



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for November 23, 2025

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship (responsive)**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; Come into his presence with singing.

Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his;

we are his people; the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

**For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

***Hymn**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

GtG # 263

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;

bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,

hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball

to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Imagining your reign can be difficult, eternal God. It is difficult to picture a world governed by your justice and righteousness alone. Our minds are held captive by the worst images of human kings, rulers, and powers. When nobler visions fail and we settle for kingdoms of our own making, correct and forgive us. Free the borders of our imaginations, that we may envision your greater good and celebrate the coming of your reign on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (responsive)

Hear the prophecy of Zechariah: Tender mercy and forgiveness are the ways of God. We are forgiven. Let the church say,
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.

Anthem

All Good Things

St. Andrew Choir

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

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

(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

He Is King of Kings

GtG # 273

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last,
no one works like him.(2x) O he is King of kings he is Lord of lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him. O

(Refrain 2x)

He built his throne up in the air; no one works like him;
and called his saints from everywhere; no one works like him. O

(Refrain 2x)

He pitched his tents on Canaan ground; no one works like him;
and broke oppressive kingdoms down; no one works like him. O

(Refrain 2x)

I know that my Redeemer lives; no one works like him;
and by his love sweet blessing gives; no one works like him. O
(Refrain 2x)

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Almighty and everlasting God, you are the giver of the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. It is your will to restore all things to Christ, whom you have anointed priest forever and king of creation. Open the eyes of our hearts, and teach us to know the hope to which you have called us, so that we might learn to see you in the face of those in need around us. Amen

First Lesson:

Colossians 1:11-20

NT page #200

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Second Lesson:

Luke 23:33-43

NT page #89

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith** (from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand)

Christ Jesus, Child of Mary, God with us, King and Suffering Servant, High Priest and Lamb of God, Teacher and Word, living, suffering, dying and rising again, you challenge, redeem and restore us. Holy Spirit, Breath of life, Counsellor and Comforter, Fire of God, you inspire, sustain, and purify us. Forming us in the nature of Christ, transforming us with your gifts, you bind us together in one body, your church. God of all creation, made known to us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, your boundless love exposes our rebellion and greed. A mother who will not abandon her child, a father who welcomes the prodigal home, you forgive, accept and embrace us and call us into loving communion for ever. In life and death we belong to you, everlasting God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Offering

Offertory

Awesome God arr. by Peggy Bettcher

Bell Choir

Doxology

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

Offering Prayer (*unison*)

Compassionate Shepherd, You do not abandon your flock, even when we wander or divide. You gather us in Christ and teach us to live in unity, mercy, and peace. As we bring these gifts, may they be signs of our desire to follow your way—offering compassion where there has been hurt, justice where there has been harm, and hope where there has been despair. Strengthen us to live as people waiting not in fear, but in faith—serving the reign of Christ not just with words, but with lives shaped by generosity and love. In the name of the One who gathers and leads us always. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

***Hymn**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

GtG # 268

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own! Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified: No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time; creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Meeting of the Congregation

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Stan Cowan

GREETER: Michele Pomroy

COFFEE HOST: Refreshments in Hubler Hall

OFFERING COUNTER: David Allshouse

Unity Candle: This week we pray for Comunidad LatinoAmericana Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week

TODAY: Stocking Stuffing in Hubler Hall

Monday: Bell Choir at 2:15PM, Thomas Lounge

Tuesday, Bookstudy at 1PM, Zoom

Walking Backwards to Christmas, please read Intro-Ch. 2

Joanna out of the office

Office Closed November 26-28. Happy Thanksgiving!

Upcoming Event

Blue Christmas Service, December 4th at 4PM

Christmas is often a time of celebration, parties, presents and holiday gatherings. Santa says, "Ho, Ho, Ho" and we sing Christmas carols like Joy to the World. But what if you do not feel festive, joyful? You might find it hard to get into the holiday spirit. How do you navigate this season when your truth is not what the world is offering? Maybe the state of the world makes you anxious, fearful. Maybe you have lost a loved one and grief is your constant companion. Maybe you experienced a diagnosis or disappointment this year. Maybe you will not be with family this year and that makes you sad. You are not alone.

We are gathering on Thursday Dec. 4th at 4:00 for a service to honor your feelings, to make space in this busy holiday season to know that sometimes we feel blue around the holidays. We are offering a Blue Christmas Service, that is taken from the idea of the longest night, when we experience the most darkness and invite God's love and Christ's light into our hearts. We bring our faith into the space and invite God to help us as we await the birth of God's son. It is OK to feel your feelings, all of your feelings, even at Christmas time, because God sent Jesus into the world to hold us, save us, redeem us, forgive us, and to love us. Christmas is the time we remember the birth of Jesus, the one who came into the world so that we might know God. Join us for our Blue Christmas Service on Thursday Dec. 4th at 4:00.