



# ST. ANDREW UCC

Welcome, Worship, Service

**May 17, 2026**

**Worship 10:30 am**



*"Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words." - Francis of Assisi*

### **Welcome to worship with St. Andrew United Church of Christ.**

We treasure our diversity, believing each person enriches us. You are invited to share in our connection to God and to each other as we gather for worship of the One who is worthy of our love and devotion.

- We are an **Open and Affirming** church. We covenant to affirm and welcome visitors, members, and staff of all sexual orientations and gender identities, just as we extend the same loving affirmation and welcome to people of every age, faith, race, ethnicity, sex, nationality, marital status, and physical or mental ability.
- We are a **Just Peace** church. We promote peace with justice (a just peace) as an expression of God's love, and we support peaceful opposition to intolerance, injustice, discrimination, violence, and war.

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**PRELUDE** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Bonnie Wolfgram  
- Wyeth, NETTLETON, arr. Pepper Choplin

**WELCOME** Rev. Bill Friederich

**OPENING SCRIPTURE** Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (NKJV) Peggy Pancake

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Peggy Pancake

One: In this season of the year, there is the lengthening of daylight. There is the wetness of large spring raindrops.

**Many: There is the hum of hovering insects. There is the warm wind that hints of summer's coming heat.**

One: These things are real and true.

**Many: In every season of growing faith, there is the love of God. There is the stunning power of gracious goodness.**

One: There is the movement of the Spirit in our midst.

**Many: There is the bold beckoning of God's will.**

**All: These things are real and true. As we gather to worship, thanks be to God. AMEN.**

**HYMN** All Creatures of Our God and King  
*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION** Peggy Pancake  
**O God of power and majesty, as the seas roars, your name is praised. Waves pounding the shore remind us of your grandeur. By your creative design, birds fly, fish swim and creatures in forests and meadows leap and run. All creation chants in praise of your plan for them. As you make our joy complete in the gift of Christ, we worship you God, with all our hearts and voices in songs of glad adoration. AMEN.**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** Rev. Bill

**SERMON SCRIPTURE** Acts 1:1-14 (MSG) Rev. Bill

**SERMON** "Live your Faith, and Let It Speak for Itself" Rev. Bill

**ANTHEM** Peace Like a River St. Andrew Choir  
- American Folk Song, arr. Jay Althouse

## **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

*Please write your prayer concerns or celebrations on the blue prayer request forms located in the pew rack and place them in the offering plate.*

**LORD'S PRAYER** *(using these or whatever words are familiar to you)*

**Our Father and Mother in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **PASSING OF PEACE**

*Not everyone is comfortable with physical contact. Please refrain from hugging or touching anyone without consent.*

### **LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH**

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our parent, family all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my silent vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me!

### **BENEDICTION**

"May the presence of God go before us." (3X)

### **POSTLUDE**

To God Be the Glory

Bonnie Wolfgram

- William H. Doane, arr. John Carter

**Please take note of the two (2) emergency exits, located on either side of the Sanctuary. There is also an exit to the left of the choir loft.**

**The entrance doors in the Gathering Area may be used as emergency exits, as well.**

## Acts 1:1-14 (MSG)

Dear Theophilus, in the first volume of this book I wrote on everything that Jesus began to do and teach until the day he said good-bye to the apostles, the ones he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. After his death, he presented himself alive to them in many different settings over a period of forty days. In face-to-face meetings, he talked to them about things concerning the kingdom of God. As they met and ate meals together, he told them that they were on no account to leave Jerusalem but “must wait for what the Father promised: the promise you heard from me. John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. And soon.”

When they were together for the last time they asked, “Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?”

He told them, “You don’t get to know the time. Timing is the Father’s business. What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.”

These were his last words. As they watched, he was taken up and disappeared in a cloud. They stood there, staring into the empty sky. Suddenly two men appeared—in white robes! They said, “You Galileans!—why do you just stand here looking up at an empty sky? This very Jesus who was taken up from among you to heaven will come as certainly—and mysteriously—as he left.”

So they left the mountain called Olives and returned to Jerusalem. It was a little over half a mile. They went to the upper room they had been using as a meeting place:

Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James, son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, Judas, son of James.

They agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer, the women included. Also Jesus’ mother, Mary, and his brothers.



The Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi

# All Creatures of Our God and King 22

*Unison*

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us  
 2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n a-  
 3. O flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your God to  
 4. And all for-giv-en ten-der hearts, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your

*Harmony* *Unison*

sing; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en  
 long, O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia! O ris-ing morn, in praise re-  
 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O blaz-ing fire who lights the  
 part, sing prais-es, Al-le-lu-ia! You who long pain and sor-row

*Refrain (Harmony)*

beam, O sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam,  
 joice, you lights of eve-ning find a voice, O praise God,  
 night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight,  
 bear, praise God, who knows your ev-'ry care.

*Unison*

O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

WORDS: Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 88.44.88 w. refrain

## **Announcements**

**Visitors** Welcome! We are pleased you are worshipping with us today. We already feel you are part of our family, and we invite you to continue to get to know St. Andrew by joining us at Fellowship Brunch after worship. Please take a moment to sign the Guest Book in the Gathering Area, and feel free to take one of the stuffed bears as a welcome gift.

**Fellowship Brunch** Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall.

**Book Study Group** Each Thursday 10:00am [Thursday Book Group](#)  
**Beads and Bears Craft** Each Thursday 11:00am Conference Room  
**Thursday Lunch Break** Each Thursday 12:00pm Bring your lunch and join us!

**Memorial Day** Monday, May 25 Office Closed

**Church Council** Tuesday, May 26 11:00am  
Conference Room and Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82859030988>

**Blood Drive** Thursday, May 28 9:00-1:00  
Look for the bus in the parking lot!

**Mission of the Month: Project 180** If you wish to donate, you may do so in worship, in the office, or on our website. Scan this QR Code to reach our Giving Page, and then scroll down to the monthly mission.



**NOTE: All service music Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-731176. All rights reserved.**



**ST. ANDREW UCC**  
Welcome, Worship, Service

Rev. Bill Friederich, Pastor Cell: 207-669-5353 Email: [bfriederich@yahoo.com](mailto:bfriederich@yahoo.com)

Bonnie Wolfgram, Interim Music Director Email: [bonnie.wolfgram@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie.wolfgram@gmail.com)

Kate Eichorst, Church Administrator Office: 941-922-7595 Email: [office@sarasotaucc.org](mailto:office@sarasotaucc.org)

Craig Bray, Sexton

**6908 Beneva Rd., Sarasota FL 34238**  
**Facebook.com/sarasotaucc**  
**www.sarasotaucc.org**