

St. Andrew Worship

October 8, 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

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

How good it is to gather, to hear the Spirit's call, urging us with challenge and change and blessing us with hope;

Calling us to come home to space that is more than mine and love beyond things.

The Spirit whispers, "Blessing and Grace" come leave your long-lists behind, draw the water of life to parched lips and be refreshed;

Calling us beyond old expectations and ego driven rules.

The Spirit proclaims, "Blessing" come be the change and the hope made flesh, come not to be served but to serve;

We gather, celebrating the Spirit's brave call, we gather side-by-side to celebrate life gifted with grace.

*Hymn 697

"Take My Life"

*Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in
ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beauty-
ful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messa-
ges from thee, filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use every power as
thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.*

...

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

*Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.*

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, you are the giver of every good and perfect gift. You give us our talents, our freedom, and our financial resources. We struggle to give back to you from these gifts. We often worry that these gifts are not enough; that we must hold onto them for ourselves and for our family. Remind us again that you have blessed us to be a blessing to others, and free us for more generous living. Forgive us, O God, for all our sins, as we continue to pray in silence...

Silent Prayer

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen.

Response: Gloria Patri (Unison)

Special Music:

"Come Build a Church"

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"



O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis-ten to me.

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.*

*The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.*

*And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.*

Prayer of Illumination

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. In the midst of the multitude of words in our daily lives, speak your eternal Word to us, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, service and love. Amen.

First Lesson:

Proverbs 3:5-10

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

⁸ It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.

⁹ Honor the Lord with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce;

¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

This is the word of the lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson:

Mark 6:35-44

³⁵When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; ³⁶send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." ³⁷But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?" ³⁸And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and . . .

two fish.”³⁹ Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass.⁴⁰ So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.⁴¹ Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all.⁴² And all ate and were filled;⁴³ and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.⁴⁴ Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

This is the word of the lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“How Many Loaves?”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation of Faith *(by Allen & Sara Ewing-Merrill)*

*We believe in God,
Creator of the universe,
Giver of every good gift,
Author of life itself.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ,
who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom,
who commanded us to care for those in need,
who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth,
and who gave us the example of self-giving love.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's gifts,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
by whom all things are possible.*

*We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and generously,
in a spirit of love and joy.*

*We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God's,
caretakers of God's home.*

*We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship,
a means of praising God who has blessed us so abundantly.*

*We believe that God has great things in store for us,
for it is in giving that we receive.*

Offertory

Don Adkins, Piano

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

*Hymn 717

"For the Life That You Have Given" (2x)

*For the life that you have given, for the love in
Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these
gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to
love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.*

Benediction