

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 5, 2023

10:00 AM



### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

#### WELCOME

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* Frederick Atkinson  
Based on MORCAMBE Setting by Roy Brunner

**INTROIT 175** *Seek Ye First* LAFFERTY  
Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

#### †CALL TO WORSHIP

What is it like to begin again?

**It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.**

**It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.**

**It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.**

**It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.**

May we find God in our seeking.

**May we learn as we go.**

May we be brave enough to begin again.

**Let us worship the God of new beginnings.**

†**HYMN 483** *Dearest Jesus, We Are Here* LIEBSTER JESU

#### CONFESSING OUR SIN

Holy God of new life, you call us into unknown places,  
**and we bury our heads in the sand.**

You promise all the stars in the sky,  
**and we doubt it can be true.**

You speak of new life in the Spirit,  
**and we tell ourselves we've missed our chance.**

Over and over and over again, you invite us closer to you.

**Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes.**

**Give us the courage to begin again with you.**

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

**CHORAL PETITION 437** *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!* WAYFARING STRANGER  
**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**  
**You are the Christ, giver of mercy!**  
**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

#### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, hear and believe this good news... Today, we are made new.

Join me in saying:

**We belong to God. We are held in God's love. We are made new. Amen.**

#### WELCOME

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

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.

#### SEEK YE FIRST

This text is one of the classic examples of the 20th-century trend of setting Scripture (Matthew 6:33 in this case) to music. We usually abstain from using the word *alleluia* during Lent. However, the text and tone of this hymn are so well suited for our Lenten theme that we made an exception. Additionally, the 40 days of Lent do not include Sundays because every Sunday is a "little Easter," so *alleluia* is appropriate.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Phyllis Bearden

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12:1-4a

Pew Bible p. 9 (OT)

MUSICAL OFFERING

*God So Loved the World*

John Stainer

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

Pew Bible p. 88 (NT)

CHILDREN'S LESSON

SERMON

*Seeking: How Do We Begin Again?*

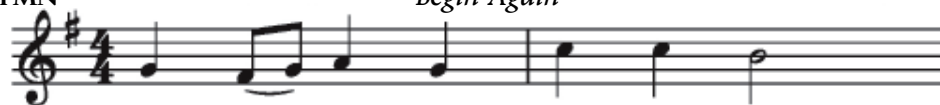
Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN

*Begin Again*

DIX



In the deep night of the soul  
In the sun - set of our life  
Ev - ery mo - ment, ev - ery hour



Rich in ques - tions, yearn - ing for  
Af - ter years of joy and strife  
Spir - it gifts us with the power



Life that mat - ters far be - yond Pick - et fen - ces  
As we pon - der le - ga - cy Won - der - ing what  
To be - gin our life a - new What then will we



and front lawns When we tire of  
we will leave When the lights are  
choose to do? Close a chap - ter,



life mun - dane We can still be - gin a - gain  
grow - ing dim We can still be - gin a - gain  
lift the pen To once more be - gin a - gain

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows,  
who welcomes our questions,  
who invites us to begin again.

We believe that Jesus showed us a new way, a deeper faith,  
a more compassionate existence.

We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation,  
and that no matter how many times we lose our way,  
God always welcomes us home. Amen.

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

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

BEGIN AGAIN

Anna Strickland of Sanctified Art wrote this original hymn text, connecting images from scripture and our Lenten theme of Seeking. The tune DIX is from the familiar hymn, *For the Beauty of the Earth*.

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LENTEN THEME AND LITURGY

This Lenten season we are following the theme, "Seeking: honest questions for deeper faith," from A Sanctified Art, LLC. This ministry believes that God speaks to us through many mediums and that creativity is an integral part of worship. They create curriculum and worship resources, including the Lenten Devotionals found in the Narthex. 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 JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S CHURCH, COMMUNITY & WORLD

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

#### Offertory Response 608

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.

TALLIS' CANON

#### Prayer of Dedication

### THE 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 684

*Faith Begins By Letting Go*

LUX PRIMA

#### †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** *Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott*  
*Come Holy Spirit, Lord God*

Andreas Armsdorf

#### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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

The invitation is not just for Presbyterians or "church members." 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. All are invited to receive the bread and cup, regardless of age or understanding, to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

Today, communion will be served by intinction. Congregants proceed via the center aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread and individual cups of juice are available), which they then dip into the chalice of non-alcoholic 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.

#### FAITH BEGINS BY LETTING GO

Like Jesus's words to Nicodemus about being "born again" and Abram's new start in Canaan, this song affirms that we begin our life of faith by letting go of anything we might claim as absolute other than God alone. Faith is not a state of being, but a process of becoming.

#### 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.

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship

### **Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 PM AA Meeting

### **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

### **Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

12:30 PM Lunch and Learn  
5:00 PM Light of Grace  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir

### **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 PM Lenten Book Study (Zoom)

### **Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 AM Lenten Book Study

### **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM Sunday School  
10:00 AM Worship  
11:15 AM Diaconate

## 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.

**Marcia Noble's daughter,  
Michelle**

**Robert Hall**

**Our new Elders and Deacons**

**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**  
Camelia Place

## 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 parlor in the Narthex has two dedicated childcare volunteers 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Book Study** It's not too late to join our Lenten Book Study. We are studying *Materiality as Resistance* by Walter Brueggemann on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM on Zoom and on Saturdays at 11:00 AM in the meeting room during Lent. Please read Chapter 2 for this week's meetings.

**Lenten Devotionals** and devotional cards are available in the narthex or in the courtyard by the door to the office. The devotional books have full-color artwork, reflections, and places to journal. The devotional cards contain scriptures and prayers for the Lenten season.

**Easter Flowers** If you would like to dedicate an Easter flower in memory or in honor of a loved one, there are dedication forms available online and in the narthex. Please note on the form if you plan to take the flower with you on Easter Sunday, or if it is a dedication only. Flowers are \$10 each. Please put 'Easter flowers' on the memo line, if paying by check.

**Lunch and Learn** Join us on Zoom Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 PM. We will be studying John 4:5-42 and Exodus 17:1-7 on 3/8/23.

**Just Creation Conference** at Columbia Seminary, March 16-19. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. See your weekly email for more information about this exciting event including the schedule, sessions and speakers, even our own Ashley Lewis.

**Rise Against Hunger** We are joining with Rise Against Hunger to pack 10,000 meals on Sunday, March 26th at 3:00 PM in Heffner Hall.

A Digital copy of this bulletin and the notes for today's music are available on our website accessible by scanning this code.



## CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Camille LeBron Powell, Pastor  
Ashley Lewis, 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

Lonnette 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.andrewspresbyterianantucker 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