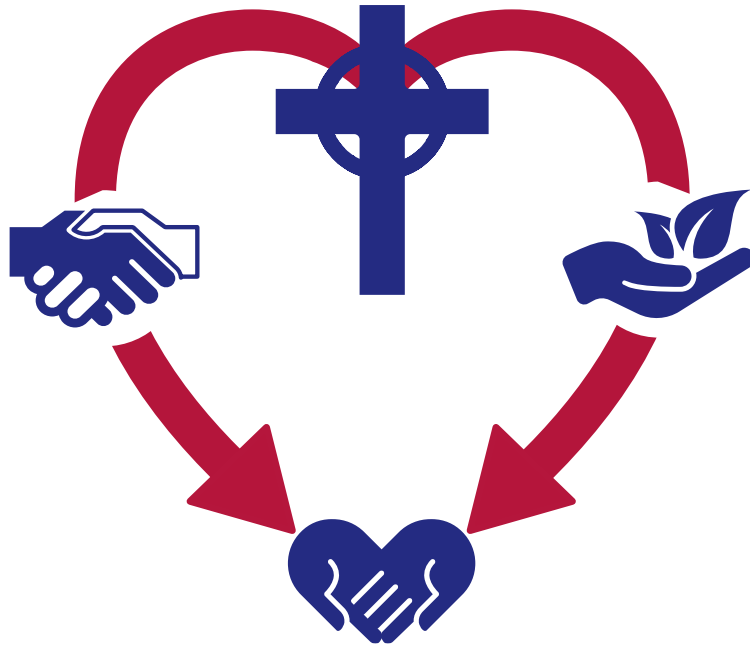
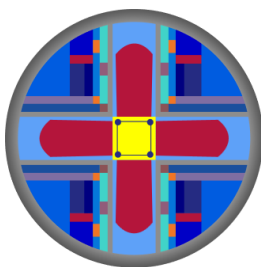


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026

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 (Matthew 5 based on CEB)

Leader: Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

People: Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.

Leader: Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.

People: Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.

Leader: Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.

People: Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.

Leader: Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God's children.

People: Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad and false things about you, all because of me. Be full of joy and be glad, because you have a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you. Amen.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #774

"There Is Now a New Creation"

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)

Lord Jesus, you came to call us as peacemakers. You came to invite us into a kin-dom built on righteousness and justice, a kingdom opposed to the violence and coercion of earthly kingdoms, a reign that would last forever. You came and suffered the violence of empire, died at the hands of small-minded men, you were vindicated in the empty grave, and call us to lives of resurrection; taking up our own crosses and following the way of Christ. But we have too often made crosses instead of bearing them, we have been small-minded, we have brought violence, we have become empire. In the silence of this moment, speak to us of your peaceable kin-dom, and call us again to non-violent resistance...

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again?
You are the light of the world. let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven. 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 #31**

"Let Us With Gladsome Mind"

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

AJ Ochart, Kenneth Jones

**"Light of a Clear Blue Morning"
words and music by Dolly Parton**

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:38-48; 16:21-28; 27:11-14; 28:16-20

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

"The Way of the Cross"

Responding to God's Word

***Response Hymn #753**

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

***Affirmation of Our Faith (Confession of 1967 – Unison)**

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful [people]. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment under which all [people] stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all [humanity]...

The risen Christ is the Savior for all [people]. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations.

The same Jesus Christ is the judge of all [people]. His judgment discloses the ultimate seriousness of life and gives promise of God's final victory over the power of sin and death. To receive life from the risen Lord is to have life eternal; to refuse life from him is to choose the death which is separation from God. All who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Respond: 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 #846**

"Fight the Good Fight"

Congregational Meeting

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Benediction #765**

"May the God of Hope Go With Us"

***Postlude**

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
Joey Tate, Lay Leader



