

St. Andrew Worship

August 6, 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

Service Online

Join Zoom Meeting:

Dial: 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 831 688 4211

Password: 9850

Live Streaming on YouTube:

@standrewpresbyterianchurch4863

Welcome and Announcement

Introit *"Bourée" from the Water Music Suite by G. F. Handel* St. Andrew Bells Choir

*Call to Worship (Responsive) "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

Just when we are feeling most discouraged,
God bursts into our lives with healing mercy.

Lord, listen to our hearts, our cries, our prayers.

Give us peace and hope in our spirits.

Direct us in ways of service in your name!

Singing "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

Praise be to God!

AMEN!

*Hymn 436

"God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us"

*God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.*

*Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unfailing.*

*Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
stilled our rude hearts with your word of consoling.*

*Wrap now your peace, like a mantle, around us,
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.*

*How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?
What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

All-Gracious God, we have become callous to those in need, holding back compassion yet unsparing with judgment. We defend our motivations, rather than using all you have given us to love and care for the least of these. Hear our confessions and heal our hearts. May we be people of mercy, as you are merciful, and people of love, just as you loved us. (Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace

Feel God's healing love pouring over you and into your lives.

Know that God delights in each one of you and will always be present to you.

This is indeed the Good News of the Gospel. AMEN.

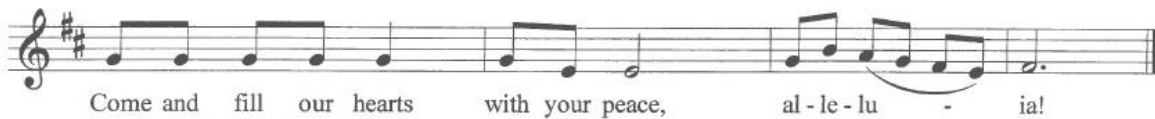
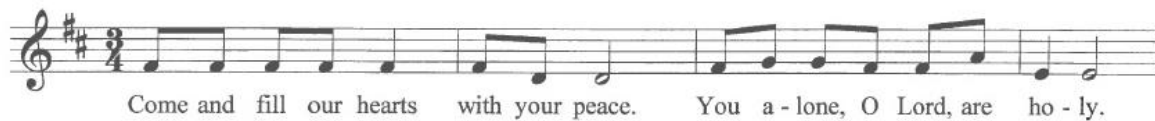
Gloria Patri (Unison)

Anthem "Communion Medley" arr. by Jason W. Krug

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Prayers of the People "Come and Fill"

(Zoom Viewers: Please unmute to signal you want to share a prayer request)



*Hymn 506

"Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!"

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 (*Unison*)

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone. Let the heavenly food of the scripture we are about to hear nourish us today in the ways of eternal life, through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen

First Lesson:

Matthew 14: 1-12

At that time Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus; ²and he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ³For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, ⁴because John had been telling him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." ⁵Though Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded him as a prophet. ⁶But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and she pleased Herod ⁷so much that he promised on oath to grant her whatever she might ask. ⁸Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter." ⁹The king was grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given; ¹⁰he sent and had John beheaded in the prison. ¹¹The head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, who brought it to her mother. ¹²His disciples came and took the body and buried it; then they went and told Jesus.

This is the word of the lord
Thanks be to God

Hold Fast

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

A D A D A E A

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

Second Lesson:

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

This is the word of the lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

"Compassion and Communion"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

Offertory

"*All Things Bright and Beautiful*" arr. by Larry Sue

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

With great joy, we present these tithes and gifts for the ministry of this church. Be with each of us as we, too, commit ourselves to lives of joyful, thankful service. In Jesus' name, AMEN

Communion (*See Insert*)

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.

*Hymn 515

"I Come with Joy"

*I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and
free, the life of Jesus to recall, in
love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are
fed, the new community of love in
Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.*

*The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever
near, is in such friendship better known, a-
live among us here, alive among us here.*

*Together met, together bound by all that God has
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.*

Benediction