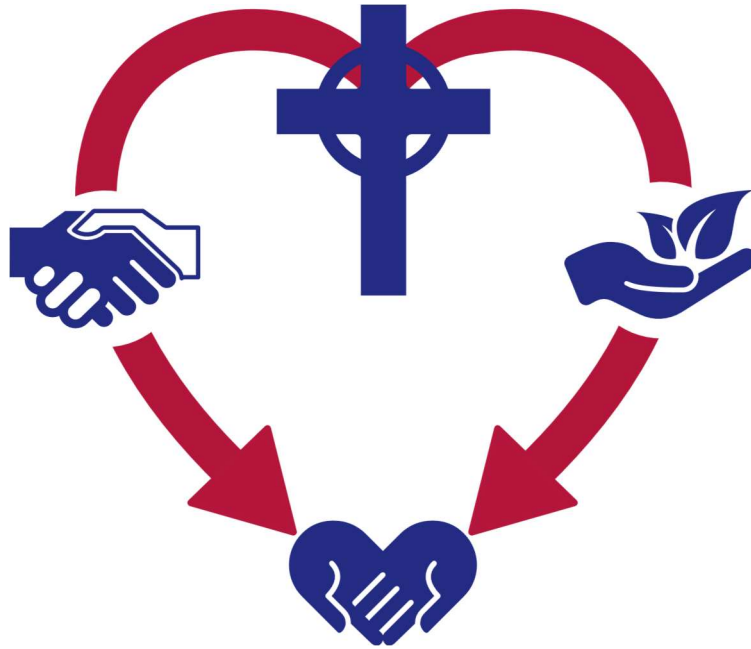
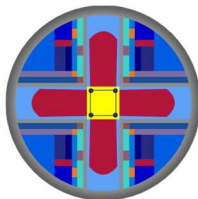


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sacrament of Holy Communion
May 5, 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, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



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 come to join with all the earth in praise:

People: to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.

Leader: We praise the Lord with joyful noises joining the symphony of the earth:

People: the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills, people in every corner of the globe.

Leader: On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

All: we greet you with joy, our living God!

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #371

“New Songs of Celebration Render”

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)

Merciful God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us... a faith that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. Nourish us again so that we may blossom with a whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with your joy. Confident in the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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! The only one who could judge us calls us friends. Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

People: By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

All: Let us live as God's forgiven children. Alleluia! 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.

(*remain standing)

***Transition Hymn #75 (v.1)**

"We Give Thanks to You"

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

1 John 5:1-6

Special Music

**"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"
Jan Sanborn**

Kenneth Jones

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed following this time)

Scripture Reading

John 15:9-17

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

"No Greater Love"

***Affirmation of Faith** (from the *Belhar Confession*)

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ. We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another. We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

Responding to God's Word

***Hymn of Preparation for Communion #537**

"When at This Table"

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Sending Out Into the World

***Sending Hymn #761**

"Called As Partners in Christ's Service"

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Benediction #246 (v.1)**

"Christ Is Alive!"

***Postlude**

Sanctuary Flowers: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Sandee Cribbs, for her daughter, Elizabeth Stroud's 25th birthday. "So proud of the woman she has become."

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
Rita Batman, Lay Leader

