



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for February 8, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** *(responsive)*

We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

We are the salt of the earth.

We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

We are the light of the world.

We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.

Come, let us be the salt of the earth, the light of the world.

Come, let us love one another with the love of God.

Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.

***Hymn**

Here in This Place

GtG # 401

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;

See in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;

Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young; our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.

Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you;

Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:

Here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) from Uruguay

God, you placed me in the world to be its salt. I have been afraid of committing myself, afraid of being stained by the world. I did not want to hear what "they" might have to say. And my salt dissolved as if in water. Forgive me, Jesus. God, you placed me in the world to be its light. I was afraid of the shadows, afraid of poverty. I did not want to know other people's struggles. And my light slowly faded away. Forgive me, Jesus. God, you placed me in the world to live in the community. Thus you taught me to love, to share in life, to struggle for bread and justice, your truth incarnate in my life. So be it, Jesus. Amen

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (*responsive*)

In Christ you are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Your taste and brightness bears witness to Jesus, who forgives our sins.

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.

Anthem

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Bell 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-831-345-6324)

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**

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

GtG# 314

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

(Refrain)

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. **(Refrain)**

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. **(Refrain)**

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. **(Refrain)**

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. **(Refrain)**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Light of the world, shine on us today. As your Word is read, illumine what we have not yet seen. Draw us toward your grace and send us out with your glory. Amen.

First Lesson:

Isaiah 58:1-9a

OT page #688

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator^b shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Sermon

The Wonder Taste and Light

The Rev. Anne McAnelly

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith by Bruce Prewer

I believe in truth as a living Reality,
not captured in theory or a creed,
but revealed to those who love;
 the truth of Jesus,
 the Spirit of truth,
 the truth of God.

Because I believe I trust,
not blindly but open eyed and bold
as a child climbing into a mother's lap;
 the truth of Jesus,
 the Spirit of truth,
 the truth of God.

Because I believe I serve,
not as a slave that serves a tyrant
but like farmers reaping a harvest;
 the truth of Jesus,
 the Spirit of truth,
 the truth of God.

Offering

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Offering Prayer (*unison*)

God of all creation, source of every blessing: you have given us so much. As we bring our tithes and gifts to you this day, these seem so small by comparison, unless we see that we are truly called to give ourselves back to the world. May we be the salt that brings value and flavor into relationships with those around us. May we be the light that helps others find their way to your love and care. We pray all of this in the mighty name of Jesus, who came to help us see all we could be. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

***Hymn**

Come! Live in the Light!

GtG # 749

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

(Refrain)

We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and violence will be no more. **(Refrain)**

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love. **(Refrain)**

***Charge and Benediction**

May our love be like salt that makes life tasty and worthwhile.
May our Christian living be a light to those who live in darkness.
May our Christian communities be cities of light to be seen from afar
as signs that God lives and works in his people.
And may God bless you all for this mission:
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Go now and let the light of Christ shine on all those who live around you.
Thanks be to God!

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Al Cheney

GREETER: Sally Griffin

COFFEE HOST: Sally Griffin

OFFERING COUNTER: David Allshouse

Unity Candle: Today we pray for First Presbyterian Church of Mountain View

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Souper Bowl of Caring:

Please donate to support your team and help fight hunger.

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

Tuesday: **Deacons Meeting at 10AM, Thomas Lounge**

**Bible Study: Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ
at 1PM, Zoom. Please read CH. 2**

Wednesday: **Outreach Meeting at Noon, Zoom**

Thursday: **Choir at 2PM**

Upcoming Events

- **Chili Cook-Off** - Buy your tickets now after worship for the Chili Cook-Off on February 20th from 6PM-8PM at Twin Lakes Church in Aptos. Tickets cost \$20.
Cash or Check made payable to St. Andrew Church.
- **Lunch & Home Clusters – Coming Back in 2026**
Clusters are a great way to get to know people and have fellowship. Share a meal at a local restaurant, after church (Lunch cluster), or share a potluck in someone's home (Home cluster). Each group meets monthly.
See Pat Manning or Janet Maack for more information and sign-up after worship.
- **Pie Day is coming (Pi π 3.15)!** Start thinking now about what you'd like to bring for our Pie Day gathering on **March 15 (3.15)**. Sweet pies, savory pies, old fashion pies, ice cream pies ~ all are welcome to share. Let's make it delicious! Every slice counts!