

St. Andrew Worship
Sunday, February 25, 2024 @ 10:30 AM

2nd Sunday in Lent

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

Welcome and Announcements

Threshold

"Woman, Weeping in the Garden" (vs. 2)

No. 241

*Woman, waiting in the garden,
after men have come and gone,
after angels give their witness,
silently you watch the dawn.*

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*) by Joanna Harader

We come to worship this morning from different places.

O God, do not be far from us.

We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

O God, do not be far from us.

We experience the presence of the Spirit in different ways.

O God, do not be far from us.

We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

O God, do not be far from us.

"Deny yourselves."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Take up your cross."

O God, do not be far from us.

"Follow me."

O God, we thank you for drawing near to us

in this place, in our lives. Amen.

*Hymn 726

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

"Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known;

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

"Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"

. . . .

*"Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"*

*"Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

*Merciful God,
You see deep into our hearts
and know us better than we know ourselves.
Forgive us we pray.
For the times we turn away from Your word,
remind us that You are the Lord our God,
our eternal protector and guide.
For our impulses of anger and jealousy, scorn or spite,
grant us Your healing peace.
For our resistance to forgiveness, generosity and mercy,
inspire us with Your compassionate love.
(Time for silent reflection)*

Assurance of Grace *(Responsive)*

Welcome now the abundant grace of God:
in Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
And let God's love comfort and heal your soul.
*Redeeming God,
in You, we are always welcome and accepted,
always forgiven and renewed.
Draw us closer to You, today and always. Amen.*

Response: *Gloria Patri (Unison)*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of 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. _____

Prayers lifted to God

(Lord's Prayer p. 35 in Hymnal, using "debts/debtors")

Ordination and Installation (Responsive)

There are different gifts,

But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God,

But it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through different people in different ways,

But it is the same God who achieves his purpose through them all.

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,

To use it for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ,

And individually members of him.

Though we have different gifts, together we are a ministry of reconciliation led by the risen Christ. We work and pray to make his church useful in the world, and we call women and men to faith, so that in the end, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Within our common ministry, some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the word, ruling elders, or deacons. In ordination, we recognize these special ministries, remembering that our Lord Jesus said:

Whoever among you wants to be great must become the servant of all, and if he wants to be first among you, he must be the slave of all!

Just as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life to set others free.

Clerk of Session: Eileen Mihm

Representing the one, holy church, the Session of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church now ordains and installs to the office of elder Pam Arnsberger, installs Shari Gallegos as an elder and installs Gene Burk in absentia as a deacon.

Ordination Questions

Clerk of Session: Eileen Mihm

Do we, members of the church, accept these brothers and sisters in Christ as elders and deacons chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

If so, please say, "*We do*".

We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?

If so, please say "*We do.*"

We do.

Prayer of Ordination

(Those to be ordained kneel, invite elders to come forward)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Pam you are now an ordained elder in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation. Shari you are now installed as an elder. Be faithful and true in your ministry so that your whole life will bear witness to the crucified and risen Christ. Thank you for your service, thank you for your faith.

*Hymn 286

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

***Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.***

***Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.***

***Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.***

***Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.***

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Merciful, God, help us to seek you and the message you intend for us in your Word read and proclaimed today. Amen.

First Lesson:

Matthew 16:13-21

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. ²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

Second Lesson:

John 11:17-27

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Sermon

Who Says It Matters

Rev. Anne McAnelly

*Affirmation

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

*In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.
We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, . . .*

*Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.*

*God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.*

Offertory Music

"Holy, Holy, Holy" arr. by Larry Sue

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

*God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. May our offerings provide for others and be used
to further Christ's ministry and mission. Amen.*

*Hymn 522

"I Am the Bread of Life"

*"I am the bread of life. You who come
to me shall not hunger, and who believe
in me shall not thirst. No one can come
to me unless the Father beckons."*

Refrain { *"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day."* }

*"The bread that I will give is my flesh
for the life of the world, and if you eat
of this bread, you shall live forever;
you shall live forever."*

Refrain

*"Unless you eat of the flesh of
the Son of Man and drink of his
blood, and drink of his blood,
you shall not have life within you."*

Refrain

*"I am the resurrection;
I am the life. If you believe
in me, even though you die,
you shall live forever."*

Refrain

*Yes, Lord, I believe that
you are the Christ,
the Son of God, who
has come into the world.*

Refrain

Benediction

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!