



ST. ANDREW UCC
Welcome, Worship, Service

October 18, 2026
21st 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

PRELUDE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
(Kathleen Thompson, arr. Mark Hayes)

Bonnie Wolfgram

WELCOME

Rev. Bill Friederich

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 96:1-6; 11-12 (NRSV)

Claudia Meyer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: And this is the judgement, that the Light has come into the world, and we loved darkness rather than the light.

Many: God is Light, in whom is no darkness at all.

One: For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be liberated through Him.

Many: Everyone who does evil hates the light and does not come to the light. But all who do what is true come to the light.

All: Come, let us worship in Spirit and in Truth.

HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God *(Please stand in body or in spirit)*

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, how often have we meditated upon your steadfast love! Our speech has been reduced to silence by your measureless grace. Our reverence has been lifted to revelry by your boundless joy. If it is because of your love that we can serve, because of your grace that we can forgive, and because of your joy that we can rejoice, be present among us. And like the wind and sea, who obey your voice, we shall grow calm and yield to your power. AMEN.

ANTHEM/CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Halle-Halle-Halleluja

St. Andrew Choir

(Traditional Caribbean Tune, Text based on Psalm 150, arr. Hal Hopson)

Halle-Halle-Halleluja **41**

Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le-Hal-le-Hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-lu - ja.

MUSIC: Caribbean

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SERMON SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 5:6-16 (MSG)

SERMON

“God’s Radiance Surrounds Us”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY MUSIC

This Little Light of Mine (African American Spiritual, arr. William Farley Smith)

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

Doxology

(From the Genevan Psalter, attr. to Louis Bourgeois, arr. Mark Hayes)

853 We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba

We are march-ing in the light of God; we are march-ing in the
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -

light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God;
nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are match-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.

TEXT: South African; English trans. Gracia Grindal, 1984
MUSIC: South African; arr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984
English Trans. and Music Arr. © 1984 Utryck (admin. Walton Music Corp., a div. of GIA)

SIYAHAMBA
Irregular

TRUSTING IN THE PROMISES OF GOD

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo
oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march-ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

oo
oo

We are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing, march-ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march-ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing...

We are praying...

We are singing...

Psalms 96:1-6; 11-12 (NRSV)

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
Honour and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Ephesians 5:6-16 (MSG)

Don't let yourselves get taken in by religious smooth talk. God gets furious with people who are full of religious sales talk but want nothing to do with him. Don't even hang around people like that.

You groped your way through that murk once, but no longer. You're out in the open now. The bright light of Christ makes your way plain. So no more stumbling around. Get on with it! The good, the right, the true—these are the actions appropriate for daylight hours. Figure out what will please Christ, and then do it.

Don't waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. It's a scandal when people waste their lives on things they must do in the darkness where no one will see. Rip the cover off those frauds and see how attractive they look in the light of Christ.

Wake up from your sleep,
Climb out of your coffins;
Christ will show you the light!

So watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times!

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.

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

SURE Congregational Conversation Sunday, October 18 after Brunch

Church Council Meeting Tuesday, October 20 10:00am In-person or Zoom
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84275967384>

Mission of the Month: Neighbors in Need 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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Rev. Bill Friederich, Pastor Cell: 207-669-5353 Email: bfriederich@yahoo.com

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: Sunday at 10:30am



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