



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for April 12, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

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

God is always with us, our refuge and our strength

We come this morning to be fed by the Word of God, and to rest in God's presence.

We come to remind ourselves that we are with God.

In this time of worship, may our hearts be glad and our souls rejoice in the Lord.

May we keep the Lord always before us; may we follow God's mighty counsel as we walk the path set before us.

Let us give thanks and praise to our mighty God!

***Hymn**

Bless the Lord

GtG #544

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Prayer of Confession *(responsive)*

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, first in silent prayer.

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that impedes us, the ignorance that hinders us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places, move to those places where love is needed, and have faith that you are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God! Alleluia! 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

Praise The Lord, His Glories Show by David Lantz

Choir

Prayers of the People

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer

O Lord, Hear our Prayer

(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**

Be Thou My Vision

GtG #450

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination *(responsive)*

God of sacred texts, speak powerfully to us today through what is written in your holy scripture. Help us hear the witnesses to Jesus our risen Lord, and to the promises of life in his name.
Amen.

First Lesson:**1 Peter 1:3-9****NT page #232**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Second Lesson:**John 20:19-31****NT page#115**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon**Throwing Open the Doors****Karla Kress**

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

Offering

Offertory

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 (*responsive*)

Compassionate and faithful God, you meet us behind locked doors and in the doubts we dare not speak aloud. Like Thomas, we long to see, to touch, to know—and yet, by your grace, you call us blessed for believing without seeing. Accept now these gifts we bring, signs of our faith, acts of our trust. Use them to reach others still searching for hope, healing, and connection. Let our giving testify to your Resurrection power and shape us into a community where wounds are not hidden but held with love. In Christ, who breathes peace upon us, we pray. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

GtG #541

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; keep love's banner floating o'er you;
smite death's threatening wave before you: God be with you till we meet again.

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Nancy Samel

GREETER: Sally Griffin

COFFEE HOST: Nurture Committee

OFFERING COUNTER: Pat Manning

Unity Candle: This week we pray for First Presbyterian Church in Monterey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday: Bell Choir at 2:15PM

Thursday: Choir at 2PM

Upcoming Events

- Lunch Cluster Two meeting TODAY after worship at the Seascape Golf Club located at 610 Clubhouse Drive in Aptos.
- Lunch Cluster One meeting April 19th after worship at the Seascape Golf Club located at 610 Clubhouse Drive in Aptos.
- **SAVE the DATE:** June 2nd - Red Cross Blood Drive, Hubler Hall, starts at 8:30AM by appointment only using the Red Cross app.
- **2026 Per Capita Fees** - Annual due charged by Presbytery is based on total membership. It helps when our members contribute their share of \$55 for 2026. THANK YOU!!!