

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ENEMIES OF GRATITUDE

Nostalgia

Exodus 17:1-7



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*Please note that all text in **bold** is spoken in unison.*

† Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.

September 20, 2026

10:30AM

WELCOME! What a delight that you are here! We hope you will experience the love of Jesus and the joy of community in this time of worship. If we can be of help to you, please let us know. We would love to assist you in finding ways to get involved and grow in your faith.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (*You are invited to pray this prayer in silence.*)

Gracious God, quiet our hearts and open our spirits to Your presence. Free us from longing for what was and awaken us to the gifts of this day. As we worship, teach us to trust Your provision, receive Your mercy, and respond with gratitude. Amen.

PRELUDE

O Worship the King

arr. Robert Frost

LIFE AT ST. ANDREW'S

† CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 43:18-21

One: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

Many: God is doing a new thing; even now it springs forth.

One: When we are tempted to live in the past, God opens a way in the wilderness.

Many: When gratitude is crowded out by longing, God gives rivers in the desert.

All: Let us worship the God who is present here and now, the One who provides, renews, and makes all things new.

† HYMN 446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

Glorious things of Thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken, Formed Thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded, What can shake Thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all Thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,
Well supply Thy sons and daughters And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver, Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering, See the cloud and fire appear,
For a glory and a covering, Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them when they pray.

† INVITATION TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that when life feels hard, uncertain, or dry, we are tempted to look backward more than we look for You. We remember the past selectively. We romanticize what was familiar, even when it was not truly life-giving, and we let nostalgia cloud our gratitude for what You are doing now. Forgive us for grumbling when we are afraid. Forgive us for testing Your faithfulness when we cannot see the next provision. Forgive us for missing the gifts of this day because we are longing for another time, another place, or another version of our lives. Let grace flow where resentment has gathered. Teach us to trust Your presence in the wilderness, and to receive today's mercies with open hands.

† ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

† HYMN 579

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children are invited to meet at the courtyard doors for Children's Church in Room 304.

ANTHEM

Blessings Abound

by Pepper Choplin

The rising of the morning, the peace of setting sun,
The changing of the seasons as nature cycles run,
The joy of simple beauty will fill our open eyes,
As gratitude spills over, we come to realize:
Refrain: Blessings abound, blessings will fill our days.
We raise the sound of thanks and joyful praise. We thank You, Lord,
You are the source of every gift that we have found. Blessings abound.
The love of friends and family who we are blessed to know,
The caring love and comfort that will between us flow.
Through peacefulness and conflict,
It's strong enough to stand,
Love is the greatest treasure provided by Your hand.
This life is a garden of blessings You supply,
So teach us now to cherish the wondrous gift of life.
When gratitude is blinded by trouble and despair,
Lead us to new thanksgiving and help us do declare;
Wonderful blessings abound!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

Pew Bible p. 62
Large Print p. 105

SERMON

Nostalgia

† HYMN 383

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior Divine:
Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away, O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart, My zeal inspire;
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee, Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn today, Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

[GIVE ONLINE](#)

† HYMN 592

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† HYMN STF 2001

We Sing to You, O God

DARWALL'S 148TH

We sing to You, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,
Let our rejoicing sing Your name in all the earth.
To You, O God, let songs be raised, in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

We wandered far from home, out in a desert land,
You shielded with Your love our fearful pilgrim band.
You kept us safe within Your arms and sheltered us against the storm.

You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
Who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.
We ride the vaults of light and air and trust in Your unfailing care.

† BENEDICTION

† SENDING SONG

The World Abounds with God's Free Grace

FOREST GREEN

Lord, teach us all an attitude that thanks You all our days,
A love that shows our gratitude through deeds that live our praise.

You are encouraged to sit and enjoy the postlude after the sending song.

POSTLUDE

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Robert Frost

We thank our Youth for leading us in worship today: Zoe Odle, Dorisa Neely, Mirabelle Wiemers,
William Armstrong, Sarah Pember, Zachary Armstrong, and Jude Reese.

We thank Avery Fontenot (violin), Josiah Fontenot (cello), Sophia Jarrell (cello),
and Martha Giarratano (cello) for sharing their gift of music with us today.

Please use the **CONNECT** cards in the pews to let us know about prayer requests or areas of interest. If you are a visitor, please also include your contact information and help us get to know you better! You can place completed cards in the offering baskets.

The **NURSERY** is located near the sanctuary and is available for children ages 0-4. Children's activity bulletins and **LARGE PRINT** bulletins, Bibles, and hymnals are available on the sanctuary tables.

Join us for our **FALL LUNCHEON** TODAY after worship. The menu is gumbo, rice, potato salad, bread, and banana pudding.

All women are invited to join the **2026-2027 PW BIBLE STUDY** on Tuesday, September 22 at 10:00AM in the parlor. We will continue with Lesson Two: Connected in Christ.

Help us wish Betty Wells a Happy 100th Birthday in a **WALK THROUGH PARADE** at her home on Saturday, September 26 from 10AM to 12PM.

We will collect the **PCUSA PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING** on October 4 for World Communion Sunday. This offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ.

The **CHANCEL FLOWERS** today were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hope Heckel (Snowball), by her great-granddaughter, Tara Thompson.

St. Andrew's Prayer List

MEMBERS: Stan Ruth, Maryann Sweeney, Bob Fisher, James Wright, Barbara Abel, Pat Richard, Bobbie Wied

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Tenisha Humphrey, Carol Gober, Betty Richey, Laura Assunto, Family of Pam Martin, Family of Billie P. Smith, Elizabeth Everett Baird, Marcia Denton, Jean and Ron Williamson, George Busceme, Charlie and Judy Monaghan, Janet Dexter, Kathy Isabell, Bruce Williams, John Florio, Haywood Walker, Alison Berry Low, Jacob Walton, Madeline Johnson, Erika Russell, Mary Kennedy, Jack Dillard, Erin Lenhart, Janie N. Verderame

St. Andrew's Calendar

Sunday, September 20, 2026

9:00AM Choir Rehearsal
9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Worship
11:30AM Fall Luncheon
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal
3:00PM Boy Scouts

Monday, September 21, 2026

5:30PM Strings After School
6:00PM GT Square Dancers

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

10:00AM PW Bible Study
5:30PM Strings After School

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

9:30AM Day School Chapel
5:30PM AA Group
5:30PM SA Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, September 24, 2026

8:30AM MOW Cooks
10:00AM MOW Delivers
6:00PM GT Handbell Ensemble
6:00PM AA Group

Sunday, September 27, 2026

9:00AM Choir Rehearsal
9:15AM Sunday School
10:30AM Worship
11:45AM Choir Rehearsal
3:00PM Boy Scouts
4:30PM Youth Group

CHURCH STAFF

Tara Thompson, Pastor
Thomas Furlow, Music Director
Tori Armstrong, Day School Director
Jessica Meitzen, Admin Assistant
Katrina Strong, Custodian
Patricia Williamson, Accompanist

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30AM - 4:30PM
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