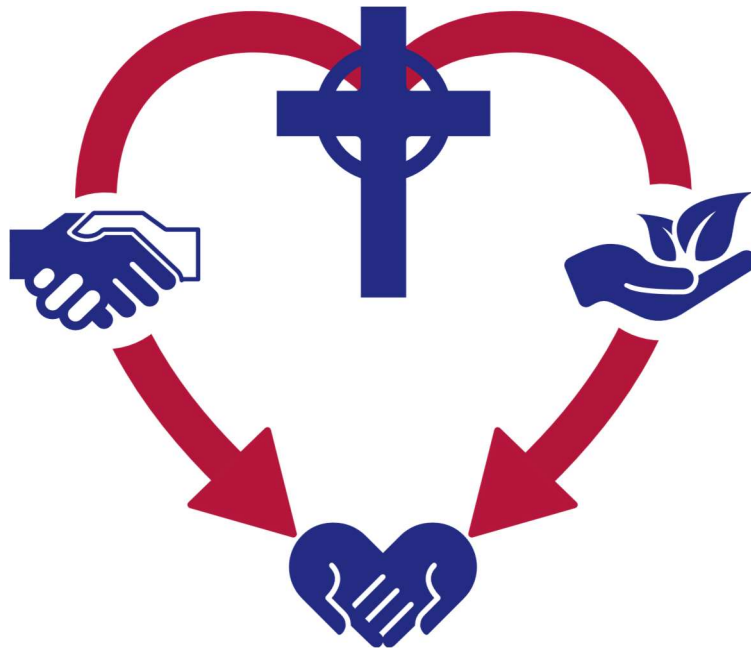
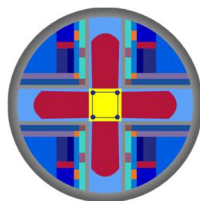


We are imperfect believers, passionate  
about sharing the love of Christ:  
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



**A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 28, 2024**

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop 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.



**St. Andrews**  
Presbyterian Church

# We Gather to Worship God

\*Congregation stands as noted

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

**People: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**

Leader: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

**People: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**

**Invocation**

\*Opening Hymn #276

“Sing a New Song Unto the Lord”

## We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

**Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - “Confession”**  
(front cover of hymnal)

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)**

Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, yet we realize it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, yet we know they won't bring satisfaction. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it.

Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.

**Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession**

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

**People: Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, and a new life has begun. Know we are forgiven and be at peace.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! 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.

(remain standing)

**\*Transition Hymn #59**

**"The Steadfast Love of the 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.

**God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed**

Scripture Reading

John 15:1-8

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

Special Music

"The Gift of Love"  
arr. Hal Hopson

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

1 John 4:7-21

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

"John's Response"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

1 John 4:7a

**Responding to God's Word**

**\*Affirmation of Our Faith** (adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.

\*Responsive Hymn #316

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

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 and Lord's Prayer

Kenneth Jones

Respond: 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.

## Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #48

"Rain Down"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction #246 (v.1)

"Christ Is Alive!"

\*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary today by Leila Moore in honor of her children and her grandson.

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.



Rev. Preston Shealy, Bridge Interim Pastor  
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music  
Millie Shiflett, Accompanist  
Ann Paschall, Lay Leader

