



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for July 12, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** (*responsive*) Psalm 119

Leader: Your word is a lamp guiding our feet,

People: and a light to our path.

Leader: Accept our offerings of Praise, O Lord

People: and teach us to follow your ways.

Leader: We turn our hearts to you,

People: Let us worship God together.

***Hymn**

Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet

GtG # 458

(Refrain)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end. **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Creator God, You created all things in connection with one another, yet we separate ourselves from you, from each other, from animal and plant life, and from the magnificent earth that is our home. We are often selfish and short-sighted, caring more about ourselves and capital gain than about loving God and loving neighbor. Almighty God, help us to reconcile our relationships and ground them in love, so we may experience the joys of gratitude and abundant life.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (*responsive*) Romans 8:1-11

Christ has set us free from sin and death. The Spirit of God dwells in us, so we may set our minds on the Spirit and experience life and peace.

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

Peace and Harmony by Kurt Meyer

Bell Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying



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

All Creatures of Our God and King

GtG # 15 (v. 1, 2, 6)

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,

sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God
with humble heart. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Three in One! Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Holy God, ground us in the Word revealed to us in Christ. Help us prepare our spiritual soil to receive the seeds of faith you sow in us. Tend to the growth of our hearts for we desire to grow closer to you. In the hope-giving name of Christ we pray, Amen.

First Lesson: **Psalm 119: 89-91** OT page #568

The Lord exists forever; your word is firmly fixed in heaven. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast. By your appointment they stand today, for all things are your servants.

Second Lesson: **Matthew 13: 3-9, 18-23** NT page #14

And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sermon **The Wisdom of Soil and Seed** **Veronica Ota**

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith** (from Journey into Wholeness by Christine Sine, Mustard Seed Associates:2009)

We believe in God above us, Creator of all things, sustainer of all life. We believe in Christ beside us, Companion and friend, redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe. We believe in Spirit deep within us, Advocate and guide, who lives with us eternally. We believe in God's resurrection created world, Where all things are fixed, and all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies. We believe in God above, beside, within, God yesterday, today and forever, the three in one, the one in three, We believe in God.

Offering

Offertory

Dona Nobis Pacem Arr. by Larry Sue

Bell Choir

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

WE LIVE TO SERVE

***Hymn**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

GtG # 611

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;

stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.

Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.

Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.

Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Erik Ottem

GREETER: Stan Cowan

ACCOMPANIST: Derek Hamersly

COFFEE HOSTS: Sharon and David Allshouse

OFFERING COUNTERS: Kathryn Adkins and Linda Walker

Unity Candle: This week we pray for Taiwanese American Presbyterian Church of San Jose

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday - Friday

- Anne is out of the Office

Saturday

- Warren Teeters Memorial at 5PM, Sanctuary. Reception to follow at Seascape Golf Club.

Upcoming Events

- **July 25th:** Tom Schmida Memorial at 1PM in Sanctuary.
Reception to follow in Hubler Hall.
- **Aug. 22th:** Homeless Showers at St. John Church in Aptos from 11-2PM.
Please let Joanna know if you can help.
- **Aug. 30th:** FFFF Luncheon
- **Sept 19th:** Autumnal Potluck (Progressive Dinner) at Keith McKenzie home at 4PM