

ALL are welcome here. Worship is a series of invitations; accept only those you feel called to accept. Feel free to change language in a respectful manner if it helps the hour to be more worshipful for you.

*How to read the bulletin like a pro: when text is **bold and italicized**, you are invited to join the congregation in reading the text aloud. When there is an asterisk (*) before an element of worship, you are invited to stand.*

Details about and copyright information for our focal image can be found at the end of this bulletin.

GATHERING

Prelude

Ring of the Bell

Welcome

Time to Center



***Call to Worship**

Let praise to God resound in the heavens!

Let praise to God fill the earth!

Let all God's angels offer praise and rejoicing!

Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!

Open your hearts and spirits today.

Let us praise the Lord today and always!

***Opening Hymn | Here in This Place (vv. 1, 2, and 4)**

Glory to God #401

Call to Confession

Trusting in the love of God to make all things new, let us come close to our Savior to confess our sin ... praying together:

Prayer of Confession

*God of mercy,
your command to love one another
across all differences opens us to new horizons,
yet we often respond with fear and judgment that
hinders your goal for humanity.
Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true
repentance that leads to life for all creation.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Silent Prayers of Confession

...In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God's promises are trustworthy and true;
our sins are forgiven.
Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may we always be
known by our love.
Thanks be to God.

***Response of Praise | Give Thanks**

Glory to God #647

***Passing the Peace**

... The Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

THE WORD

Prayer of Preparation

As we open ourselves to God's word in song, scripture,
and speech, let us pray...
*O God of promise, your word made flesh in Jesus
Christ is trustworthy and true.*

	<i>By the power of your Holy Spirit, may it rise up in us this day like a gift from the spring of the water of life to refresh our thirsty souls. Amen.</i> A Reading from the Book of Genesis <i>Genesis 1:24 - 2:3</i> Conversation with the Younger Church A Reading from the Book of Revelation <i>Revelation 21:1-6</i> Sermon <i>Heading in God's Direction</i> <i>The Rev. Dr. Bob Stebe</i> RESPONSE TO THE WORD *Affirmation of Faith <i>In Christ, the new world has already broken in and the old can no longer be tolerated. We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom. But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.</i> Worshipping God with our Tithes and Offerings Invitation to Generosity Offertory *Song of Praise <i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)</i> <i>Glory to God #609</i>
<i>Declaration of Faith, Presbyterian Church USA</i> <i>Thank you for your faithful giving that fuels the mission and ministries of St. Andrew's!</i> <i>Invitation to Generosity from Matthew 6:33 and Hebrews 13:16</i>	

***Prayer of Dedication**
*Loving God,
you have given us the task
to love one another.
May the gifts we offer
bring love and life to others.
May the love we share
bring hope to a world
that has forgotten how to love. Amen.*

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

SENDING

***Closing Hymn | Will You Come and Follow Me**
Glory to God #726

Our Ministry in Christ
Announcements

Charge and Blessing

***Sung Response | May the God of Hope Go With Us**
Glory to God #765

Postlude

Images and Songs covered by the following licenses:

Focal Image: Mauve, Anton, 1838-1888. *Landscape with Shepherd and Sheep*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/51139> [retrieved September 8, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:%27Shepherd_and_Sheep%27_by_Anton_Mauve,_Cincinnati_Art_Museum.JPG

Harrison, George. Lyrics to "Any Road." SongFacts, 2026, <https://www.songfacts.com/lyrics/george-harrison/any-road>.

Words for worship were adapted from the following sources, used by permission:

Affirmation of Faith: Presbyterian Church in the United States. *A Declaration of Faith*. Atlanta: Office of the General Assembly, 1977.

Welcome to St. Andrew's PDX!
Welcome Home! We are so glad you are here.

Connecting with Christ and each other to Serve Our Neighbors

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00am,
both in person and online via Zoom and Facebook.
Visit our website for the worship links and the weekly worship bulletin.

Please use blue prayer cards (or Zoom chat) to share prayer requests.
You can pass these to the pastor during the passing of the peace or give them
to an usher at any time in the first half of the service.

PRINTED COPIES OF TODAY'S SERMON ARE AVAILABLE



We encourage you to leave your **offerings and sign-in sheets** in the offering plates
that are passed during worship. Offerings can also be made anytime on our website,
www.standrewspdx.com



Today's worship leadership includes the Rev. Bob Stebe, Guest Preacher
and Amy Houchen, worship elder; Don Feely, Director of Music;
Lois Haley, worship assistant; Connie Blumthal, songlead;
Caroline Sanderson-Doughty, AV tech assistant; and Steve Planck, sound technician.

About Our Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Bob Stebe retired from Hillsboro Presbyterian Church in 2022,
after over 40 years of ministry as a youth director and ordained pastor with calls in Phoenix, AZ,
Jerome, ID and Diamond Bar, CA. He spent many of those years in youth and camping ministry,
including 13 runs as a small group leader at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. He recently served
Presbytery of The Cascades as a synod commissioner and was moderator for the Synod of the Pacific.
Bob and Lisa have been married for 47 years and have three grown daughters; one married; two
granddaughters; a dog and a cat. Bob is one of the scorekeepers for the Hillsboro Hops (minor league
baseball team for the Arizona Diamondbacks) and Lisa handles the concierge booth.
He also does some substitute teaching and often has a guitar with him.
He and Lisa are big fans of baseball, Disneyland and the outdoors, especially Yosemite.



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Office hours: Mon - Thurs, 9:00am - 3:00pm
Bookkeeper hours: Mon & Weds, 9:00am - 3:00pm

Mission Updates

For full details about mission and ministry work, contact the office, and refer to your eNews and Upcoming Events in this bulletin for special events.

Neighborhood House - Current legislation and drastic cuts to food assistance and Head Start programs will undoubtedly create more hardship to this organization and the people it serves. You can help by: donating to their social safety net services; contacting your legislators to support SNAP, Head Start, and housing assistance programs; and talking to others to increase awareness of this crisis to our most vulnerable neighbors. Visit their website for more ways to help -- www.nhpdx.org.

Ziploc Ministry - Resuming on **Saturday, November 7**, this ministry meets monthly to fill bags with hygiene and personal items to be distributed to our unhoused neighbors.

West Women & Children's Shelter - We prepare and deliver homemade casseroles and other food items to this domestic violence shelter throughout the year. Recipes and instructions are provided; reimbursement is available.

Quilters - Gathers on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, at 9:30am. Contact Gail Planck for more info.

Homelessness Outreach - We support the Multnomah Safe Rest Village and the Southwest Outreach shower program. See your eNews for volunteer opportunities.

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

- **Sunday Coffee Hour** - Volunteers are needed for Sundays. Contact Marie Dolson or Gail Planck for more info.
- **Family Fellowship** - We will be changing things up a bit for our next gathering (**Sunday, September 20th**) so that families can enjoy the after-service potluck with everyone and then we can head downstairs to Calvin Hall for the children's Bible story and accompanying craft when the potluck concludes. Guests are always welcome! We hope to see you there!
- **Sanctuary Choir** - Rehearsals will resume on **Sunday, September 27th**. If you'd like to join, we encourage you to stop by the chapel after service that day. Contact Don Feely for more info.
- **Men's Bible Study** - This group meets at 7am via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Contact Larry Kelley for more info.
- **Spiritual Formation Group** - Please join us from 12:30-2:00pm in the lounge for our next class on **Wednesday, September 16th**. This is a drop-in group; no need to have read the book!

Upcoming Events

September 13 & 20 10:00am Hybrid Worship September 16 12:30pm Spiritual Formation Group St. Andrew's September 17 10:00am St. A's Book Club St. Andrew's September 20 11:00am <i>Table of Abundance</i> After-Church Potluck St. Andrew's	September 18 & 25 10:00-12:00pm Virtual Coffee Chat Zoom September 20 Family Fellowship (following the potluck) St. Andrew's September 23 9:30-11:30am Quilters Group St. Andrew's
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We give thanks for the gift of life and love as we celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of our church family this month, praying for God's continued grace and joy in every new year ahead.

September Birthdays

Everett Schiefelbein - September 1
Mary Poulsen - September 2
Scott Nasson - September 7
Alyda Gilkey - September 15
Ryan Patterson - September 24
Laura Erickson - September 25
Rebecca Nasson - September 26
Bennie Pacheco - September 30

September Anniversaries

Amy & Tim Tanous - September 5
Kevin & Sarah Sanderson-Doughty - September 21

New News & Announcements
See your eNews for full details

TABLE OF ABUNDANCE

Our Fall potluck event is here and we are looking forward to sharing this time of food and fellowship with everyone. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend **next Sunday, September 20** after service has concluded. Our theme is the "Table of Abundance," which signifies the celebration of an abundant harvest as well as all that God has provided us in other ways.

UPCOMING CELEBRATION OF LIFE

We continue to lift up the family of Sue Malter as they process their loss. Sue's memorial service will be held at St. Andrew's in the Fall.

Thoughts from Your Session
(Written September 10th)

Dear friends in Christ,

It is clear that Fall is upon us in so many ways -- students and teachers returning to school; families gearing up to attend practices and games/performances of their children's various activities; the leaves changing to brilliant oranges, reds, and yellows; and the weather returning to cooler temperatures with some rain here and there.

This change in seasons means a change for life at St. A's too. Next Sunday (**September 20**), we have a lot going on and we hope you'll be able to attend and stay through it all -- and bring friends and family too! That day, we will be returning to worship in the sanctuary. After service has concluded, we'll gather in the chapel for a potluck we're calling the "Table of Abundance" (see below for more details). And for the families in attendance, we've got another round of Family Fellowship taking place downstairs in Calvin Hall once the potluck is over.

And, as was reported last week, St. Andrew's has begun the process of sharing our abundance with Neighborhood House and other mission friends. Several Elders met with Chris Chiacchierini, Executive Director of Neighborhood House, earlier this week to deliver a \$15,000 check in support of the free food market and other important work that this organization provides to our neighbors in need.

Hannah Lee, Director of Development at Neighborhood House, expressed the following in response to St. Andrew's ongoing support:

"Your support throughout the year provides meaningful support to our community, helping us ensure that our neighbors have access to healthy food,

housing stability, education programming, and other essential services that provide holistic support for all of our neighbors.

I want to thank you again for all the ways you've supported Neighborhood House and for continuing to stand with us in the work to alleviate poverty. We depend on the generous support of neighbors, like YOU, to achieve our mission. We are grateful for your generosity and hope you take great pride in the important difference that your gift makes!"

And Jeanette Kloos, our amazing go-to person for delivering each month's food collection, further reports that your generosity extends past this incredible financial gift by means of a drop-off weighing 112.5 lbs! That may be our biggest Communion Sunday collection/donation to Neighborhood House yet. Well done, all!

We look forward to what the next few weeks hold in store for our church family and are so grateful for each and every one of you.

In Christ,

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Session