

St. Andrew Worship

Sunday May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday ~ New Members Welcome

*Please Stand in Body or Spirit

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

God our Creator,

we call You Father, Mother, Author of Life:

Draw us closer to You, O God.

Christ our Savior,

we call You the Son, the Messiah, the One who Saves:

Draw us closer to You, O God.

Holy Spirit,

we call You the Advocate, the Inspirer, Breath and Wind of God:

Draw us closer to You, O God.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty;

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory:

Draw us closer to You, O God.

Draw us in, Spirit, Christ and Creator,

that we might journey with You more fully and deeply,

in this life and beyond. Amen.

*Hymn 1

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,

though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

*Holy and triune God,
You alone live in perfect relationship,
One God in three persons,
Mutual and loving,
Ever seeking reconciliation and unity.
You have called us to live in your completion, yet
We confess that our relationships are imperfect and
We are incomplete without you.
We are selfish and greedy.
We are anxious and resenting.
We feel the shame of our foolish behavior and brokenness.
We have allowed sin to drive us apart from one another
And from you.
Forgive us and restore us,
Draw us close and bind us together in your mercy.
May we long for wholeness and peace,
May we strive toward gratitude and grace
In the saving name of your son, Jesus Christ,
By the working power of your Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

How much does God love us?
Enough to send the divine heart, hope, and spirit to us,
not to condemn us, but to save us.
*Not by our speaking or doing,
but by God's good and precious grace are we saved.
Thanks be to God! Amen.*

Response: *Gloria Patri* (*Unison*)

No.581

Anthem

"Rise Up Singing"

St. Andrew Choir

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Receiving New Members

## PRESENTATION

Elder Eileen Mihm

On behalf of the Session, I want to present to you: Susan and Bill Galstan, joining by letter of transfer. Kinsley Glaum, Eileen La France, Keith McKenzie and Connie Friel, joining by reaffirmation of faith.

## WELCOME AND SCRIPTURE

You come to us as a member of the one holy catholic church, into which you were baptized, and by which you have been nurtured. We are one with each other, sisters and brothers in the family of God. We rejoice in the gifts you bring to us. As you join with us in the worship and service of this congregation, it is fitting that together we reaffirm the covenant into which we were baptized, claiming again the promises of God which are ours in baptism.

Here these words from Holy Scripture: *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all"* (Eph. 4:4-6).

Sisters and brothers in Christ, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin and our being grafted into Christ. Through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken, God's kingdom entered the world, and we were freed from the bondage of sin. Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism.

#### QUESTIONS *(Responsive)*

- Who is your Lord and Savior?  
*Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.*
- Do you trust him?  
*I do.*
- Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying Christ's Word and showing Christ's love.  
*I will, with God's help.*

#### \*APOSTLES' CREED *(Unison)*

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

You have publicly professed your faith. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

*I will with God's help.*

#### PRAYER

Holy God, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number brothers and sisters in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Susan, Bill, Kinsley, Eileen, Keith and Connie by publicly professing your faith, you are expressing your intention to continue the covenant God made with you in your baptism. We welcome each of you as you join with us in the worship and mission of this church.

*Congregation: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ here at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.*

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS and PASS THE PEACE**

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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

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



Prayers Lifted to God

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

*Hymn 824

"There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

*There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain { *O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,
hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.* }

*There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain

*There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.*

Refrain

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination (*Responsive*)

May these words read be the soil from which the mystery of your presence in our world and in our lives may emerge. May your wisdom flower within the yet still broken vessels of our flesh that, body and spirit, we may flourish with you in joy in order that the world, the very cosmos, may be born again.

Amen.

First Lesson:

John 3: 1-17

(p. 93 OT)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can . . .

anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?" ¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Second Lesson:

Acts 17:16-31

(p. 137 OT)

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. ²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' ²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Sermon

"Trinity In Action"

Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith (*Responsive*) (The Apostles' Creed Interpreted)

What do you believe when you confess your faith in "God the Father Almighty"?

*That God is a God of love,
and that God's love is powerful beyond measure.*

What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "our Lord"?

*That having been raised from the dead
he reigns with compassion and justice
over all things in heaven and on earth,
especially over those who confess him by faith;
and that by loving and serving him above all else,
we give glory and honor to God.*

What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?

*That apart from the Holy Spirit,
our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.
The Holy Spirit is the personal bond
by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself,
the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ,
and the comforter who leads us to repentance,
empowering us to live in Christ's service.*

What do you affirm when you speak of "the life everlasting"?

*That communion with Jesus Christ is eternal life itself.
In him we were chosen
before the foundation of the world.
By him the eternal covenant with Israel
was taken up, embodied, and fulfilled.
To him we are joined by the Holy Spirit through faith,
and adopted as children, the sons and daughters of God.
Through him we are raised from death to new life.
For him we shall live to all eternity.*

The Worship of God Through Giving

This is a time to pray and discern how God may be asking you to use the blessings of your life to build up God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Those blessings may be your money, your time, or a skill you have worked to gain over time. God gave us all these blessings. Would you consider sharing some part these blessings for God's purpose in this world? Let us pray. Let us discern. Let us give.

Offertory Music

Don Adkins, Piano

*Doxology (*Unison*)

No.606

*Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

Teach us to give our whole lives to you. May the treasure become not the money gathered here but the mission of your love in the world all our gifts co-create with you. For the giver, the gift, and the soon gifted, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn 3

"Womb of Life and Source of Being"

*Womb of life and source of being, home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start.*

*We, your children, gather 'round you, at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter we are nurtured by your care.*

*Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life and Death of Death,
risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.*

*Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend.
Labor with us; aid the birthing of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity.*

*Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:
we would praise your name forever, one-in-three and three-in-one.
We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.*

*Benediction

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