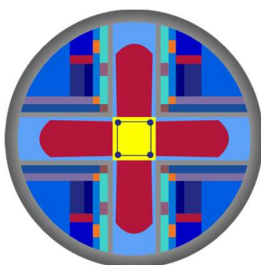


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

Baptism of our Lord

January 14, 2024

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your info online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well.

***Congregation stands as noted**

Chiming of the Hour and Introit

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (from Genesis 1 and Mark 1)

Leader: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

People: **The Spirit of God swept over the face of the waters;**

Leader: then God said: Let there be light, and God saw that it was good.

People: **At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was baptized by John.**

Leader: The heavens opened, and the Spirit descended like a dove;

People: then God said: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

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 #**

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)

Creating God, we cannot look at our lives, our communities, or the world around us without seeing the fractures and brokenness that reflect the reality of sin. You created the earth and called it good, but it now groans, awaiting redemption and re-creation under the weight of our greed, abuse, and carelessness. You created humanity in your image, and called us very good, but we have ignored the image of God in each other. We have created, maintained, and benefitted from unjust systems built on divisions based on race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity and more. You poured out your love in Jesus Christ, who showed us how to live and how to love, but we continue to make our own path, follow our own desires, and neglect to love others as Christ loves us. Lord, have mercy. Rend the heavens. Re-create us now. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: The heavens part, the waters swirl and the dove descends, reminding us that we, too, are God's beloved children. We are covered by God's grace and forgiven in Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen!

***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.

***Transition Hymn #627**

"I Love You, Lord"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

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

(see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

***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.

Time of Reflection, Meditation, Prayer

(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

"Be Still"

Chancel Choir

Text by Herb Fromback (based on Psalm 46:10), Music by Mary McDonald

Scripture Reading

Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

Rev. Preston Shealy

"Jump Right In"

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 #482**

“Baptized in Water”

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.

Prayers for the People

Dana Tate

Sending Out Into the World

***Sending Hymn**

“I Went Down to the River to Pray”

Chorus: As I went down to the River to pray, studyin’ about that good ol’ way

And who shall wear the starry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

O sinners, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down. O sinners let go down, down to the river to pray.

Chorus

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Benediction #541 (v.2)**

“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

***Postlude**

Sanctuary Flowers – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by contributor in honor/celebration of person or event.

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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Preston Shealy, Interim Pastor
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music
Millie Shiflett, Accompanist
Karlee Tate, Director of 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
Ann Paschall, Lay Leader