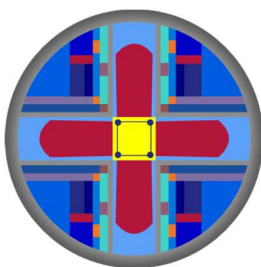


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church! If you are visiting, please complete a Visitor's Card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well. Our Minister and our Prayer Team will pray for your concerns.

Chiming of the Hour and Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: We look at this world, focusing on the pain and confusion, the fears and hatred which seem to abound.

People: For what can we hope?

Leader: We wait breathlessly for the goodness of creation to be made manifest in all the world, for this is the promise of God.

People: God is always with us, guiding, rescuing, healing, restoring us.

Leader: Get ready, dear friends, the promises of God are true.

People: Lord, quiet our spirits and open our hearts. Bring us hope and peace. Amen.

Invocation and 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.

***Opening Hymn #5**

"God, the Sculptor of the Mountains"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession"

Words/Music by Kenneth Jones

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you.

Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

It is said that confession is good for the soul, but there are times, O Lord, when we just don't want to confess, we don't want to own up to the many ways in which we have failed to be your faithful disciples. We have turned our backs on those in need. We have sought after power and riches, believing that these things bring true happiness. But you know us far too well. You know what is within our hearts and our spirits. You seek the very best for us that we might grow to be fruitful plants in your garden. Be with us. Forgive us when we have failed to love and treat others with respect and compassion. Turn our hearts back toward you, who always reaches out to us offering healing and love. These things we ask in Jesus' Name.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Great news has come to us, dear friends. God, who is faithful and just, who cherishes us as we are, seeks restoration and healing for those broken places in our lives, forgives and loves us unconditionally. Receive that good news!

People: Thanks be to God!

***Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)**

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources

Offertory

***Doxology (#606)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

(Children that have not yet finished 5th Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Special Music

"God So Loved"
Words and Music by Jay Stocker

Kenneth Jones

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:12-25

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

"We Are Family"

Jeff Gilstrap

Responding to God's Word

***Affirmation of Our Faith (Apostle's Creed – Unison)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Responsive Hymn #215

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Time of Reflection, Meditation, Personal Prayer

Margaret Borry

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #48 (repeat twice)

“Rain Down”

*Charge and Blessing

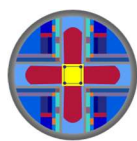
*Congregational Benediction #539

“We Will Go Out With Joy”

*Postlude

* Congregation Standing

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



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Presbyterian Church

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Jeff Gilstrap, Pastor
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music
Millie Shiflett, Accompanist

Karlee Tate, Director of Youth & Communications
Joyce Johnson, CDC Director

Richard Balentine, Elder of Administration
Margaret Borry, Elder of Congregational Care
Dana Tate, Elder of Christian Formation
Russell Truluck, Elder of Facilities Management
Dana Tate, Lay Leader