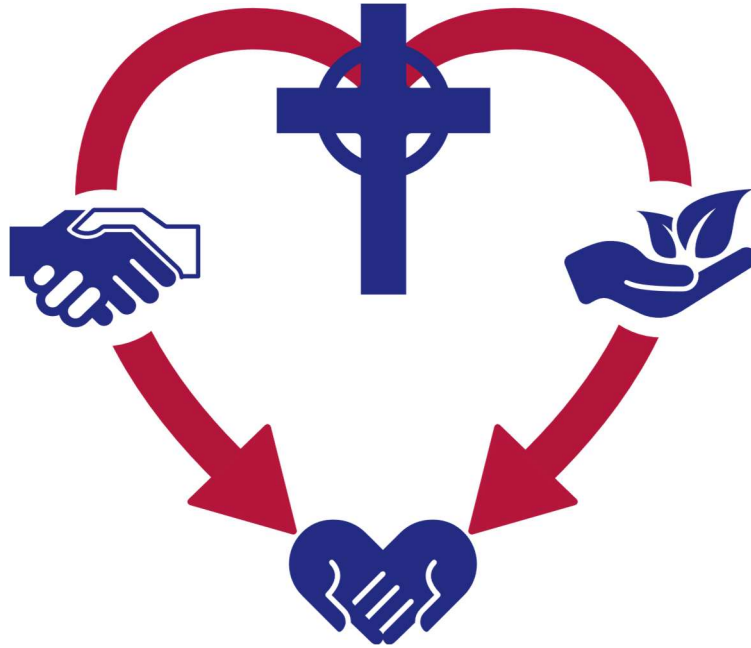
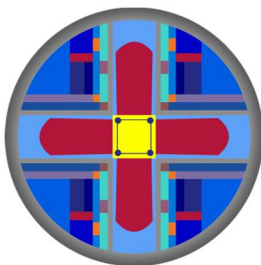


We are imperfect believers, passionate  
about sharing the love of Christ:  
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



**A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**March 23, 2025**

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

Prelude

“Simple Song”

Leonard Bernstein  
Siri Howard

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: The shepherd calls all his friends and neighbors, and says to them,

**People: "Rejoice with me, for I found my sheep that was lost."**

Leader: The woman calls all her friends and neighbors, and says to them,

**People: "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost."**

Leader: Just so, I tell you, there is more joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

**People: Just so, I tell you that there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. Amen.**

Invocation

\*Opening Hymn #415

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

## 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)

God who runs to greet us, we are like lost sheep who wander in the wilderness. We are like rebellious younger sons: demanding what we think we are entitled to and squandering our fortunes on ourselves. We are like obedient older sons: being jealous of those who get what we think we are entitled to and squandering opportunities for relationship and reconciliation. Help us to be like the father, shepherd, woman, and angels: searching out those who are lost and hurting, embracing those who wander, and celebrating when they return. Amen.

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

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

**People: Amen.**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Throw a party!, Let us eat and celebrate! For we were dead and are alive again, we were lost and now we are found! Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**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.**

### **\*Transition Hymn #629**

**"As the Deer"**

## **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 God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

### **Time for Young Disciples**

(Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church and Bible Builds)

### **Special Music**

**"How Beautiful Are the Feet"**

George Frideric Handel, [*Messiah*, Part II, No. 38]

Siri Howard

### **Scripture Reading**

**Luke 15:1-32**

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Proclamation of God's Word**

**Rev. AJ Ochart**

**"God is Bad at Math"**

## Responding to God's Word

\*Affirmation of Our Faith: Belhar Confession 10.1-2, 5-6, 9 (Insert)

\*Responsive Hymn #418

“Softly and Tenderly”

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Luke 15:4-7

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

Ann Paschall

Respond: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kin(g)dom 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 kin(g)dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #212

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction

“Love Will Be Our Lenten Calling”

sung to the PICARDY tune (“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”), words by Elizabeth Smith

Peace will be our Lenten living as we turn for home again,  
longing for the words of pardon, stripping off old grief and pain,  
till we stand, restored and joyful, with the Church on Easter day.

\*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Sandee Cribbs in honor of “the most amazing mother in the universe; Happy Birthday Shelby Wood!”

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. AJ Ochart, Pastor  
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music  
Dana Tate, Lay Leader

