ST. ANDREW UCC
Welcome, Worship, Service

August 9, 2026

11th Sunday after Pentecost

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 Coming Home (Joseph M. Martin) Bonnie Wolfgram

WELCOME Rev. Bill Friederich

OPENING SCRIPTURE Psalm 126 (CEB) Lois Lewis

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Bill

ONE: Praise our Creator! O Meegwetch![1] Give thanks to the Maker, for Turtle Island nurtures us; love lives forever in ancestors dancing in the aurora borealis.

Who can truth talk the mighty doings of the Creator, or drum all his praise?

Joyful are those who observe justice, who work for right relations at all times.

Remember me, O Great Spirit, when you show honour to your people; help me when you lead us places of protection;

I see the grateful hunting of creatures, generous gathering and abundant harvest prosperity of our clans, that I may dance in the ceremonies of our nation's people, that I may glory in your ancestry.

ALL: All my Relations.

HYMN O God, Our Help in Ages Past (v 1,2,3,6) *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

****UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God of life, we rejoice in your love which has filled creation from the beginning, and which calls all life into being. We praise you for Jesus Christ who reveals most fully your loving purpose for all people. We bless you for your Spirit who draws all humanity into your circle of love. Gracious God, bless us with your presence so that our worship and our lives may be a true celebration of your love in Jesus Christ. In whose name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON SCRIPTURE Mark 10:46-52(CEB) Rev. Bill

ANTHEM *(Congregation please join Refrain)* Rain Down (Jaime Cortez, arr. John Carter) St. Andrew Choir

SERMON "Coming Home" Rev. Bill

- Today's Call to Worship is from Living Psalms, UCC and written by Nancy Arthur Best, Mohawk name, Golden Feather Woman.

****** Today's Prayer of Invocation is from Worship Ways, UCC

[1] Ojibwe word meaning 'thank you'.

MONTHLY MISSION: Annie Villano Fund Betsy Wilford

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC The Gift of Love (American Folk Tune, arr. Hal Hopson)

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)

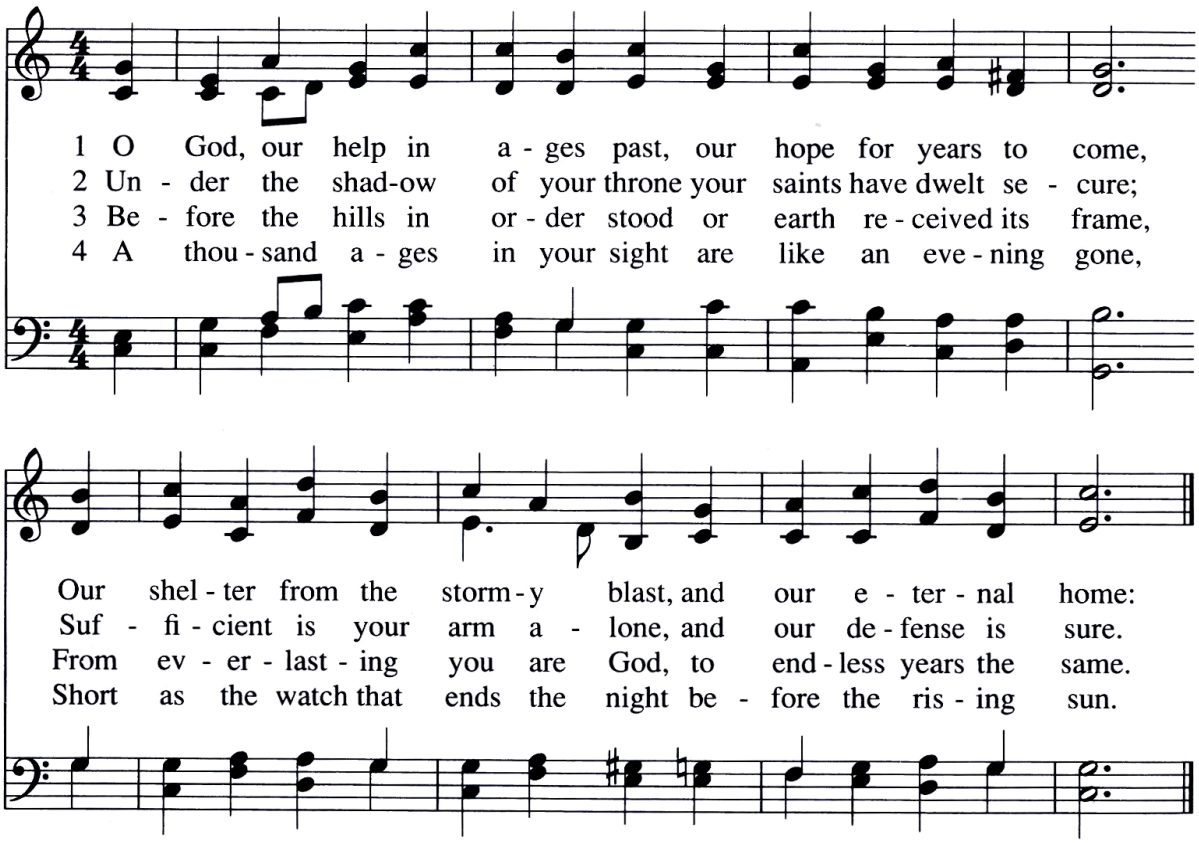
POSTLUDE Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works

(LACQUIPARLE, Native American (Dakota) melody, arr. John Carter)

Today is **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples** , which is observed on August 9 each year to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues such as environmental protection. It was first pronounced by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1994, marking the day of the first meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in 1982.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt. *Ps. 90:1–2, 4–5*



5 Time, like an ev-er-roll-ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for-got-ten, as a dream
fades at the o-pening day.

6 O God, our help in a-ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou-bles last,
and our e-ter-nal home!

Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
William Croft, 1708

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Mark 10:46-52 (CEB)

Jesus and his followers came into Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho, together with his disciples and a sizable crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, Timaeus' son, was sitting beside the road. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was there, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy!" Many scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, "Son of David, show me mercy!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him forward."

They called the blind man, "Be encouraged! Get up! He's calling you."

Throwing his coat to the side, he jumped up and came to Jesus.

Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man said, "Teacher, I want to see."

Jesus said, "Go, your faith has healed you." At once he was able to see, and he began to follow Jesus on the way.

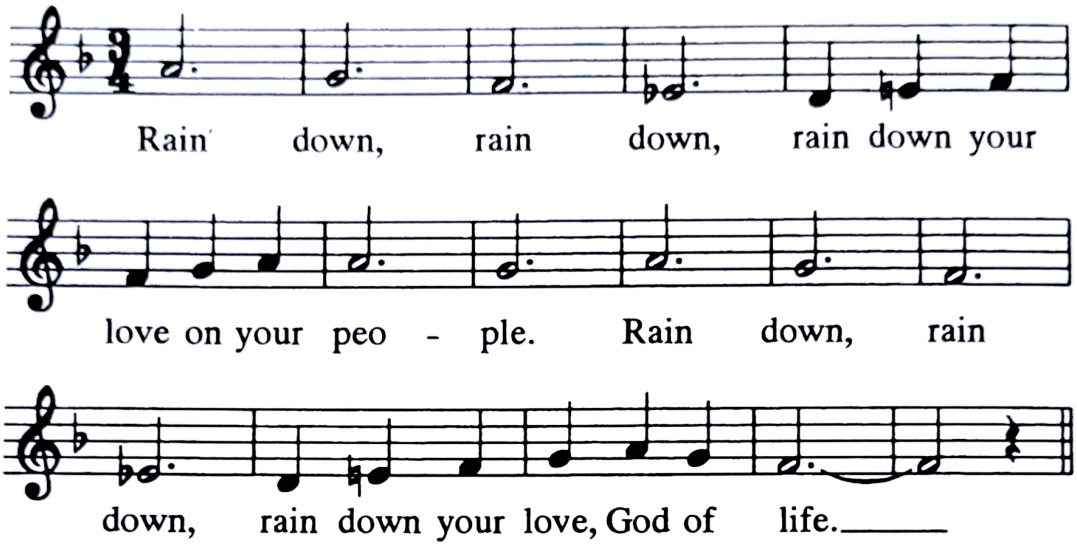
Rain Down

CONGREGATION

Jaime Cortez
Arr. by JOHN CARTER

Based on Psalm 33

REFRAIN:



CHOIR: REFRAIN

SOLO: Faithful and true is the word of our God.
All of God's works are so worthy of trust.

CHOIR: God's mercy falls on the just and the right;
full of God's love is the earth.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

CHOIR: We who revere and find hope in our God
live in the kindness and joy of God's wing.
God will protect us from darkness and death;
God will not leave us to starve.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

CHOIR: God of creation, we long for your truth;
you are the water of life for our thirst.
Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts,
all of our hope lies in you.

CHOIR & CONG.: REFRAIN

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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.

St. Andrew Choir Rehearsal Sunday mornings before the service 9:30-10:15. All are welcome!

Fellowship Brunch Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall.

Strings Con Brio Concert Thursday, August 13 7pm in the Sanctuary. This is a fundraiser for both Strings Con Brio and St. Andrew UCC. Tickets $15

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!

Church Council Meeting Tuesday, August 25 10:00am In Person and Zoom
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88331250025

St. Andrew 101 Begins August 30. Sign up with Pastor Bill.

Gay Long Celebration of Life September 18 5:00pm Geckos, 5585 Palmer Crossing Cr

Mission of the Month: Annie 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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