



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for May 3, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

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

Come, people of God!

Take refuge in the Lord, who listens when we cry out,
who rescues us when we call, and who leads and guides us
according to his unfailing love.

You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

Let's worship God together!

***Hymn**

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

GtG # 251

Christ has arisen, alleluia. Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.

(Refrain)

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!

For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show. **(Refrain)**

The angel said to them, "Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the grave clothes are lying there." **(Refrain)**

"Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.

He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

Even the battle with sin is won." **(Refrain)**

Christ has arisen to set us free.

Alleluia, to him praises be.

Jesus is living! Let us all sing;

he reigns triumphant, heavenly King. **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Before God and God's people, I confess that I have been reluctant to speak out clearly, naming the injustice I see and declaring God's vision. Before God and one another, we confess our reluctance to receive our calling as God's people, made by God and chosen as witnesses to God's dream of justice and joy. Remind me, God, that you have made me for your service and recharge me with your Word. Renew us, God. Grant us courage to live out your Way of peace and grace. We ask it in Jesus' name; Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace *(responsive)*

God has promised that whenever we repent and seek a new union with God, forgiveness is ours. That promise comes true now. Sisters and brothers, know that in Christ Jesus, 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.

Anthem

The Bread of Love is Broken

St. Andrew Choir

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.

Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia!
has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!
Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!
"Come! the banquet is prepared." Alleluia!

All is ready, come attend Alleluia!
as the Lord's invited friend; Alleluia!
Come from north, west, south, and east; Alleluia!
celebrate the joyful feast. Alleluia!

All who trust in God belong Alleluia!
at this banquet with this throng. Alleluia!
Share the mystic holy food; Alleluia!
taste and see: the Lord is good. Alleluia!

As the Lord our God has willed, Alleluia!
here the hungry soul is filled; Alleluia!
Here the weary are refreshed. Alleluia!
All who share God's feast are blessed. Alleluia!

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Holy and gracious God, may your Holy Spirit give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may know the hope to which Christ has called us, the riches of his glorious inheritance among us, and the greatness of his power for those who believe. Amen.

First Lesson:

John 14:1-9a

NT page #108

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?' "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it." When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. And Saul approved of their killing him. That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria.

Sermon

The Way of Stephen

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*)

Everlasting God, whose tenacious love holds us: make our hearts the house of your truth,
and make our minds the realm of your wisdom so that our fellowship will become your
dwelling place, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion

(Prayer)

Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.

May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread,
so that we may know your touch in all bread, all matter.

We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared
among his community through the centuries,
and shares with us now.

Made one in Christ, and one with each other,
we offer these gifts and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

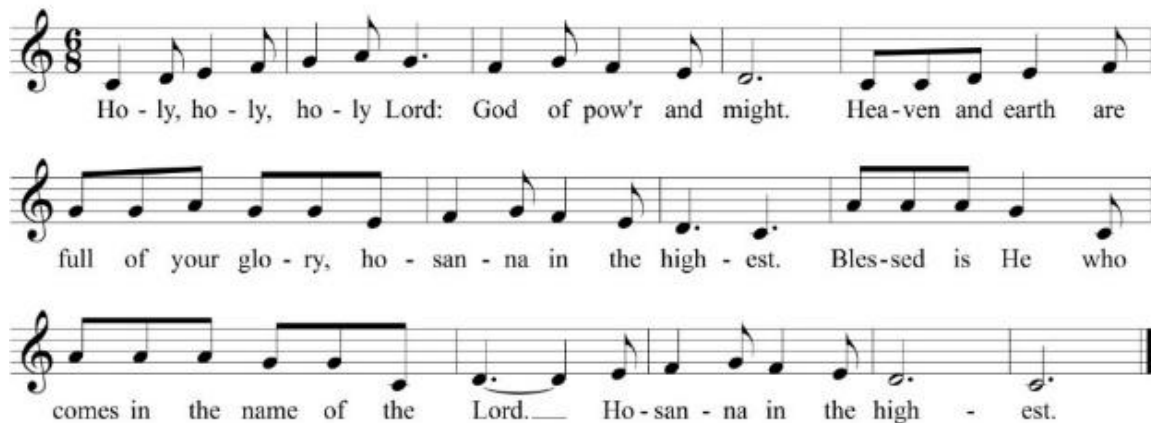
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Don Adkins



Response

The gifts of God for the people of God...

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 500

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.

Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

***Hymn**

To God Be the Glory

GtG # 634

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

(Refrain)

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **(Refrain)**

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Stan Cowan

GREETER: Janet Maack

COFFEE HOST: Shari Gallegos

OFFERING COUNTER: Pat Manning & Janet Maack

COMMUNION: Keith McKenzie, Pat Manning, Janet Maack

Unity Candle: This week we pray for St. Phillips United Presbyterian Church in Salinas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday:

Cluster #2 meeting after worship at Red Apple Cafe in Aptos, 783 Rio Del Mar Blvd.

***Monday:* Bell Choir at 2:15PM**

***Tuesday:* Nurture Meeting at 10AM, Zoom
Enrichment Meeting at 2PM, Zoom**

***Thursday:* Choir at 2PM**

Offering Counter Volunteers

Session would like to have two people count our offering each Sunday. Serving elders currently take turns counting the Sunday collection. We're looking for a few people who are good with numbers to be the second person in this process, to provide checks and balances and shorten the task. If you're willing to count the collection once a month, please let Joanna know and we'll work with you to put you in the rotation. Thank you in advance for considering this service to the church.

Upcoming Event

- May 23rd: Homeless Shower volunteers needed. If you're interested in participating in this ministry, please let Joanna know if you're available to help.
- June 2nd: Red Cross Blood Drive, Hubler Hall. Starts at 8:30AM by appointment only using the Red Cross app.
- June 7th: Open Mic benefit for Veterans from 1-3PM in the courtyard and Hubler. To participate, please call 408-357-0640