

St. Andrew Worship

September 10, 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

Minute 4 Mission

"Peace & Global Witness Special Offering"

Gwen Yeo

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

When two or three gather, Christ lives in every moment,

where two or three gather, Christ is present with them.

Where two or three gather to worship God,

glad songs of praise are lifted, hearts are filled with hope.

When two or three gather to serve God's creation,

Christ is feeding the hungry, Christ is building shelters of peace.

*Hymn 394

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

*Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and
cornerstone, chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one; holy Zion's
help forever, and our confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
hosts, and stay; come, with all your loving-kindness;
hear your people as we pray, and your fullest
benediction shed within these walls today.*

*Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from
you to gain; what they gain from you, forever
with the blessed to retain; and hereafter
in your glory evermore with you to reign.*

*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor
to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one: one in might and
one in glory while unending ages run!*

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)

You do not ask much of us, Guardian of hope - to love, to serve, to welcome. Yet too often, it is words of bitterness we speak to friends and family. It is our stiff-with-judgment backs we offer to those looking for help. It is our hardened hearts people find, when they reach out, hoping to touch grace.

Love lived as Compassion, forgive us. We are broken, so make us whole through the life of Christ. We are empty of peace, so fill us with the reconciling Spirit of Christ. We are alone, so take us by the hand and lead us into your kingdom of joy and grace, brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Gathered as God's people, we hear the good news: God has forgiven us, God has made us whole, God sends us to serve.

We will not wear jealousy or resentment, but put on the garments of peace and hope. We are forgiven by our God. Amen.

Response: Gloria Patri (Unison)

Special Music

“Slavonic Dance No. 4” by Antonin Dvorak

Don Adkins, Piano/Organ

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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. _____

*Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.*

*Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.*

*Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.*

*Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,
that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.*

*Love can exclude no race or creed if honored be God's name;
our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.*

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

*Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us.
Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living.
Amen.*

First Lesson:

Romans 13:8-10

8Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Hold Fast

Hold Fast

David Robinson

Lively

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.

¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Sermon

“Where Two or More Are Gathered”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

We are a community of faith. We share a vision of God:

a God whose spirit is love,

accessible to all yet beyond our knowing,

the source of all being,

the way leading to wholeness,

the spirit which pervades everything.

We are reborn in the Spirit,

followers of that Way shown by Jesus:

to love God with our whole being;

to love our neighbors as ourselves;

to treat others as we would have them treat us;

to strive for justice and peace;

to have respect and compassion for every person

and for the whole of creation;

to forgive those who do us harm;

to love one another as Christ has loved us.

We journey together on this Way

towards reconciliation with the whole creation.

We break bread together and pray together.

We reach out to one another

for strength beyond our own.

This is our community. This is our faith.

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

May our gifts go forth into our world, so that where people hunger, they may be fed; where there is war, peace might be welcomed; where families are broken, they may be made whole. Then others will be as blessed as we have been by your love, grace, and compassion. In Jesus' name, we offer our gifts and this prayer of gratitude. Amen.

*Hymn 203

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Refrain { *Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show
us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.* }

*Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their
feet, Master who acts as a slave to them.*

Refrain

*Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and
race; neighbors are near us and far away.*

Refrain

*These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should
love; all these are neighbors to us and you.*

Refrain

*Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others'
feet; this is the way we should live like you.*

Refrain

Benediction