

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
10:00 AM



GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* Setting by Dale Wood

†CALL TO WORSHIP

If this is your first time here or your one-hundred-and-first time;
we are glad you are here.

**If you carry the weight of a weary world on your shoulders, or you entered
through the doors with a song in your heart and a skip in your step; we are
glad you are here.**

If you are the loudest voice in the town square or the subtle hand behind the scenes;
we are glad you are here.

If you have failed once or a thousand times; we are glad you are here.

If you sing like angels, or mumble behind the hymnal; we are glad you are here.

This community is what it is because of your presence.

So welcome; welcome into this space of love, support, justice, compassion,
fellowship, and worship.

†HYMN 307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

CONFESSING OUR SIN

**We stand before you in this moment, Listening God, and state what you
already know. Our cheeks are carved with the tears of the pain we have
caused. Our hearts are so empty we cannot comfort others. Our desires have
taken us to places where we cannot sing your praises.**

**Heart-seeking God, forgive us. Plant a tiny seed of hope that it might
grow into a bouquet for others. Increase our faith until it spills over in thanks
giving to you. Fill us with the love that overwhelms all our complaints and re
kindles our desire to follow faithfully Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

(A time of silent, personal confession.)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

†JOYFUL RESPONSE 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

VASILE

Come sing, O church in Joy! Come join, O church in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Margaret Ellingson

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezra 3:10-13

Pew Bible p. 403(OT)

WELCOME

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

† When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit, as able.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

The service begins with the first note of the Opening Voluntary.

GOD OF GRACE AND
GOD OF GLORY

This hymn, written by Harry Emerson Fosdick in 1930, is a reminder that "church" is primarily about the people and secondarily a building. Almost every line is a prayer for the congregation. The third stanza, in particular, calls on God to transform human hearts.

SILENCE

The time of silence allows you to speak or listen to God as you best need this morning.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

After each scripture reading the reader will say, "The Word of the Lord." All are invited to respond, "Thanks be to God."

MUSICAL OFFERING *I Will Arise* Early American Folk Hymn
Arr. Susan Byler

SCRIPTURE READING Lamentations 1:1-5 Pew Bible p. 717(OT)

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON *The Thing Behind the Thing* Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN 787 *God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn* MOSHIER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Though we have known hardship and pain, though life has not always turned out as we had hoped, we will stand here and say:
God's steadfast love endures forever!

Though life becomes more complex, the deepest questions remain unanswered, and the mystery of faith deepens, we will say:
God's steadfast love endures forever!

And though the pain of the world often seems more than we can bear or address, we will stand firm in our faith and say:
God's steadfast love endures forever!

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY & WORLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

†Offertory Response 608

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

PRAISE GOD

†Prayer of Dedication

GOING TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

†HYMN 183 *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler* AUSTIN

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

BENEDICTION IN MUSIC *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

Setting by Anna Laura Page

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Following the proclamation of the Word, the congregation is given the opportunity to respond to hearing God's Word by affirming what the church believes and expressing our faith. This gives us the opportunity to say what we believe about God and what God has done in history. Today's affirmation draws on the assurance in Lamentations 3:22-23.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Because we have been forgiven in Christ, we can forgive one another. We demonstrate this by sharing Christ's peace with one another.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell, Pastor
LaVerne Byas-Smith, Coordinator of Congregational Vitality
David Lukens, Director of Music
Edward Weaver, Associate Director of Music and Organist
Pat Baker, Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries
Lionette Bruce, Director, St. Andrews School
Gretchen Perkins, Office Manager
Helen Hoang, Financial Administrator

Notes on Today's Music:

The **Opening Voluntary** is an arrangement of the hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" set to the tune BEECHER composed by John Zundel (1815-1882), a German organist, composer, arranger, and pedagogue. Zundel worked as a bandmaster and organist in St. Petersburg, Russia then emigrated to America in 1847. He played the organ at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, New York. The pastor there was Henry Ward Beecher, after whom Zundel's famous tune is named. Zundel edited *Psalmody* in 1855. He also helped edit the 1855 *Plymouth Collection*, the first major hymnal to put the music on the same page as the lyrics. He retired in 1877 and returned to Germany.

The title of the **Musical Offering** is the refrain of the Southern hymn "Come, Ye Sinner, Poor and Needy". That text, based primarily on Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest", was first published in Joseph Hart's *Collection Hymns Composed on Various Subjects*. Hart (1711-1768) was a Calvinist minister in London and a prolific writer of hymns. The composer of the tune, which was first published in William Walker's (1809-1875) *Southern Harmony* (1835) is unknown. This setting by Susan Byler, about whom I could find nothing, contains only two of the seven original stanzas.

The **Benediction in Music** is based on the tune JUBILEE which first appeared in Ananias Davisson's *Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony*, (1820). Davisson (1780 –1857) was a singing school teacher, printer and compiler of shape note tunebooks. He is best known for his 1816 compilation Kentucky Harmony, which is the first Southern shape-note tunebook. The tune is associated with the hymn "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" which was first published in Hymns and Spiritual Songs for the use of Christians (Lexington, Kentucky, 1803).

As one part of the church of Jesus Christ, we are inspired and guided by Christ's vision of God's realm – one that includes all who seek to love God and neighbor.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church welcomes all people, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic situation, family status, mental or physical abilities to become part of the membership and ministry of the church.

We welcome all of each of you.

Approved and adopted by the Session of St. Andrews, August 2019

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 10th

8:45 AM Rally Day
Sunday School - All Ages
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Diaconate Meeting
4:00 PM Coro Voci Concert

Monday, September 11th

8:00 PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, September 12th

8:00 PM Worship Ministry

Wednesday, September 13th

12:30 PM Lunch and Learn
7:00 PM Management Ministry
7:30 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, September 14st

4-7:00 PM Tucker Farmer's Market
Book Exchange Table
5:00 PM Light of Grace

Friday, September 15th

9:00 AM Church at Prayer
8:00 PM AA Meeting

Saturday, September 16th

Sunday, September 17th

8:45 AM Sunday School - All Ages
10:00 AM Worship
1:00 PM Session Meeting

PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

If you have a prayer concern, please complete a Prayer Request Card, and place it in the offering plate, or contact the office. Please update the office about any changes in the condition of your loved ones.

The Family of Judy Cunningham
Tom Evans
Ted Heffner
Linda Weaver

In the Nursing Home, Home Care, or Assisted Living:

Milly Ball at home
Peggy Benedict at home
Elinor Bryan Westminster Village
Henry Tribble The Villages
Ron Weber at home, Betty Weber Manor Lake
Ted and Peggy Heffner Blue Ridge Assisted Living

WELCOME

We invite you to join St Andrews, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), in ministry and in worship.

Please note your presence on the list in the narthex so that members of our church family may welcome you. Your presence is a joy for us.

The Nursery, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary and Heffner Hall, has two dedicated childcare helpers who will stay with young children during worship. For school-age children, the PRAYground is available, near the front of the sanctuary, offering educational and interactive materials, and the Parlor is available for anyone needing a quiet moment outside of the sanctuary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers Today are given by David and Mary McCowen with gratitude to God for the gift of the seasons.

Coro Voci Concert Thanks go out to the musicians of Coro Voci for joining us in worship this morning. All are invited to return this afternoon at 4:00 PM for their concert of choral music. Coro Voci is a group of musicians from Atlanta, GA, directed by Ed Weaver, who meet to share their love of music.

SAPC Book Table at Farmer's Market This Thursday, September 14th, we will again host our Book Exchange Table, the only appearance this month. The final two dates are: October 5th and November 9th. Join us as we greet our neighbors.

Fall Sunday School Classes Make plans to join us for Sunday School classes for all ages! We will begin gathering at 8:45; classes will start promptly at 9:00.

Fall BBQ St. Andrews' Fall Barbecue is just two weeks from today! Stay after church on the 24th for a delicious fellowship meal. If you'd like to bring a side dish to share, please sign up with the link in your Thursday email, or contact the church office. Come! Bring a friend! There are printed invitations available in the narthex.

Collection Project We are continuing to collect personal hygiene items for NET-Works in the Narthex. Items most needed are adult diapers, poise pads, tampons and maxi pads.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10th Coro Voci Concert 4:00 PM
Tuesday, September 19th Presbyterian Women, 10 AM
Sunday, September 24th Fall BBQ, after worship
Sunday October 1st World Communion Sunday
Peace and Global Witness Special Offering
Thursday, October 5th Blessing of the Animals at the Farmer's Market
Sunday, October 29th Reformation Sunday, in worship 10 AM
Saturday, November 4th Caregiver's Event

CONNECT AT ST. ANDREWS

Facebook- facebook.com/sapctucker/ *Like and follow us – for photos and announcements.*

Website- sapctucker.org *Church Calendar, Sunday School Page, Youth News, Sermon Archive*

Instagram- st.andrewspresbyteriantucker *Follow us- pictures and updates*

Weekly Email and Monthly Newsletter- office@sapctucker.org *to be added to our list.*

Contact Us- 770-938-2833 office@sapctucker.org