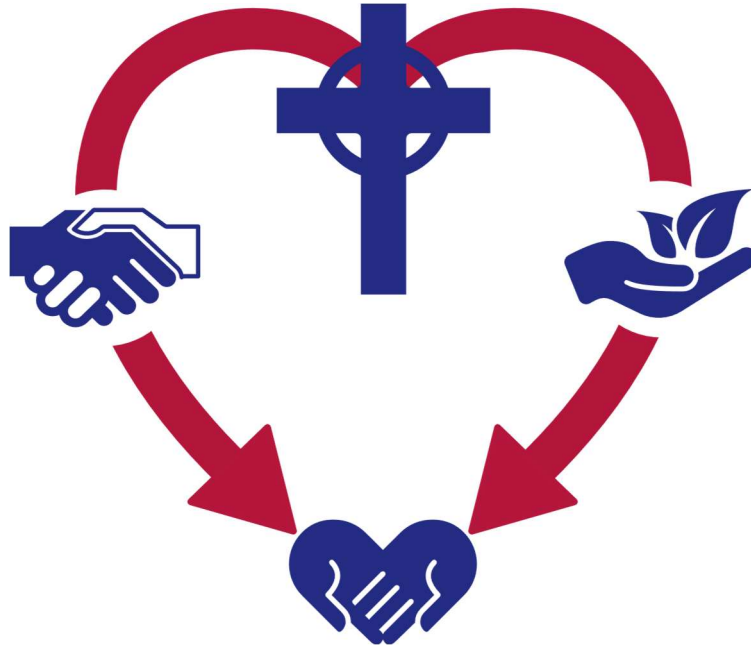
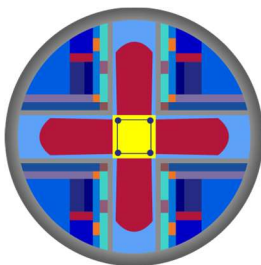


**We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.**



**A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Dedication of Gilstrap Family Prayer Garden
May 18, 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**

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;

People: from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up,

Leader: so that all other peoples may seek the Lord-

People: even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called.

Leader: Thus says the Lord,

People: who has been making these things known from long ago. Amen.

Invocation

***Opening Hymn #774**

"Now There Is a New Creation"

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)

God of grace, you have saved us through faith in Jesus the Christ. Our ancestors were not able to bear the yoke of your righteousness, and neither can we; yet in Christ you give us another yoke that is easy and lite. We admit that we struggle between Law and Grace, between an earned salvation and one freely given. We set standards and rules that you did not, and expect others to bear the heavy burdens that we ourselves are not willing to bear. Help us to receive and extend the grace that you have freely given to us, while we also receive and extend your call to lives of righteousness. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon (Romans 3:21-22)**

Leader: But now, irrespective of the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel, in Jesus the 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 #75**

"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 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

"The Great Commission"
words and music by Jay Stocker

Kenneth Jones

Scripture Reading

Acts 15:1-18

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

"Open Letter"

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn of Preparation #406

"We Are Standing on Holy Ground"

Dedication of the Gilstrap Family Prayer Garden

Opening Sentences (Genesis 28, Ps 61)

Leader: Surely the LORD is in this place and we did not know it!

People: This is none other than the house of God, the gate of heaven.

Leader: Let us abide in the tents of our God, finding refuge under the shelter of holy wings.

People: So we will always sing praises to God's name, as we live out our vows day by day.

Gathering Prayer

Remembrance of Baptism

Dedication

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

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #246 (v.2)

"Christ Is Alive!"

*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Michael and Ann in memory of their mothers, Peggy Paschall and Millie Garrison.

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

