

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2024

10:00 AM



### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Partita on "Jesu, meine Freude"* Johann Walther

†CALL TO WORSHIP

There are some days when I need the reminder that I belong to God.  
Do you ever feel that way?

**Yes. We do.**

**The world can be a harsh place; we often need that reminder.**

Well then, let us care for one another. Let us speak the truth we each need to hear.  
Church, you belong to God. You are God's beloved.

**Friend, you belong to God. You are God's beloved.**

Let us worship the God who knows our names.

**Let us worship the God who calls us beloved. Amen.**

†HYMN 664 *Morning Has Broken* BUNNESSAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

**From the very beginning, you breathed life into us and called us good.**

**However, somewhere along the way, we replaced "good" with "not enough."**

**Somewhere along the way, we turned the volume up on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth.**

**Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us. For when the world tells us we are not enough, you call us beloved. Show us how to return to that truth.**

**Show us how to let go of our weariness and rest in that good news.**

*(Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession.)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Family of faith, God's grace and understanding is deeper and wider than we could possibly imagine. So, say these words of grace with me:

**Our story begins with belovedness.**

**Even when we lose our way, even if we stumble and fall,**

**God never stops breaking through the clouds to claim us.**

**We are known. We are forgiven. We are beloved.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

†JOYFUL RESPONSE *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

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, which is based on Hymn 830.

MORNING HAS BROKEN

Originally titled, *Thanks for a Day*, the author of this hymn invites singers to be aware of the potential of each new day to recall the wonder of the "first morning" at Creation.

SILENCE

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

CHRISTMAS THEME AND LITURGY

This season we are following the theme, "How Does a Weary World Rejoice?" from A Sanctified Art LLC. A Sanctified Art believes God speaks to us through many mediums and that creativity is an integral part of worship. The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Affirmation of Faith are adapted from prayers written by Sarah (Are) Speed of A Sanctified Art.

## †SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carol Gordon

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

Pew Bible p. 631(OT)

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:21-22

Pew Bible p. 56(NT)

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

*We Trust in Our Belovedness*

Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

*From the Waters of Creation*

HELMSLEY

Please see the insert

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

†Response

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all Creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia!  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

†Prayer of Dedication

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

**I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

**I will, with God's help.**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**I believe that the God I see in scripture is a God of love.**

**I believe that God created me and delights in that creation.**

**I believe the psalmist who says, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made."**

**I believe that, just as God called Jesus "beloved," God extends this same term of endearment to us.**

**I believe that no matter our earthly challenges, nothing could strip me of that sacred title.**

**I could fail every test, miss every goal, drop every ball, and I would still be God's beloved.**

**Therefore, I cling to this promise like a rock in the storm.**

**I anchor myself with this good news, allowing the anxiety of the day to roll over me as best I can, because I know where I belong.**

**I am a child of God.**

**I am beloved.**

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.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

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

FROM THE WATERS OF CREATION

Anna Strickland, of Sanctified Art, wrote this original hymn text, connecting images from scripture and our Advent theme to go with a familiar Christmas hymn tune.

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Baptism is a sign and seal of our incorporation into Jesus Christ. Baptism marks the beginning of new life in Christ, in which we are called to deep commitment, disciplined discernment, and growth in faith. We believe in one baptism, but it is also fitting to reaffirm that baptism on the day we remember and celebrate Jesus' baptism.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Many In the act of remembering that is the Lord's Supper, we receive and trust the love of Christ present to us and to the world. Through it, we are renewed and empowered to be the church, the body of Christ, in the world.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of

I strive to live this way.  
Amen.

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**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.**

**Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

## GOING TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD

†HYMN 574

*Go, My Children with My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†BENEDICTION IN MUSIC *Partita on "Jesu, meine Freude"*

Johann Walther

the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

All are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion, which is served by intinction. Congregants proceed via the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread and individual cups of juice are available at the center station), which they then dip into the chalice of nonalcoholic grape juice. Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, we will come to you in your seat.

GO, MY CHILDREN WITH MY BLESSING

This reimagining of Numbers 6:22-27 recasts the blessing spoken by God through Moses into a benediction that God might speak at the end of a worship service. The original three stanzas refer directly to the events in the worship service before the benediction.

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 AM Sunday School - All Ages  
10:00 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Removal of the Greens  
2:00 PM Revelation Bible Study

### **Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 PM AA Meeting

### **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 PM Education Ministry  
8:00 PM Worship Ministry

### **Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 PM Light of Grace

### **Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

### **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 AM Sunday School - All Ages  
10:00 AM Worship  
11:15 AM Diaconate  
Engagement Ministry  
2:00 PM Revelation Bible Study

## 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.

**Tom Evans**

**Christy Meeks**

**Jimmie Artley**

**The Snarey Family, on the death of their grandson, Michael Campbell**

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

**Milly Ball** The Atria

**Peggy Benedict** at home

**Henry Tribble** The Villages

**Ron Weber** at home, **Betty Weber** Manor Lake

**Linda Weaver** at home

**Ted & Peggy Heffner** Blueridge 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

**Removal of the Greens** Join us after worship today to remove the Christmas tree and the greens from around our campus. There will be things to do for every ability level and all are welcome!

**Heritage Exhibit** As we prepare in Vital Congregations Initiative to turn our focus to St. Andrews' present, we thank all who contributed to our Heritage Exhibit, and invite you to now retrieve your submissions from the Parlor. All items left in the Parlor after today will be moved to the work room in the office for pick up. Please contact the church office if you have any concerns.

**Revelation Bible Study Begins Today** A study of the Bible book of Revelation will be held at St. Andrews, beginning today at 2:00 PM. The recorded instruction by Bruce Gore lasts for about an hour with discussion, moderated by Arch Baker, to follow. Join us in the church library, located in the same building as the church office.

**Program on January 16th** Kimberly Rife from Longleaf Hospice will be presenting a program at Noon on Tuesday, January 16th, after the Presbyterian Women's meeting in the Meeting Room about the difference between Hospice and Palliative Care. All are welcome to attend.

**St. Andrews' Office** will be closed on January 15th for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

**Congregational Meeting** Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be during Worship on Sunday, January 28th.

## 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  
Lonnelle Bruce, Director, St. Andrews School  
Gretchen Perkins, Office Manager  
Helen Hoang, Financial Administrator

## 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.andrewspresbyterianatucker *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