgiveness. Amen.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace (Isaiah 43:1)

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

Gloria Patri (Unison)

Special Music

"Song without Words"

Kathryn Adkins

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Online Viewers: You can text Pastor Anne your Prayer Request the night before and she will read it for you. If on Zoom you can unmute or raise your hand to signal you want to share a prayer request.

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, _____ Lord, send your
Spir - it in this place; _____ Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren
pray - ing, _____ send us love, send us power, send us grace. _____

Response:

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

*Hymn 299

*"You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"
You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.
The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.*

*Ascended on high, almighty to save,
he still remains nigh; his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.*

*"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.*

*Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!*

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Open us to your life-giving Word. Quiet the voices within us that do not align with your will. Focus our minds on the message you intend for us so we may faithfully discern your way. Amen.

First Lesson:

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

This is the word of the lord

Thanks be to God

Hold Fast

David Robinson

Lively

A D A D A E A E

5 Hold fast to the word, the life, the teach-ing, the ho-ly Gos-pel of God. Hold fast to the word, the life, the teach-ing, the ho-ly Gos-pel of God.

Second Lesson: Matthew 15:21-28

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

This is the word of the lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

“Mercy”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison) (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

Gracious God, the gifts we offer reflect only a portion of all that you have given us. Take these offerings, we pray, and multiply them for your use. May our offerings be a blessing to those most in need, to those most vulnerable. May our offerings, given in a spirit of generosity, abate the desire to hoard, and spread the desire to share. Amen.

*Hymn 754

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

*Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.*

*Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.*

*Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.*

*Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!*

Benediction

(Presbyterian Outlook, 2023 Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott)