



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian
Church of Aptos**

Rev. Anne McAnelly, Pastor

9850 Monroe Ave.
Aptos, CA 95003
Phone 831 688-4211
aptospres@gmail.com
www.aptospresbyterianchurch.org

Worship Bulletin for September 13, 2026

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission

Karla Kress

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

L: Sing songs of hope and peace.

P: God's love and power have lifted us.

L: Sing songs of mercy and grace.

P: God's mercy and forgiveness frame our lives.

L: Thanks be to God for all God's love and mercy.

P: Praise be to God for the healing power God extends to each one of us. **AMEN.**

***Hymn**

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

GtG # 436

God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.

Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,
patience untiring and courage unfailing.

Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
stilled our rude hearts with your word of consoling.
Wrap now your peace, like a mantle, around us,
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.

How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?
What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Just like Peter, Lord, we want to get all "legalistic" about forgiveness. We want to know if one time to forgive someone is sufficient. We might even be willing to extend forgiveness twice, but we have a tendency to follow the adage, "Once burned, twice shy." Teach us to be humble and merciful. Remind us of the many ways in which you have offered, time

and time again, your forgiving love to us. Heal our wounds and bind up our brokenness. For we ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace *(responsive)*

Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith, and the blindness which means we fail to see God amongst us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you, and still loves you. Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven. **We are at peace, and give praise to God!**

*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 God, Ye Servants of the Lord arr. by Larry Sue

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



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

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

GtG # 444

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease.
Then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Speak, Lord, for your servant hears. Grant us ears to hear, Eyes to see, Wills to obey, Hearts to love; Then declare what You will, Reveal what You will, Command what You will, Demand what You will.

First Lesson:

Genesis 50:15-21

OT page #48

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Second Lesson:

Matthew 18:21-35

NT page #20

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, maker of all things, provider of all things, who loves all people.
We follow Jesus, in whom salvation has come to us: he sees us for who we are,
heals the wounds of our hearts, and makes us new.

In his death and resurrection, we see the deepest truth of life.

We live by the power of the Holy Spirit, which empowers us for self-giving love.

We give thanks for the Church, the Body of Christ, and for the gift of forgiveness,
the power of resurrection and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

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*)

Lord we give these gifts to you for your mission and will. Lord give us the gift to
know who I need to forgive? How should I forgive them? Help me to extend the
same grace You've shown me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

GtG # 435

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

Benediction

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

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Erik Ottem

GREETER: Sally Griffin

COFFEE HOST: Sally Griffin

ACCOMPANIST: Eileen Mihm

OFFERING COUNTERS: David and Sharon Allshouse

Unity Candle: Today we pray for First Presbyterian Church in Palo Alto

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday

- Operations Meeting at 10AM, Thomas

Tuesday

- Session Meeting at 4PM, Zoom

Thursday

- Bells at 2PM
- Choir at 3PM

Saturday

- **Autumnal Potluck** (Progressive Dinner) at Keith McKenzie home at 4PM. Please let Jan Maack know what dish you'd like to share or need a ride by Sept. 13th. Keith's address: 4 Kite Hill Rd., Pasatiempo.

Upcoming Events

- **Sept. 22nd**: Bible Study starting at 1PM, Zoom. Please purchase your book, ***Pastrix, The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner and Saint by Nadia Bolz-Weber*** and read the Introduction through Ch.3
- **Sept 26th**: The 4th N.E.A.R. Gathering at Gilroy Presbyterian Church. Please register by Sept. 12th at sanjosepby.org
- **Oct. 12~16**: Anne out of the Office
- **Oct. 24th**: Homeless Showers at St. John Church, Aptos, 11:30-1:30PM. Please let Joanna know if you can attend.