

# St. Andrew Worship

January 7, 2024 @ 10:30 AM

*Baptism of the Lord Sunday*

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 Announcements

\*Call to Worship (*Responsive*) by Beth Merrill Neel

When I think of God's presence in the world, I am grateful:

***Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.***

And when I think of God's presence in my life, I am humbled:

***Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.***

And when I think of God's presence in this community, I am glad:

***Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.***

Thank you all; thank you, God.

\*Hymn 401

*"Here in This Place"*

***Here in this place the new light is streaming;  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.***

***Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.***

***We are the young; our lives are a mystery.  
We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.***

***Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;  
give us the courage to enter the song.***

***Here we will take the wine and the water;  
here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the 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

Give us to drink the wine of compassion;  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away:  
Here in this place the new light is shining;  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever;  
gather us in and make us your own;  
Gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

### Call to Confession

*(Silent Confession)*

### Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

*Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ.*

*We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it's easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote the way we vote. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love.*

*We believe that you have the power to turn us around to a more inclusive way of living, so we ask you to do that. We ask you to give us the courage to change. We ask that you give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.*

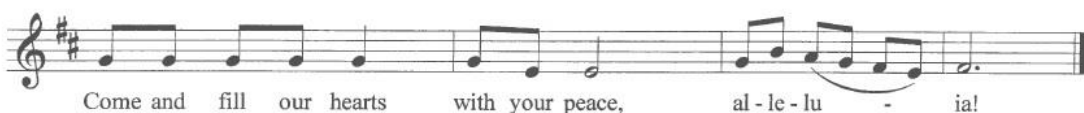
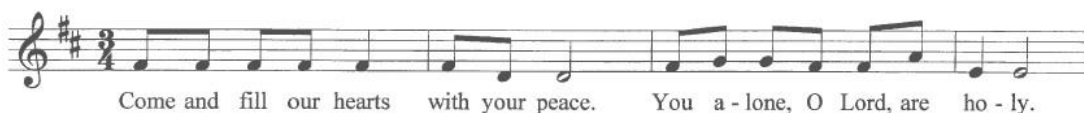
### Assurance of Grace

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)*

### Prayers of the People *(Zoom Viewers Please Unmute to Share)*

#### Come and Fill



*"Baptized in Water"*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;  
Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,  
faithfully now God's praises we sing.*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;  
One with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praises we sing.*

*Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our King;  
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praises we sing.*

Prayer of Illumination

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson

Mark 1:4-7

(P. 34 NT)

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

**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.

Second Lesson

Acts 19:1-7

(P. 138 NT)

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied - together there were about twelve of them.

DoxologyOffering Prayer (Unison)

*O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, I know that all I have received is from your hand. You call us to be stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use Your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. Amen.*

InvitationPrayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

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.*

**Sanctus**

Don Adkins

Musical notation for the Sanctus hymn. It consists of three staves of music in 8/8 time. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord: God of pow'r and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est."

Words of InstitutionDistribution of the Bread and the Cup

Sing Hymn 288

*"Spirit of the Living God"*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

Closing Prayer (Unison)

*Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

*Loving Spirit, loving Spirit, you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder, you have set your sign on me.*

*Like a mother you enfold me, hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body, form me of your flesh and bone.*

*Like a father you protect me, teach me the discerning eye,  
hoist me up upon your shoulder, let me see the world from high.*

*Friend and lover, in your closeness I am known and held and blessed:  
in your promise is my comfort, in your presence I may rest.*

*Loving Spirit, loving Spirit, you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder, you have set your sign on me.*