



**St. Andrew  
Presbyterian  
Church of Aptos**

Rev. Anne McAnelly, Pastor

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**Worship Bulletin for September 20, 2026**

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

**Welcome and Announcements**

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

L: God has given us this day for praise!

**P: Praise be to God for this most generous gift!**

L: God has given his Son to us that we might learn ways of peace and mercy.

**P: Let the words of God's own Son, Jesus, enter our hearts and transform our lives!**

L: Come, let us worship this great God of abundant mercy and love!

**P: Let our songs, our words, and our thoughts reflect God's healing and restoring love.**

**AMEN.**

**\*Hymn**

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

GtG # 36

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while

we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.

In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,

in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still

confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, Forgive us, we pray -- For all the times we have turned away from an opportunity to be generous; For all the times we have believed in hopelessness, in isolation or in despair more than we have believed in you; For all the times we have chosen timidity over bold witness; For all the times we have failed to live into the awesomeness of the gifts you have given us. Forgive us, O God. Teach us how to forgive each other, and help us to forgive ourselves. AMEN *Time for silent reflection.*

## Assurance of Grace (*Lam 3:22-23*) (*responsive*)

"Holy God, your steadfast love never ceases. We thank you that your mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness."

**We are forgiven and free.**

## \*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

St. Andrew Choir

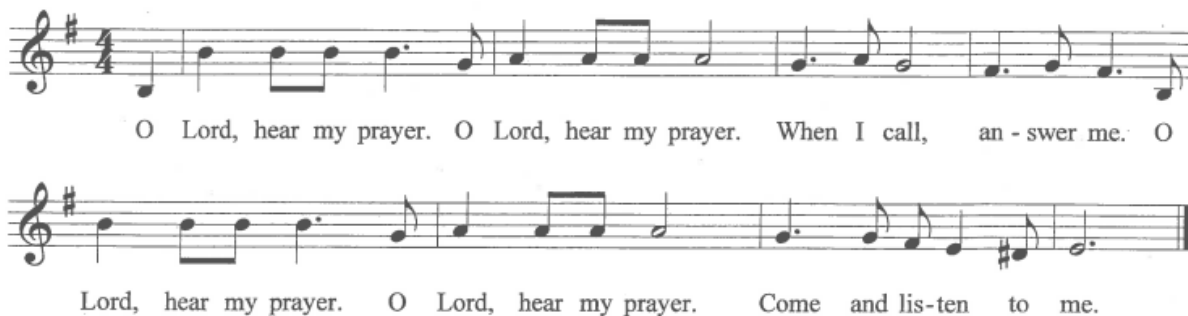
## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(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

### O Lord, Hear My Prayer



## 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

*This Is My Father's World*

GtG #370

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings,  
and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget that though  
the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

## **WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination** (*unison*)

**Holy Spirit, teach us to listen with humility, to set aside our own agendas, and to be open to your correction and grace. Let your Word challenge and comfort us in equal measure. Amen.**

### **First Lesson:**

**Psalm 145:1-8**

**OT page #581**

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate. The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

### **Second Lesson:**

**Matthew 20:1-16**

**NT page #21**

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

### **Sermon**

**Is Generosity Fair?**

**The Rev. Anne McAnelly**

## WE RESPOND IN FAITH

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *Adapted from the French Confession of 1559, PCUSA (unison)*

We believe and confess only one God, who can do all things, is all-wise, all-good, all-just, and all-merciful. We believe that everything required for our salvation has been offered and communicated to us in Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God and God's eternal Son. Jesus Christ clothed himself in our flesh: God and human in one person. We believe that we are illuminated in faith by the unfathomable grace of the Holy Spirit. God imparts this gracious gift. By faith we receive grace to live holy lives in awe and reverence for God, for we receive what the gospel promises when God gives us the Holy Spirit. Faith does not cool our desire for good and holy living, but rather engenders and excites it in us, leading naturally to good works. As for the true Church we believe that it ought to be governed in accordance with the order established by our Lord Jesus Christ. In this way, pure doctrine can be maintained, the poor and afflicted can be helped in their need, assemblies can be gathered in the name of God, and both great and small can be edified.

### 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 *(unison)*

Giver of all good gifts, you offer us abundance beyond measure. Help us to release our grip on worldly desires and focus our hearts on your eternal grace.  
Accept these offerings as acts of gratitude and trust. In Christ's name, we pray.

## WE LIVE TO SERVE

#### \*Hymn

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

GtG # 725

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
be now and always near me, my Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

O let me feel you near me! The world is ever near:  
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, draw still nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, true guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
now give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

## Benediction

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

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## TODAY'S SERVERS

**LITURGIST:** Stan Cowan

**GREETER:** Lori Burkett

**COFFEE HOST:** Al Cheney

**ACCOMPANIST:** Christian Stallard

**OFFERING COUNTERS:** Pat Manning and Linda Walker

## Unity Candle:

This week we pray for Trinity Presbyterian Church in Santa Cruz and Urban Works.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*It's almost time to nominate for Elders and Deacons.*

*If you have suggestions, please see Pat Manning after worship.*

### *Tuesday*

- Bible Study at 1PM, Zoom. *Pastrix, The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner and Saint by Nadia Bolz-Weber*. Please read the Introduction through Ch.3

### *Thursday*

- Bells at 2PM
- Choir at 3PM

### *Saturday*

- The 4<sup>th</sup> N.E.A.R. Gathering at Gilroy Presbyterian Church.

## Upcoming Events

- **September 27<sup>th</sup>:** Lunch Cluster #1 meeting at Sevy's Bar and Kitchen (7500 Old Dominion Ct., Aptos) after worship hosted by Chris DiMaio and Andrew Pudan
- **Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>:** Mission Luncheon after worship, Hubler
- **Oct. 12~16:** Anne out of the Office