ST. ANDREW UCC
Welcome, Worship, Service

August 2, 2026
Communion Sunday
Worship 10:30 am

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 Give Me Jesus Bonnie Wolfgram
(Traditional American Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes)

WELCOME

OPENING SCRIPTURE Psalm 100 (CEB) Bah Hero

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us remember those gone before, whose souls are in the hands of God.

Many: In the eyes of fools they seem to have died and are gone; in the eyes of sages they are always with us.

One: In the eyes of fools their death was destruction; in the minds of sages, transformation.

Many: They were embattled; they are at peace. They were fatigued; they are at rest.

One: They were distressed, they are at ease. They were alone; they are one with God.

Many: In life they struggled with their own mortality; in death they yield to immortality.

One: In life they dimmed, their bodies tarnished; in death they shine, their spirits burnished.

Many: Like gold in the furnace they were tried and tested; like gold in a wheat field they reached the harvest.

One: Yes, let us remember those gone before,

All: Whose souls are in the hands of God, where suffering and pain will never touch them. AMEN.

HYMN Come, Thou Almighty King (v. 1,3,4) *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION
O God, this earth is yours in all its fullness, this world and all who dwell in it, for you are its Creator, its father and mother; you O God, are its life and sustainer. So who shall dare to ascend the mountain and meet with you face to face? And who shall stand in your holy place, where bushes burn and are not consumed? We enter before you in grace, and shall dare as others have dared. We stand as others have stood. We dare because we trust you, and we shall stand because we love you. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 4:6-5:1 (CEB)

SERMON "God Goes Fishing!" Rev. Bill Friederich

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC Give Thanks (Henry Smith)

*Today's service prayers are from Worship Ways, UCC

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.

ANTHEM At the Table of the Lord (Jay Althouse) St. Andrew Choir

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
INVITATION
ONE: Creator of all that is, on this Communion Sunday, we enter into worship with words of gratitude.
MANY: Thank you for the invitation to join with others at this table.
ONE: Thank you for being our gracious host who welcomes us as we are.
MANY: Thank you for the nourishment of a living bread that never goes stale.
ONE: Thank you for the cup of blessing that never drains empty, which quenches the deepest thirsts of our spirits.
ALL: Thank you for the companionship shared at your table, for the fellowship of faith that makes friends of strangers throughout the earth. For communion with you and with one another, we offer heartfelt thanks. AMEN.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: O God, we would be true. Hear our prayer. As we respond to the good news, grant us a gentle enthusiasm. Forgive us when we lapse into a style of faith that draws attention to ourselves rather than to you. Help us to walk with a spirited humility.

As we respond to the good news, grant us increasing reliance upon you. We may commit a few spectacular sins, but we need to discern and acknowledge the less apparent sins that are easier to ignore.

Charge our worship with attentiveness, alertness, and awareness. Grant us a sense of grace that we might understand your ways and serve your people. In Christ's name we pray. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE: A rigid, unmusical God would be unmoved by our words of confession. How great it is that the one and only God has an ear for music, is free with forgiveness, and is always open to our glad songs of praise. AMEN.

COMMUNION PRAYER AND CONSECRATION OF ELEMENTS

SHARING THE ELEMENTS
People are invited to come to the table and take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the elements will be brought to you.

COMMUNION MUSIC Lamb of God (Twila Paris, arr. Joel Raney)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Many: Thank you God, for the gift of life and the sacredness of living. Thank you for the holy meal we have shared with you and with each other. 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!

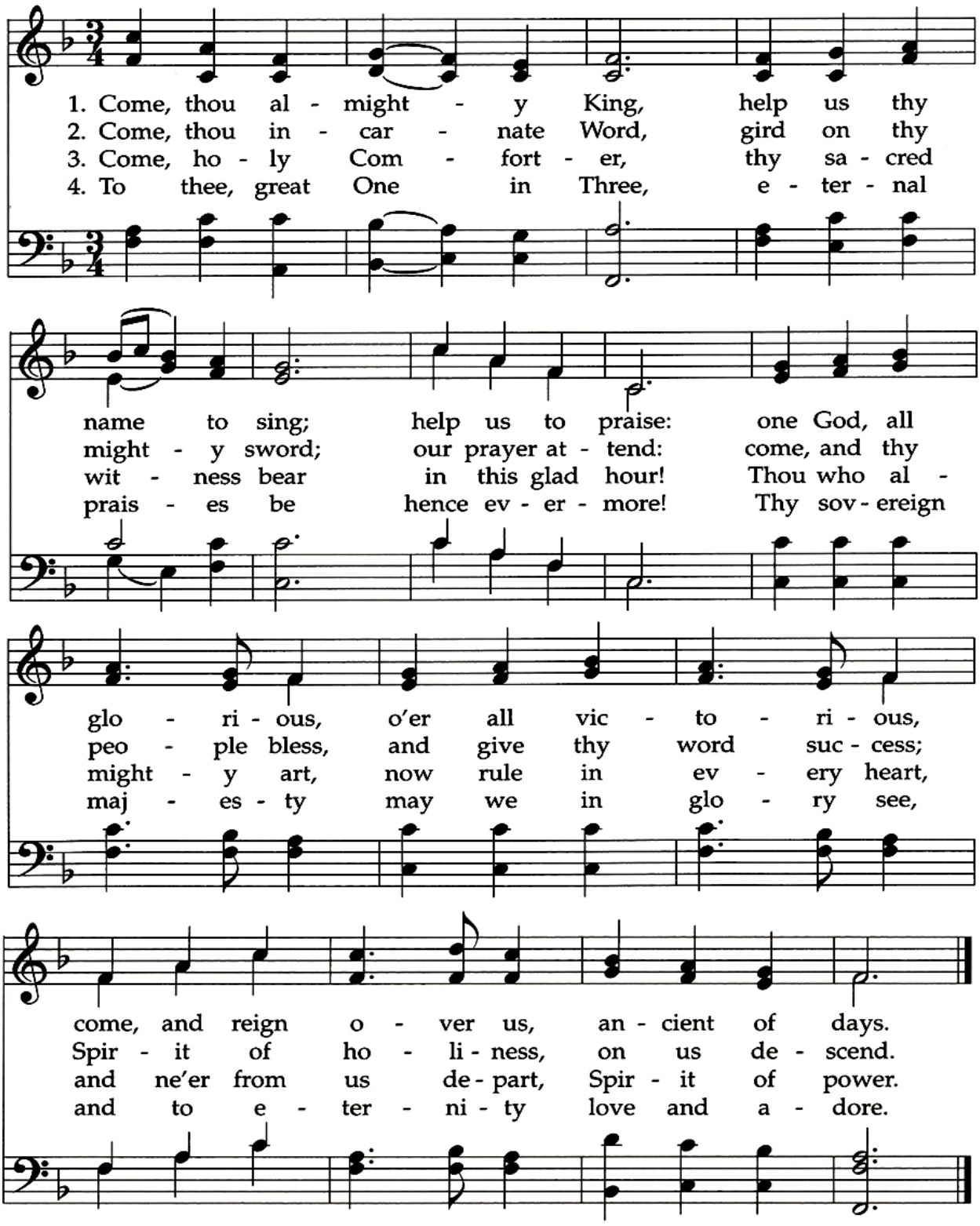
BENEDICTION "May the presence of God go before us." (3X)

POSTLUDE Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above arr. Lloyd Larson

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.

27 Come, Thou Almighty King



WORDS: Anonymous, c. 1760
MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769; desc. Charles H. Webb

ITALIAN HYMN
664.6664

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2 Corinthians 4:6-5:1 (CEB)

God said that light should shine out of the darkness. He is the same one who shone in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay pots so that the awesome power belongs to God and doesn't come from us. We are experiencing all kinds of trouble, but we aren't crushed. We are confused, but we aren't depressed. We are harassed, but we aren't abandoned. We are knocked down, but we aren't knocked out.

We always carry Jesus' death around in our bodies so that Jesus' life can also be seen in our bodies. We who are alive are always being handed over to death for Jesus' sake so that Jesus' life can also be seen in our bodies that are dying. So death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

We have the same faithful spirit as what is written in scripture: *I had faith, and so I spoke*. We also have faith, and so we also speak. We do this because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and he will bring us into his presence along with you. All these things are for your benefit. As grace increases to benefit more and more people, it will cause gratitude to increase, which results in God's glory.

So we aren't depressed. But even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day. Our temporary minor problems are producing an eternal stockpile of glory for us that is beyond all comparison. We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal.

We know that if the tent that we live in on earth is torn down, we have a building from God. It's a house that isn't handmade, which is eternal and located in heaven.

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	***Resumes August 20*** 11:00am Conference Room
Thursday Lunch Break	***Resumes August 20*** 12:00pm Bring your lunch and join us!
St Andrew Choir Rehearsal	Sunday mornings before the service 9:30-10:15. All are welcome!
St. Andrew 101	Begins August 30, after Brunch Sign up with Pastor Bill.

Mission of the Month: Annie's Fund 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.

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