

St. Andrew Worship

Sunday May 12, 2024

Mother's Day

*Please Stand in Body or Spirit

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

We gather together to worship our loving, nurturing God,

who, like a mother, knows us intimately,

loves us unconditionally,

teaches us the way we should go,

and comforts us in times of need.

Praise God, the Source and Sustainer of life!

*Hymn 201

"A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar"

A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.

With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.

A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.

With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.

A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission.

She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, arising from submission.

A faithful woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel.

She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, apostle to apostles.

Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,

unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden,

The Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,

can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,

the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.

The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, from women, men and children,

the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

Prayer of Confession (*Responsive*)

O Divine Lover,

Your life pulses in each of our hearts, and your love permeates each of our lives.

We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

Your care sustains us in each moment, and your compassion guides us in each situation.

We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

When we fall, you lift us, when we fail you restore us, when we are wounded, you nurse us, when we grieve, you weep with us.

We, your daughters and sons, praise you.

But, we have failed to love as you do,

we have abused our bodies,

we have filled our minds with selfish dreams,

we have made our hearts cold and empty of compassion,

we have forgotten your spirit,

and distorted your image within us.

As a mother disciplines her children, we ask you to discipline us; As a mother forgives the sons and daughters who hurt her, we ask you to forgive us; As a mother calls her children to be reconciled with their siblings, we ask you to lead us to reconciliation with one another.

Let All God's children say,

Amen.

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

Our God fulfils his promises and is true to his word. We have confessed our sins. God has forgiven us, because Christ died for us. **Amen.**

Response: *Gloria Patri* (*Unison*) No.581

Anthem

"Rise Up Singing"

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

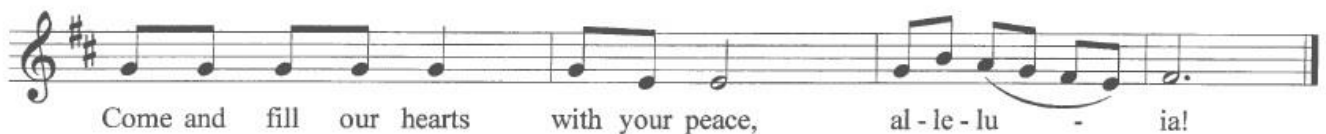
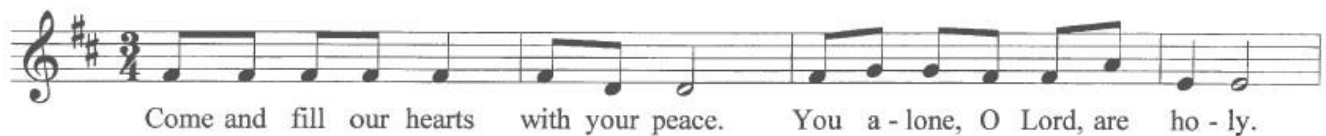
Sharing of Joys and Concerns (*Responsive*)

After each petition please say, "God of Life and Hope"

and All respond, "Hear our Prayer."

Song of Prayer

Come and Fill



Prayers Lifted to God

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

*Hymn 174

"Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom"

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced when earth was new.

Follow closely what she teaches, for her words are right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom, crying in the marketplace.

Hear the Word made flesh among us, full of glory, truth, and grace.

When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us; nurture all who seek rebirth.

Spirit-guide and close companion, bring to light our sacred worth.

Free us to become your people, holy friends of God and earth.

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:

Proverbs 6:20–22

(p. 588 OT)

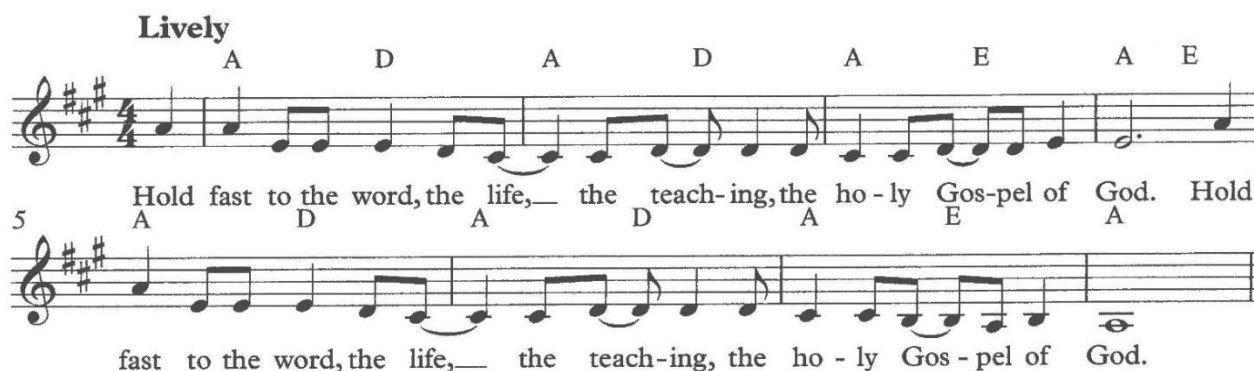
²⁰ My child, keep your father's commandment, and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

²¹ Bind them upon your heart always; tie them around your neck. ²² When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you.

Hold Fast

David Robinson

Lively



A D A D A E A E

5 Hold fast to the word, the life,— the teach-ing, the ho-ly Gos-pel of God. Hold

A D A D A E A

fast to the word, the life,— the teach-ing, the ho-ly Gos-pel of God.

Second Lesson:

Proverbs 31:1, 24-31

(p. 613 OT)

The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him: ²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them; she supplies the merchant with sashes. ²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. ²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household,

and does not eat the bread of idleness. ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her: ²⁹ “Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.” ³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. ³¹ Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Sermon

“Mother’s Day Proverbs”

Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Worship Litany (*Responsive*)

Today, we are giving thanks to God for the gift of mothers and the mother-like nurture that many people show to others in their lives.

Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us, comforting and carrying us in her arms:

“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you....” (Isa. 66:13)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us. He knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children:

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!” (Isa. 49:15)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

David wrote that in God’s presence, he was quiet and at peace, trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms:

“But I have stilled and quietened my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.” (Ps. 131:2)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself as a mother, longing to wrap his arms around us, like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings:

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.” (Matt. 23:37)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care:

“...but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children.” (1 Thess. 2:7)

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

The Worship of God Through Giving

Offertory Music

Don Adkins, Piano

*Doxology (*Unison*) No.606

*Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

Gracious God, the owner of all things, we pause in reverence, acknowledging that everything we possess ultimately belongs to you. We open our hearts to the profound reality that we are only temporary stewards of your eternal treasures. Help us to embrace the responsibility and privilege of managing your blessings with diligence and integrity. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn 161

"Woman in the Night"



1 Wom-an in the night, spent from giv - ing birth,
2 Wom-an at the well, ques - tion the Mes - siah;
3 Wom-an in the house, nur - tured to be meek,
4 Wom-en on the hill, stand when men have fled;



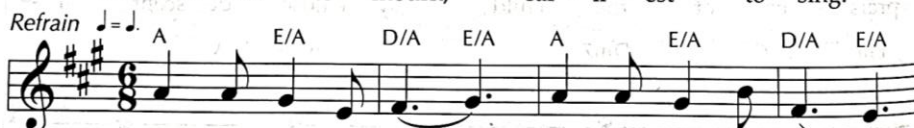
guard our pre - cious light; peace is on the earth.
find your friends and tell: drink your heart's de - sire!
leave your sec - ond place, lis - ten, think, and speak!
Christ needs lov - ing still, though your hope is dead.



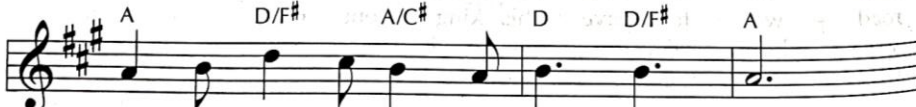
Wom-an in the crowd, creep - ing up be - hind,
Wom-an at the feast, let the righ - teous stare;
Wom-en on the road, from your sick - ness freed,
Wom-en in the dawn, care and spic - es bring,



touch - ing is al - lowed: seek and you will find!
come and go in peace; love him with your hair!
wit - ness and pro - vide, join - ing word and deed:
ear - li - est to mourn, ear - li - est to sing!



Come and join the song, wom - en, chil - dren, men.



Je - sus makes us free to live a - gain!

*Benediction (*Responsive*)

Praise God who loves us.

Praise God who cares.

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:

May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:

May God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.

May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen.

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