



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

Rev. Anne McAnelly, Pastor
Dr. Don Adkins, Music Director

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Worship Bulletin for August 17, 2025

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive) (Psalm 82:3-4, 8)

Give justice to the weak and the orphan.

Maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

***Hymn *Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!* GtG # 506(Alt. Tune Beach Spring)**

Look who gathers at Christ's table! Hear the stories that they bring. Some are weeping; some are laughing; some have songs they want to sing.

Others ask why they're invited, burdened by the wrong they've done. Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for everyone.

Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear, saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt and fear.

Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight; Paul relates his fruitless efforts to obliterate the light.

Their sad stories are repeated in a thousand different ways, but they share one thing in common: they all end in thanks and praise

For the host who has invited north and south and east and west to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness, and prepare to be surprised by the host whose hands are wounded, who will open wide your eyes

When he blesses bread and breaks it— truth and manna from above!— and then passes wine that awakens in your heart the taste of love.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, we have not loved you as you have loved us. We are like children who accept love without knowing its cost. Forgive us, we pray, for every act of betrayal, for failure to be kind, for selfishness and blindness to the needs of others. Come and dwell in us with your spirit of generosity, that we may bless the world with what you have given us. For your name's sake. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

In Christ we are forgiven!

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.

Special Music

The Lords Prayer

Shari Gallegos

Passing the Peace

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(Those with prayer requests worshipping online, please text Anne the day before so your request can be lifted: 831-345-6324)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer "Come and Fill" (*pew song sheet*)

Prayers lifted to God and The Lord's Prayer

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

O God, in a Mysterious Way

GtG # 30

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

First Lesson:

Jeremiah 23:23-29

OT page #726

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says

the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Second Lesson:

Luke 12:49-56

NT page #75

"I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law. He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Sermon

How to Interpret the Present Time?

The Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN 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)

Gracious God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

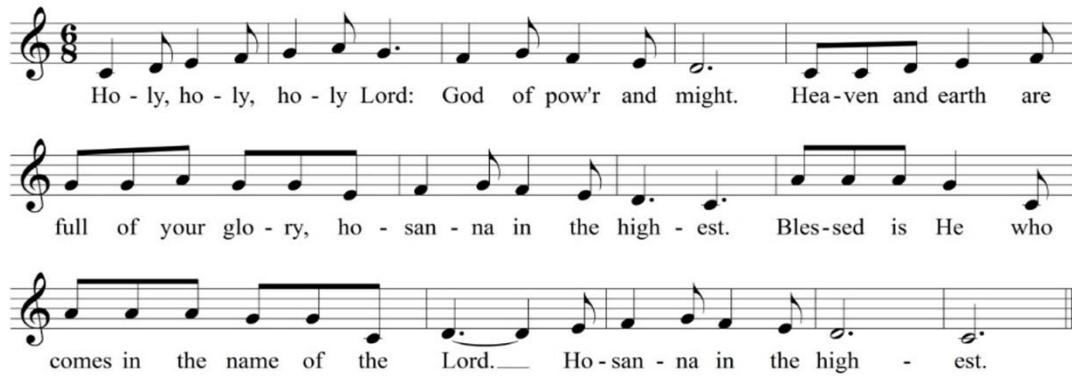
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Don Adkins



*Hymn

Come to the Table of Grace

GtG# 507

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

Come to the table of hope. Come to the table of hope. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.

Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn

Help Us Accept Each Other

GtG #754

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love; To practice your
acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness,
and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
We need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

Benediction

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

Today's Servers

LITURGIST: Stan Cowan

GREETERS: Pam Arnsberger

COFFEE HOST: Janet Maack

OFFERING COUNTER: Pam Arnsberger

COMMUNION: Myles Billheimer, Pam Arnsberger, Jan Maack, Gene Burk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week:

Monday, August 18th: Operations Meeting at 11 am (Thomas Lounge)

Monday, August 18th: Bell Choir at 2:30 pm (Thomas Lounge)

Tuesday, August 19th: Session Meeting at 4:30 pm (Zoom)

Wednesday, August 20th: Deacons Meeting at 10 am

TODAY: Lunch Cluster 1 will be meeting at Golden China in Watsonville following worship.
Please RSVP to Eileen.

Upcoming Week:

Sunday, August 31st – FFFF Fifth Sunday Meal in Hubler Hall following worship

New Office Hours: Monday -Thursday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Message from Kathryn and Don:

Don and I would like to thank each of you, our dear St. Andrew family, for all the congratulations and good cheer on our anniversary. We couldn't ask for a more supportive, loving group of people. You made our special date even more memorable.

~ Kathryn and Don