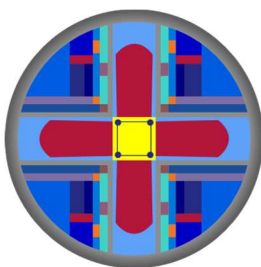


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 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

L: Come, the banquet of hope and praise is ready. P: We come on your invitation, seeking to be fed.

L: Feed on the love of God in Jesus Christ. P: We come on your invitation, needing healing.

L: Be healed by God's gracious mercy. P: We come on your invitation, longing for forgiveness.

L: In Jesus' Name, you are loved, healed, and forgiven P: Alleluia, Praise be to God. Amen.

Invocation 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.

*Opening Hymn #794

"O Savior, in This Quiet Place"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession"

Words/Music by Kenneth Jones

(front cover of hymnal)

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)

Confession is not an easy or a pleasant thing to do. We would like to think that we have been good and faithful disciples, following your way. But we know in our hearts the many ways in which we have turned our backs on you and rejected your will for us. Like the people in the wilderness, we create for ourselves idols and worship them, only to discover their shallowness and emptiness for our lives. And we wonder what went wrong. Stop us in our tracks, O Lord. Help us to be open to your will for our lives. We know what you want us to do. Give us the persistence and the courage to do your will. Heal us from our wayward actions and attitudes. Remind us that we must reach out to others in compassion and peace. Merciful God, come to us this day with your healing power and help us again to be your disciples, offering hope and peace to your hurting and wounded world. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: God, who has never strayed from you, is with you. God will heal your hearts and direct your steps. Place your life in God's loving care.

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 1st Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Special Music

"Without Him"
Arr. Mary McDonald

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Matthew 6:5-15

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

Dr. Becky Covington

"Our Prayers"

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 #470

“There Is a Longing in Out Hearts”

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

Kenneth Jones

Sending Out Into the World

Congregational Meeting

Dana Tate, acting Moderator

(recommendation from ONC for next class of Elders)

*Sending Hymn #469

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #536 (v.2)

“Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen”

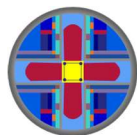
*Postlude

* Congregation Standing

Sanctuary Flowers: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Sue Oakes, in memory of her beloved

Sam who lost his battle against dementia and other illness but was granted the peace he so richly deserved.

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.



St. Andrews
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
Jennifer Massey, Lay Leader