



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Rev. Anne McAnelly, Pastor

Dr. Don Adkins, Music Director

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

10:30 A.M.

✠ 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time ✠

October 6, 2024

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

A WORD OF WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

How good it is to gather, to hear the Spirit's call,
urging us with challenge and change and blessing us with hope;

**Calling us to come home to space that is more than mine
and love beyond things.**

The Spirit whispers, "Blessing and Grace" come leave your long-lists behind,
draw the water of life to parched lips and be refreshed;

Calling us beyond old expectations and ego driven rules.

The Spirit proclaims, "Blessing" come be the change and the hope made flesh, come not to be
served but to serve;

**We gather, celebrating the Spirit's brave call, we gather side-by-side to celebrate life gifted
with grace.**

***HYMN**

Here, O Our Lord, We See You

GtG #517

Here, O our Lord, we see you face to face. Here would we touch and handle things unseen,
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace, and all our weariness upon you lean.
Here would we feed upon the bread of God, here drink with you the royal cup of heaven;
Here would we lay aside each earthly load, and taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.
This is the hour of banquet and of song; this is the heavenly table for us spread.
Here let us feast and, feasting, still prolong the fellowship of living wine and bread.
Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear. The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;

The bread and wine remove, but you are here, nearer than ever, still our shield and sun.
Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsive*)

Holy One, we long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace.

To serve each other in love and humility.

To serve your world with wisdom and energy.

Forgive us when we stumble over pride,
when our words and actions are not guided by love.

Turn our hearts when we act in folly.

Restore our energy when it is gone.

Sometimes, many times, O God, our efforts fail.

But your abundant grace is strong and eternal,

And forgiveness is ours through Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE (*responsive*)

Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the
beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

ANTHEM

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (pew song sheet)*

Prayers lifted to God

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own

GtG #708

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.

The captive to release, to God the lost to bring, to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be; whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

God, one of the great gifts that you have shared with us is your word. Open our hearts and minds as the scriptures are read and the message is proclaimed. Help us to hear with anticipation what you have to say and give us a sense of urgency to share it with others. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

NT pages #218-219

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

SERMON

Contentment in Giving

The Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

We are a community of faith. We share a vision of God: a God whose spirit is love, accessible to all yet beyond our knowing, the source of all being, the way leading to wholeness, the spirit which pervades everything. We are reborn in the Spirit, followers of that Way shown by Jesus: to love God with our whole being; to love our neighbors as ourselves; to treat others as we would have them treat us; to strive for justice and peace; to have respect and compassion for every person and for the whole of creation; to forgive those who do us harm; to love one another as Christ has loved us. We journey together on this Way towards reconciliation with the whole creation. We break bread together and pray together. We reach out to one another for strength beyond our own. This is our community. This is our faith.

OFFERING

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER (*unison*)

Oh Lord, giver of life and source of our freedom, we know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be the stewards of Your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray this with grateful hearts in Jesus' name. Amen.

COMMUNION (*please see insert*)

May the God of generosity be with you!

And also with you!

People of God, open your hearts to the One who has blessed you
beyond imagination.

**We open our very being to the God who always
surprises us with blessings.**

Children of the abundant God, let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*HYMN

Take My Life

GtG # 697

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift
and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with
messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use every power
as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall
be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you as you go from this place to share the gifts that you have been given with a world in need. Amen.

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

Upcoming Events

October 7 – 11	Pastor Anne at Pastor's Retreat
Monday, October 7	Bell Choir @ 2:30 PM
Wednesday, October 9	Outreach Meeting @ noon
Thursday, October 10	Choir Rehearsal @ 2-3 PM

TODAY'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

COFFEE HOST: Linda Walker **GREETER:** Janet Maack

LITURGIST: Myles Billheimer **COUNTER:** Pam Arnsberger

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Pam Arnsberger, Myles Billheimer, Gene Burk, and Elieen Mihm