



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for September 7, 2025

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** (responsive)

God has set before us life and death.

We long to choose life.

God has set before us blessings and curses.

We long to choose blessings.

So we gather this morning around the table—Christ's table.

We gather to drink the cup of blessing; to eat the bread of life.

Let us share the meal together. Let us feast on the Word.

Let us worship God with joy!

***Hymn**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

GtG # 213

In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,
we confess that we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.**

We have lived for ourselves and apart from you.
We have turned from our neighbors
and refused to bear the burdens of others.
We have ignored the pain of the world
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.
In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (Responsive)

The God who calls us is the God who created us;
the God who formed us is the God who forgives us.
This is the Good News—we are God's new creation.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

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-831345-6324)

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** *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said* GtG # 718 (Alt. Tune O Waly, Waly)

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart
and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and let your foolish pride be still;
the Lord for you accepted death upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and calmly every danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life and leads to victory o'er the grave.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

OT page #185

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Second Lesson:

Luke 14:25-33

NT page #77

Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them,²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple."²⁷ "Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."²⁸ "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?"²⁹ "Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him,³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'"³¹ "Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?"³² "If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends

a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Sermon

The Cost of Discipleship

The Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

Offering

Doxology (Inclusive words)

**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)

**On my own, what I have to give doesn't amount to much
in the light of all you have given to me and in the face of so much need.**

**Put together as a congregation, what we offer you here in love becomes more,
not simply added together, but somehow multiplied in its usefulness.
We ask you to bless our gifts and with the addition of your blessing,
just as it was with the loaves and fishes, there is enough for all. Amen**

Communion

Litany

At this communion meeting place of the Lord's table, we enter into a spirit of togetherness, becoming one body in Christ, all members one of another.

**We are all followers of Christ and share the bread of life and cup of
blessing as an act of unity, recognizing our joining with all believers in
time and space.**

We remember the price paid of our redemption so that we may have life in abundance.

**We remember the presence of the risen Christ among us and recommit
ourselves to the way of the cross.**

Let us make ready our hearts and minds, leaving judgment of others aside, considering only our own relationship to God.

**We come as penitent believers, asking forgiveness, accepting God's
transforming grace and recommitting our lives totally to Christ as Lord.**

Let us keep the feast; for the spiritual food is the gift of Christ to us.

**Let us experience the mystery, for here Christ gives himself to us again,
and we are renewed on our spiritual journey, looking forward to the feast
of the redeemed in the age to come.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

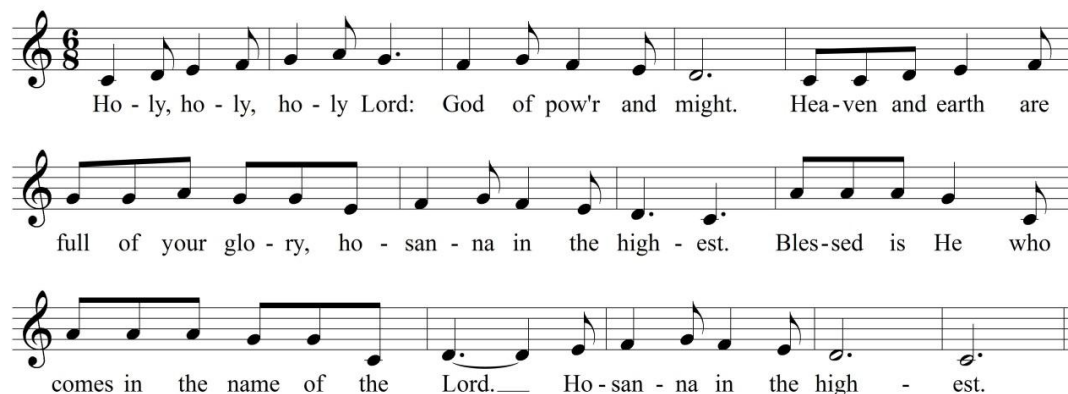
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Don Adkins



WE LIVE TO SERVE

***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 wakens
in your heart the taste of love.

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Erik Ottem

GREETERS: David and Sharon Allshouses

COFFEE HOST: Shari Gallegos

OFFERING COUNTER: Pat Manning

COMMUNION: Myles Billheimer, Kathryn Adkins, and Pat Manning

Unity Candle: This week we pray for Somos.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, September 8th: Bell Choir at 2:15PM, Thomas Lounge

Tuesday, September 9th: Book Study at 1:00 PM – Note the new day- Tuesday on

Zoom. In Do I Stay Christian, by **Brian McLaren**, we'll discuss some of the reasons people are leaving the church and many reasons to stay. The focus is on making an honest, ethical decision about religious identity. Please purchase your own book and read the introduction through Ch. 2 for the first class.

Wednesday, September 10th: Outreach Meeting at Noon (Zoom)

Pastor Anne will be at a clergy retreat Wed., Sept. 10th-Thurs., Sept. 11th

New Member class Schedule. This is an opportunity to learn about the Presbyterian church, this congregation and to answer any questions. After attending the class, if you decide this is right for you, you will join the church during Sunday Worship.

Sept 14th (Sunday) first class following worship

Sept 16th (Tuesday) at 5:15 meet with Session on Zoom for 15- 20 mins.

Sept 28th (Sunday) second class following worship

October 12 (Sunday) Join the church during worship.

Please let Anne know if you have any questions.