

# St. Andrew Worship

October 1, 2023

Sunday at 10:30 AM

Stewardship

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)

As the rains pour from heaven, soaking the earth that it may produce good things....

*So God pours God's love upon us, that we, too, may produce goodness and peace.*

We have been blessed with many gifts and talents.

*God desires that we use these gifts and talents for healing, peace, and hope.*

Come, let us worship and celebrate the mighty love and power of God.

*Praise be to God who has blessed us in so many ways. AMEN.*

### \*Hymn 510

*"We Gather Here in Jesus' Name"*

*We gather here in Jesus' name;*

*his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;*

*for through the loving Son the Father makes us one:*

*Come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.*

*No one is a stranger here; everyone belongs.*

*Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.*

*He joins us here; he breaks the bread;*

*the Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead;*

*the one we love the most is now our gracious host:*

*Come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.*

*We are now a family, of which the Lord is head.*

*Though unseen, he meets us herein the breaking of the bread.*

*We'll gather soon where angels sing;*

*we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;*

*now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:*

*Come, take the bread; come drink the wine; come, share the Lord.*

## 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)

*Gracious God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to live as good stewards of all you have given us. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Free our world for jubilee. Reorder our priorities so all your nations and peoples may thrive. Amen.*

Assurance of Grace

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.  
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

Response: Gloria Patri (Unison)

Prayers of the People

*(Please unmute to signal you want to share a prayer request)*

**Come and Fill**

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Come and Fill'. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics are: 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.' The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: 'Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!'. The melody for 'al-le-lu-ia!' features a long note for 'lu' and a dotted note for 'ia!'.

\*Hymn 503

*"Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"*

*Lord, we have come at your own invitation,  
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;  
Yours is the strength that sustains dedication;  
ours, a commitment we know never ends.*

*Here, at your table, confirm our intention;  
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;  
Teach us to serve without pride or pretension,  
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.*

*When, at your table, each time of returning,  
vows are renewed and our courage restored,  
May we increasingly glory in learning  
all that it means to accept you as Lord.*

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

*Bless us, O God, with ears to hear your truth, vision to discern your path, and feet ready to move into action, responding to your call. Inspire us as we hear your Word read and proclaimed. Amen.*

First Lesson:

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

This is the word of the lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Second Lesson:

Matthew 21:23-32

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the word of the lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Offertory

Vlada Moran, Piano

DoxologyOffering Prayer (Unison)

*Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ's mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.*

Communion*(Liturgy by Thom Shuman)*InvitationPrayer (Unison)

*Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we may know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ, and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.*

May the God of generosity be with you!

*And also with you!*

People of God, open your hearts to the One who has blessed you beyond imagination.

*We open our very being to the God who always surprises us with blessings.*

Children on the abundant God, join your voices in glad songs of praise.

*Hearts and voices resound with the glory of God.*

When you could have been stingy in those first days, Imaginative God...

So, with those who have received your blessings in every age and place, with those who seek to be stewards here and now, we join our voices in praise to you:

## Sanctus

Don Adkins

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of lim - it - less love. All cre - a - tion's  
filled with your gifts Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed are You, who  
bears Your bless - ings to us. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

You are generous to a fault, Gracious God, with your greatest gift being Jesus Christ our Lord...

As we remember the Gift we will celebrate once again, as we celebrate the wonder of redemption which is ours, we would cling to that mystery we call faith:

*Christ died, the blessing which destroyed sin;*

*Christ arose, the gift which conquered death;*

*Christ will come again, the treasure of your kingdom held in his arms to give to us.*

We never have to wonder about your love for us, Beneficent God...

#### Words of Institution

#### Distribution of Elements

#### Closing Prayer

Living God, in this sacrament we have shared in your eternal kingdom. May we who taste this mystery forever serve you in faith, hope, and love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

#### \*Hymn 694

#### *"Great God of Every Blessing"*

*Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,  
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.  
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

*Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace,  
in death and life extending your covenant embrace.  
In Christ we are one body; each member has a part:  
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

*Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,  
transforming broken people into the holy church.  
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:  
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.*

#### Benediction