

St. Andrew Worship
Sunday, June 16, 2024 ~ *Father's Day*
Rev. Julianne Porras-Center
**Stand in Body or Spirit*

Welcome and Announcement

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

We gather this holy day to worship our loving God...

Who loved us before we were born,

Who knows us even better than we know ourselves,

Whose loving presence never leaves us,

And whose love for us never ceases.

Let us be comforted and cared for by God today,

Just as we have been comforted fathers and mothers. Let us feel God's peace.

*Hymn 664

"Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken like the first morning;

blackbird has spoken like the first bird.

Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,

like the first dew fall on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,

sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,

born of the one light Eden saw play!

Praise with elation; praise every morning,

God's re-creation of the new day!

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Loving God, we confess we have fallen short of your great love. Created through love, made for love, we confess that we have do not live in right relationship with You, our creator, nor our families, our neighbors, or our fellow members of creation. We have not only bourn the wounds of our family systems, our nations, and our churches, but unhealed, we have recreated them again and again. Having been hurt, we have hurt. But we pray together now, to ask, Lord, that you break the pattern of sin and shame. We pray the prayer of David, that you "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit." According to your abundant mercy, may we be free to love as you have loved us. This we pray in the name of your son, Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

As our loving and heavenly parent, our God does not look upon us with judgment, but with understanding and grace. Even in David's weakest moment, God did not turn away from him, just as God does not turn from us now. Hear now that you are forgiven, and heed the assurance of Christ, God's own son, "In this world you will face tribulation. But take heart, for I have overcome the world."

Thanks be to God! We will take heart.

Response: ***Gloria Patri*** (*Unison*)

No. 581

Anthem

"Morning Praise" by Eileen Mihm

St. Andrew Bells Chior

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Song of Prayer

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



Prayers Lifted to God

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

*Hymn 805

"Come Sing to God"

Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God's name.

God's anger is not permanent; God's love will never wane.

*Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain,
yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.*

In my success I felt secure; how good you've been to me.

I said that this is my own work, ascribing all to me.

But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with fears.

I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.

What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat?

My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat.

Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me.

Accept my longing heart's request and from death set me free.

You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy.

In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy.

And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise.

You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Loving God, Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Illuminate Your word for us this day. Amen.

First Lesson:

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Second Lesson:

Mark 4:26-34

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith (*Responsive*)

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the
sky above proclaims his handiwork.

²Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

*⁴Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.*

In them he has set a tent for the sun,⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom
leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

*⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.*

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony
of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

*⁸the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

⁹the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the
Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

*¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.*

¹¹Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion
over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

*¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*

The Worship of God Through Giving

Offertory Music

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

St. Andrew Bells Choir

by Lowell Mason (1831) arr. by Eileen Mihm

Doxology (*Unison*)

No. 606

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

*God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole lives may be
offerings upon the altar of this church, your world. May we give you glory and praise; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.*

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn 450

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

*Benediction

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