



ST. ANDREW UCC

Welcome, Worship, Service

September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost
New Member Sunday
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: Mia, Sophia, Victoria

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

Bonnie Wolfgram

(Traditional American folk hymn, arr. John Purifoy)

WELCOME

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 12:2-6 (MSG)

Cindy Keene

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the course of our life journey, we do not only move from place to place.

Many: We also move from thought to thought, from task to task, from feeling to feeling.

One: We move between solitude and relationship, between growth and stagnation, between faithfulness and spiritual carelessness, between belief and doubt.

Many: We are people in motion.

One: We are people of God.

All: In gathering to worship, we give thanks for our freedom to move. We offer praise to the ever-present God, to the living Christ, and to the sustaining Spirit. Wherever we go, we remain in the keeping and company of God. AMEN

HYMN

All Are Welcome (v1,4,5) *(Please stand in body or in spirit)*

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, we pray that, by your grace, we may develop faith and commitment that is ever-living, that is dynamic! As we honor the One born to be with us, enable us to grow in appreciation of our own humanity, made in your image. You have gifted each of us with wondrous capabilities for generosity and forgiveness, laughter and love. God our Creator, thanks be to you. AMEN.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Matthew 20:1-16 (MSG)

ANTHEM

We Are a Church (Jay Althouse)

St. Andrew Choir

SERMON

"The Great Reversal"

Rev. Bill Friederich

(The First Will be Last, and the Last Will be First)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Madelaine Gray, Maria Korn, Steve Korn, Trudi Mueller, Thomas Mueller, Jeffrey Nunes, Judy Reichenbacher, Greg Reichenbacher, Mona Wise

Questions to the Candidates

Lois Lewis, Church Representative

Welcome of New Members

Rev. Bill

Congregational Response: We reaffirm our own faith in Christ as we welcome you with joy into the common life of this congregation. We promise you our friendship and prayers, to teach and learn together, as we share the work and ministry of Christ through St. Andrew United Church of Christ. Let us encourage each other to continue to grow in faith, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may better know God's love and will and together witness to the grace of Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC

The Lord's My Shepherd (arr. Larry Shackley)

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

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (Carl G. Glazer, arr. Lloyd Larson)

Matthew 20:1-16 (MSG)

God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day and went to work.

Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went.

He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?' They said, 'Because no one hired us.' He told them to go to work in his vineyard.

When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.'

Those hired at five o'clock came up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.'

He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So, take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?'

Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

All Are Welcome

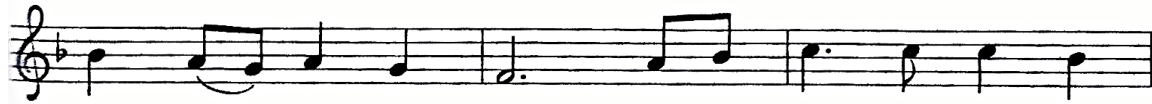
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1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



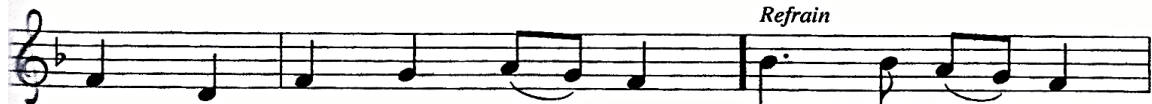
live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

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TWO OAKS

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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

Project 180 Desserts & Fellowship Monday, September 28 6:00pm

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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Bonnie Wolfgram, Interim Music Director Email: bonnie.wolfgram@gmail.com

Kate Eichorst, Church Administrator Office: 941-922-7595 Email: office@sarasotaucc.org

Craig Bray, Sexton

6908 Beneva Rd., Sarasota FL 34238
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm
Worship: Sundays at 10:30am



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