

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.

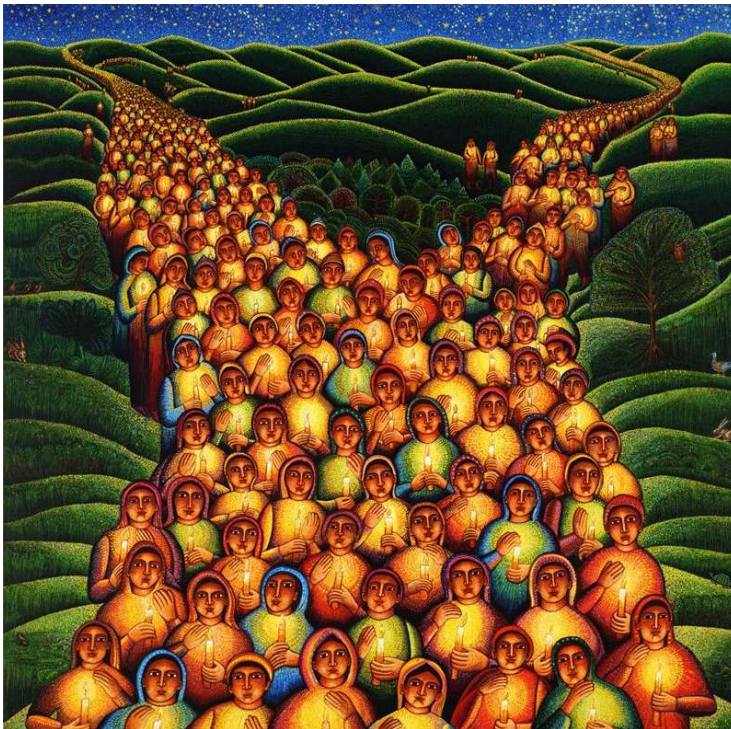
GATHERING

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Time to Center



*Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice!

Today we choose to rejoice.

Seek the peace of God that guards your hearts and minds
in Christ Jesus.

Today we choose God's peace.

Turn away from the distractions and disappointments of
life that flow in and out like the tide.

Today we choose to set our minds on things above.

Let us come to worship God who alone is excellent and worthy of praise!

Today we choose to worship and give thanks.

Opening Hymn | *Rejoice the Lord Is King!

Glory to God #363

Call to Confession

God has called us all to an abundant table and clothed us in the robe of righteousness. Yet so often, we choose to wander away, bogged down by the anxieties of this world or refusing to actively participate in the love and mercy we have been freely given. Trusting in God's lavish grace and unending mercy, let us come before God and confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, you have set before us a lavish banquet and welcomed us off the street, elevating us to honored guests in your kingdom. Yet we confess that we often take your gift of grace for granted. We fail to love our neighbors as ourselves. We fail to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.

Instead of filling our hearts with whatever is true and honorable, we allow anxiety and fear to rule our minds.

Forgive us, Lord.

Remind us that your robe of righteousness is already wrapped around us.

Teach us to wear it daily as we learn to follow Jesus more faithfully. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

...In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news!

In Jesus Christ, God has provided everything we need for an abundant life right here and right now.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and fully restored.

Thanks be to God!

Response of Praise | *Glory to God

Glory to God #585

***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...

God, we come into your presence

with praise and thanksgiving for your faithful love.

Your love never fails—

not even we turn away from you:

when we ignore your invitation,

or desert you for gods of our own making.

Even then you do not abandon us,

but reach out—again and again—

inviting us back into relationship once more.

Help us to receive the gift of your love and

faithfulness.

Receive our praise and prayers, O Lord we pray.

Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Philippians

Philippians 4:4-9

Conversation with the Younger Church

A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew

Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon *What Not to Wear*

Rev. Jennifer Ackerman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together in the one body of Christ, the Church.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed,

blessing the children,

healing the sick,

and binding up the brokenhearted.

Unjustly condemned, Jesus was crucified, suffering the full measure of human evil.

God raised Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

and delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we

strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for the redemption of the world.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Worshipping God with our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

*Adapted from the PCUSA
Brief Statement of Faith*

Thank you for your faithful giving that fuels the mission and ministries of St. Andrew's!

***Song of Praise | *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings
Flow (Doxology)***
Glory to God #609

***Prayer of Dedication**
*Generous God, we dedicate these gifts to You—
not out of obligation, but out of hearts overflowing
with praise and thanksgiving.
Bless these tithes and offerings so that they may
feed the hungry, comfort the anxious, and proclaim
your kingdom of peace.
May all that we do with these resources honor
whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing,
and commendable.
In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Prayers of the People & the Prayer that Jesus Taught

SENDING

Closing Hymn | *Love Divine, All Love's Excelling
Glory to God #366

Our Ministry in Christ
Announcements

Charge and Benediction

Sung Response | *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!
(verse 1 only) Glory to God #804

Postlude

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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.

October Birthdays

Laura Faulkner - October 1
Erica Herb - October 2
Ray Blair - October 3
Linda Jessell - October 5
JoAnn Tower - October 6
Nancy Kraemer - October 7
Stephen Silver - October 7
Dale Sherbourne - October 13
Bob Hughes - October 19
Becky White - October 19
Chuck White - October 19
Cory Chesnut - October 20
Marie Dolson - October 24
Aubrey Shiefelbein - October 26
Steve Planck - October 27
Barrett Tanous - October 27

October Anniversaries

Jake & Kara Errico - October 28

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. Jennifer Ackerman, Guest Preacher;
Amy Houchen and Carol Patterson, Co-Worship Elders;
Don Feely, Director of Music; Rebecca Nasson, worship assistant;
Nancy Goering, songlead; Caroline Sanderson-Doughty, AV tech assistant;
and Steve Planck, sound technician.

About Our Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ackerman is Assistant Professor of Preaching at Fuller Theological Seminary. She is also the Director of Fuller's Ogilvie Institute of Preaching, where she works with church leaders around the country who are committed to doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God. She has over 30 years' experience facilitating the worship and preaching efforts of churches in multiple denominations across the US, including her current service to the Presbytery of the Cascades as a member of the Commission on Ministry. Jennifer lives in North Portland with her husband and two (nearly) grown stepsons.



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visit our website at www.standrewspdx.com

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 hope to see you TODAY!**** Please join us after service downstairs in Calvin Hall for an all-ages, family-focused service (with meal provided). Children in attendance will hear a Bible story and then take part in a craft that mirrors the lesson. Guests are always welcome!
- **Sanctuary Choir** - The choir rehearses after each Sunday service. We plan to begin rehearsals again soon, so that we will be prepared to sing something as we welcome Pastor Kim on November 1. Please 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, October 21st**. This is a drop-in group; no need to have read the book!

Upcoming Events

October 11 & 18 10:00am Hybrid Worship October 11 11:00am Family Fellowship St. Andrew's October 14 9:30-11:30am Quilters Group St. Andrew's October 15 10:00am St. A's Book Club St. Andrew's	October 16 & 23 10:00-12:00pm Virtual Coffee Chat Zoom October 21 12:30pm Spiritual Formation Group St. Andrew's November 7 10:30am First Saturday Ziploc Ministry St. Andrew's November 14 9:00am-12:00pm Parking Lot Cleanup St. Andrew's
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New News & Announcements

See your eNews for full details

PREPARING TO WELCOME PASTOR KIM

As we noted in previous bulletin news, we would like to create a gift to present to Pastor Kim on Sunday, November 1. Though she's accustomed to moving frequently and adapting to her surroundings fairly quickly, we thought it would be fun to provide her a guide to the area, including recommendations of some of the congregation's favorite, go-to places and service providers to help her settle in faster. You can write on the cards provided and place them in the basket on Sundays during the Fellowship coffee hour, or you can email whatever you'd like to share to Kara (she will be compiling all responses into one document). **Please have all responses submitted no later than Sunday, October 25.**

The following are some ideas of what we want to include, but feel free to add more as you think of them:

- **SW Portland recommendations** (healthcare resources, service providers, favorite shops, etc.)
- **Dog life in PDX** (dog parks, pet stores, veterinary care resources, trails to hike with a dog, special animal-friendly events, etc.)
- **Foodie recommendations** (places to go "for the best __," favorite menu items, must-visit places where famous chefs are featured, lists of restaurants by type of cuisine, etc.)

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our stewardship campaign is officially in the planning stages and set to launch next week. Your continued generosity helps us to be a compassionate and caring community that can assist those in need here at home as well as in other parts of the world. We will dedicate commitments prior to Thanksgiving (a date will be announced soon).

Thoughts from Your Session (Written October 7th)

Dear friends in Christ,

October is chugging along already with Fall activities going full force and the chatter of the preschool children downstairs ramping up as they eagerly anticipate Halloween. With that, we see that we're mere weeks away from welcoming our new Transitional Pastor to St. A's. What an exciting time for our church family!

We are so thankful to and grateful for the individuals who helped bring Pastor Kim on board and wanted to share a little bit with you about how the final decision was made to offer her the Transitional Pastor role. Personnel Elder, Carolyn Gazeley, wrote the following after receiving responses from Your Session about this decision.



How the Session Chose Our Transitional Pastor

Before we extended the offer to our new pastor, Kim Jackson, the search committee and Session spent quite a bit of time reviewing the resume - called the Personal Information Form in the Presbyterian Church USA - interviewing, and listening to and watching sermons previously preached. The discernment process was very thorough.

I asked the members of the Session to break down why we called Kim Jackson to be our interim pastor, posing the question, "What did you see and hear from her that was compelling and valuable?" Here is what they said:

She is excited about being part of our congregation and joining the local community. She plans to explore local neighborhoods with her dog at her side. Her friendliness will be an asset.

She is committed to learning about us and talked about taking time, asking questions, listening, paying attention, and joining in the conversation.

She values and is committed to service and appreciates our commitment.

She is an experienced transition leader, committed to discernment and to using our liminal space well. She can be sensitive to St. Andrew's culture and dynamics and help us to work through needed changes at a speed that respects our needs. Her thoughtfulness as we work through coming changes will be valuable.

She wants to share authority and work with staff, the Deacons and Elders, and the Congregation to make things happen.

She is a person of integrity who is interested in cultivating transparency and exhibiting truthfulness.

She is a gifted, intelligent teacher who will use her gifts of faith and knowledge to interpret scripture and the working of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

She has a fascinating background, having grown up the child of foreign service professionals, trained as a visual artist, and spent many years in ministry.

We hope you will join us on Sunday, November 1 to welcome Pastor Kim (and stay for the potluck after service for a more in-depth meet 'n greet opportunity).

In Christ,

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Session