



ST. ANDREW UCC

Welcome, Worship, Service

September 20, 2026
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship 10:30 a.m.



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

Acolytes: Sophia, Victoria

PRELUDE Every Time I Feel the Spirit (Traditional American Spiritual, arr. Pepper Choplin) Bonnie Wolfgram

WELCOME

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 68:1-10 (NIV)

Bah Hero

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come together, joining hands and hearts.

Many: Let our hands be links of chain which hold our lives together.

One: Not a chain of bondage but a silver cord of strength.

Many: A ribbon of love and faith and community,

One: giving us slack to sail the wind,

Many: yet holding us in a mystical embrace.

One: That we be alone but never lonely,

Many: that we may be together but never lost in the crowd,

One: that we may be one without forfeiting uniqueness.

Many: Come together, joining hands and hearts,

One: and let the Spirit of God and our spirits flow with each other and through us all.

Many: As we gather here to share this time and space, as we walk together on this journey. AMEN.

HYMN

God is Here! As We Your People Meet (v1,2,4) *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Touch us we pray, O God, through the ministry of melody, through the sounds and senses of song, through the wordless wonder which fills our souls with joy and peace. And through the Spirit which teases our feet to dance and causes our hearts to overflow, that we might be absorbed in the mystery and magic of music. And in this moment of worship, our lives will be melded in oneness to each other and to You. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Romans 1:8-17 (NRSV)

ANTHEM

I Want to See My Jesus (Jay Althouse)

SERMON

"God is Found in the Mailroom"

Rev. Bill Friederich

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC

I've Got Peace Like a River

(Traditional American Spiritual, arr. Phillip Keveren)

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

Plenty Good Room (Traditional American Spiritual, arr. Lloyd Larson)

"In my Father's house are many rooms..." John 14:2

Romans 1:8-17 (NRSV)

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, asking that by God’s will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, both yours and mine. I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish —hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, ‘The one who is righteous will live by faith.’

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of Gay Long, by her children and Dan Nickles.

God Is Here! As We Your People Meet

Fred Pratt Green, 1978; alt.

1 God is here! As we your peo-ple meet to of - fer praise and prayer,
 2 Here are sym-bols to re - mind us of our life - long need of grace;
 3 Here our chil-dren find a wel-come in the Shep - herd's flock and fold;
 4 Sov - ereign God, of earth and heav-en, in an age of change and doubt

May we find in full - er mea-sure what it is in Christ we share.
 Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit, here the cross has cen - tral place.
 Here as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, help us work your pur - pose out.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach-ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in wor-ship to ex - plore
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com-ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new-ness and re - new-al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with-out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Though he retired in 1969, this distinguished British poet has continued to write hymns. In addition to administering several circuits and local congregations, Fred Pratt Green published plays, translations, and poems. Emory University in Atlanta awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH 8.7.8.7.D.
 Cyril V. Taylor, 1941

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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.

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!
Centering Prayer Each Thursday 1:00pm In the Sanctuary

St. Andrew 101 September 20 in the Sanctuary after Brunch
New Member Sunday September 27

Church Council Meeting Tuesday, September 22 10:00am In person & Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88509609964>

Project 180 Desserts & Fellowship Monday, September 28

Mission of the Month: Resurrection House 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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Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm
Worship: Sundays at 10:30am