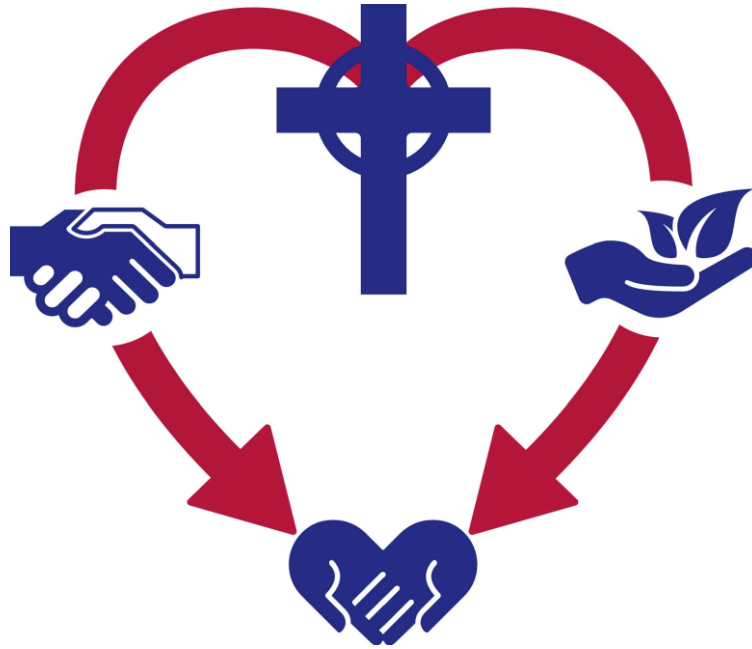
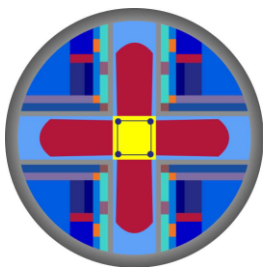


**We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.**



**A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 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 (Genesis 28 CEB)

Leader: The LORD is definitely in this place, but I didn't know it.

People: This sacred place is awesome. It's none other than God's house and the entrance of heaven. Amen.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #403

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

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 of blessing. You have created the world with abundance, providing all that we need. You have called us, along with our ancestors, to faithfulness and to be a blessing for all the peoples of the earth. Yet we seek to restrict and control your blessing, deciding who should be blessed and how. We insist that the fatness of the earth is actually scarcity, and hoard what you have freely given. We create intricate systems and structures which take from those with little, and gives to those who already have. We are forced to see ourselves in intricate webs of power, intersections of oppression in which we lord over or are forced to serve. We are cursed to live by the sword, taking up arms against a sea of troubles until we die.

By your mercy break us loose. Break the yokes we find around our necks, the yokes of oppression and the yokes of oppressor; and to instead take up your yoke, easy and light. Give us deep solidarity with one another so that we might share in your abundance. Help us to use the blessings we have been given so that all may flourish as your image bearers. Help us to know your presence in this place, and wherever we may go. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Ah, the smell of my children is like the field that the LORD has blessed. May God give you the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine. 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 (Genesis 33)**

Leader: Truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God. Let us greet one another with a passing of the peace. 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 #637 (v.1)**

"O Sing to 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 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

Chancel Choir

"Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace"

Words by St. Francis of Assisi, Music by Lloyd Larson

Scripture Reading

Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17

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

"Blessings and Curses"

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn of Preparation for Baptism #490

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

Remembrance of Baptism

Lord's Prayer

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 #56

"Sing Out Our Joy to God Our Strength"

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #313 (v.3)

"Lord, Make us More Holy"

*Postlude

Sanctuary Flowers – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Patrick Bridges in honor of Luneill
Bridges and Don Bridges' 85th birthdays.

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
Shannon Bryan, Accompanist
Joey Tate, Lay Leader

