St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026
10:00am, Sanctuary

https://https://zoom.us/j/738059997
http://www.facebook.com/standrewspdx/live

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.*

Inspired by Psalm 123

GATHERING

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Kim Jackson

Time to Center



Opening Prayer

We look to you, our God on high:
so glorious is your place in the heavens,
yet so near is your voice to our ear.
You hear our whispers, you know our thoughts,
you respond to our desires.
That which we know, and that which resides
so deep within
only your Spirit discerns them.
All while protecting us, restoring us, lifting us,
transforming us.
Refusing to let us be anything less than you intend,
anyone less than you have created: your child.
We who you desire to be first, not last.
Let it be. Amen.

Psalm 123

***Call to Worship**

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
As the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid
to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.
Our soul has had more than its fill
of the scorn of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.
Let us give thanks and worship our Lord!

***Opening Hymn** | *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (vv. 1, 2 and 4)*
Glory to God #12

Inspired by Judges 4:1-7, Matthew 25:14-30

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, have mercy upon us.
We know we are to heed your commands,
but we are fallible human beings.
We would rather trust ourselves than you.
We would rather follow our own counsel than yours.
We would rather live as we want than live as you have shown.
Forgive us so we may be at peace with ourselves and one another and you.
And remind us, this day, in this sacred time and space, of your deep and steadfast loving kindness which calls us to return to the path you have set before us.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

…Thanks be to God.

	Response of Praise |** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful* *Glory to God #654* ***Sharing the Peace of Christ** … May the Peace of Christ be with you! ***And also with you. **Minute for Witness** ***Stewardship Sunday – John Calhoun*** **THE WORD** **Prayer for Illumination** ***Open our hearts, our minds, our very selves*** ***to the word you inspire and employ to communicate*** ***your truth so we may be made new.*** ***Amen.*** **First Scripture Reading** *Judges 4:1-7* …The word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.*** **Second Scripture Reading** *Matthew 25:14-30* …The word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.*** **Sermon** *We Are Obedient* *Rev. Dr. Kim Jackson* **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**
The Apostles' Creed	***Affirmation of Faith** ***I believe in God the Father Almighty,*** ***Maker of heaven and earth,*** ***and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;*** ***(prayer continued on next page)***

	who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, ***born of the Virgin Mary,*** ***suffered under Pontius Pilate,*** ***was crucified, dead, and buried;*** ***he descended into hell;*** ***the third day he rose again from the dead;*** ***he ascended into heaven,*** ***and sitteth on the right hand*** ***of God the Father Almighty;*** ***from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*** ***I believe in the Holy Ghost;*** ***the holy catholic Church;*** ***the communion of saints;*** ***the forgiveness of sins;*** ***the resurrection of the body;*** ***and the life everlasting.*** ***Amen.***
	Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer ***Our Father, who art in heaven,*** ***hallowed be thy name.*** ***Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,*** ***on earth as it is in heaven.*** ***Give us this day 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 thine is the kingdom and the power*** ***and the glory, forever.*** ***Amen.***
Thank you for your faithful giving that fuels the mission and ministries of St. Andrew's!	**Worshipping God with our Tithes and Offerings** **Invitation to Generosity** **Offertory Anthem |** *Wade in the Water* Arr. by Brad Nix ***Song of Praise |** *Doxology* *Glory to God #609*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, thank you for every gift which brings us life.
Help us to be grateful and to be generous as we share our time and talents and resources with the world you created and preserved.
We pray in the name of the kindest and most compassionate Judge, Jesus, Amen.

SENDING

***Closing Hymn |** *Earth and All Stars! (vv. 1, 2 and 4)*
Glory to God #26

Charge and Benediction

***Sung Response |** *Go With God*
St. A's Songbook #199

Postlude

Image and songs covered by the following licenses:
Focal image: *Gray rock cut in half (Split Apple Rock, New Zealand), photo by Pablo Heimplatz on Unsplash.*

Hymns: *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.

Sung Response: "Go With God," *St. Andrew's Songbook* (page 199), arranged by Don Feely.

Words for worship were adapted from the following sources, used by permission:
Affirmation of Faith: "The Apostles' Creed." *The Book of Confessions: Part I of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*. Office of the General Assembly, 2016, pp. 1–3.

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 IN THE NARTHEX



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. Dr. Kim Jackson;
Don Feely, Director of Music; John Calhoun, worship assistant;
Nancy Goering, songlead; Caroline Sanderson-Doughty, AV tech assistant;
and Larry Patterson, sound technician.



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(503)246-4276, admin@standrewspdx.com
visit our website at www.standrewspdx.com

Office hours: Mon - Thurs, 9:00am – 3:00pm
Bookkeeper hours: Mon & Weds, 8:00am – 2:00pm

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 – This ministry meets monthly **on the first Saturday of each month** 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** – ***Please join us TODAY!*** Families in attendance today get double the fellowship fun. Come join our after-service "Welcome Home" potluck and then head downstairs to Calvin Hall for an all-ages, family-focused service following that event. Guests are <u>always</u> welcome!
- **Sanctuary Choir –** The choir rehearses on Sunday in the chapel after each service. 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, November 18th**. This is a drop-in group; no need to have read the book!

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.

November Birthdays

Jeanette Kloos – November 1
Raylan Gerhardt – November 2
Larry Kelley – November 3
Ron Kleve – November 3
Dave Pebworth – November 3
Mimi Cook – November 4
Larry Dewey – November 7
Todd Jessell – November 7
Diane Calhoun – November 8
Frances Page – November 8
Jeff Sweeney – November 17
Scott Schiefelbein – November 24
Lori Sweeney – November 25
Charles Duncombe – November 27
Larry Patterson – November 28

November Anniversaries

Laurie & Richard Donald – November 4
Becky & Scott Schiefelbein – November 11
Marie Dolson & Dale Sherbourne – November 24
Jo Ann & Ric Tower – November 28

Upcoming Events

November 15 & 22 10:00am Hybrid Worship *Stewardship Sunday* **November 15** "Welcome Home" After-Service Potluck *(TODAY at 11:00am!)* St. Andrew's **November 15** Family Fellowship *(TODAY after the potluck!)* St. Andrew's	**November 20 & 27** Virtual Coffee Chat 10:00-12:00pm Zoom **November 18** Spiritual Formation Group 12:30-2:00pm St. Andrew's **November 19** St. A's Book Club 10:00am-12:00pm St. Andrew's	**November 25** Quilters Group 9:30-11:30am St. Andrew's **November 28** Memorial Service for Mary Sherwood 2:00pm St. Andrew's

New News & Announcements
See your eNews for full details

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY – THANK YOU!
Today is Stewardship Sunday and we are so very grateful to and thankful for each of you that have made a pledge for the 2027 St. Andrew's operating budget. We know many factors are at play and economic situations may have changed in the last year, which is why our "ask" includes giving of time and talents if a monetary gift isn't possible. Our church family is so blessed to have so many generous hearts, working to enrich the lives of each other and our community. We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for the gifts that continue to help our Deacons and Elders, the Mission team, and others do great works.

GIVING THIS SEASON
It seems hard to believe that we're already making announcements about Advent and Christmas, as we're still giving thanks for so much in the month of November. Your Mission team is once again preparing gift bags to distribute to the residents of the Multnomah Safe Rest Village (stay tuned for an announcement regarding a gift bag "stuffing party" that the children who participate in Family Fellowship will help us complete).

We also want to help clarify the two collections we take during the Christmas season — the first is the Christmas Joy Offering, which is one of three Offerings run by the Presbyterian Church (USA). This offering assists at-risk children, youth and young adults, leadership development for people of color; Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need; and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

During the Christmas Eve service, we will be collecting for two local organizations near and dear to our hearts — the Columbia Land Trust and the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO). You will hear more about this in the coming weeks.

Thoughts from Your Session
(Written November 3rd)

Dear friends in Christ,

The parable of the talents, in the good news of Jesus according to Matthew, challenges us to consider what it means to be entrusted with something that carries with it an expectation. A supposition that we will be bold in our reception. Bold in a way that does not safeguard this something so we may return it intact, as

it was, at a later date, but will trust that, in the using, we will expand and develop something that will bear fruit. Dividends. Benefits. Joys.

Whether we know it or expect it or imagine it, or not.

In the story, it is a talent, a weight, balanced on a scale, exchanged for a vast sum of money, depending on the latest rate. But it is also whatever giftedness we have been endowed with, whatever time we have been appointed, whatever hopes and dreams and ideas we have been infused with, by our Creator God. Encompassing every bit of our lives and loves and skills and passions and thoughts and memories. All grounded in trust. And belief. That our every breath and heartbeat and footstep is given by God and infused by God and required, by God, to mean something.

And the only way it can or ever will mean something is if we give them all back to God. For God to use. For God to bless. For God to multiply. Every single moment of every single day.

We are grateful for the reminder of this story even now.

In Christ,

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Session