

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.

Today we hear how the first leaders of the church struggled with balancing what was truly important. Suddenly they were welcoming people from all sorts of backgrounds and traditions, and trying to bring them under all the old rules too. It was causing a rift; it was causing a great deal of unrest. So, they did what they could: they sought wisdom from the apostles and elders and they prayed for God's guidance. The answer was simple, we are saved not by what we do or say, but only by the grace of Jesus. How we can learn from this? As you prepare this morning, reflect on how God's grace has enabled you and ask again for the grace you need, when you need it.

** indicates an invitation to rise in body or spirit. The congregation is invited to read along all bold and italicized text.*

GATHERING

Prelude

Ringing the Bell

Welcome

Time to Center



***Call to Worship**

Wherever we look

God is already at work!

The Spirit is moving

even in people we never expected.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

God is calling us all together into one Body.

*Opening responses,
opening prayer, and prayer
of confession all by the
Rev. Teri Peterson and
shared with the Bible
Worm Collective in which
Pastor Sarah is a member.*

*Call to Confession and
words of forgiveness
adapted from the writing
of the Rev. Beth Neel,
shared on her blog.*

*Opening Prayer

The world belongs to you, O God,
and from the beginning you have been drawing us in,
opening your heart and ours to make for yourself a
beloved community, a treasured possession.
Show us today how the diverse ways we know you
might work together to reveal your grace
and glory to the world.
Amen.

Opening Hymn | *O God in Whom All Life Begins
Glory to God #308

Call to Confession

We live fractured lives,
and God seeks not to punish us
for those fault and fault lines,
but to reconcile and restore us.
Trusting in God's grace and mercy,
let us then make our confession together,
first in silent prayer.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Prayer of Confession

*You are a God who reaches
beyond the borders of our traditions,
gathering all peoples to yourself
and insisting there is no distinction between us.
Your inclusive love makes us uncomfortable, though.
We confess we'd like a bit more say
in who you bring into our community,
and we admit we have demanded assimilation
before acceptance.
Forgive us, God,
when we want to control the terms
of other people's relationship with you.
Forgive us, God,
when we cannot — or will not —
look for connections between our beloved ways
and new needs.
Forgive us, God,*

*when we refuse to listen to the experiences of others who have seen you at work.
You are always creating and re-creating your Body to love, serve, and care for the world, so make us willing to allow your Spirit to blow where she will, and ready to follow through the doors you open.
Amen.*

Words of Forgiveness

Friends. Kindred in Christ:
hear this good news and see the grace of God:
You are forgiven.
You are free to go and live in the light of love.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Sung Response of Praise | Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**
(Refrain only) Glory to God #591

THE WORD

Readings from Scripture

Prayer of Illumination

*Speak to us.
Speak through us.
We are ready to hear and to speak your Word.
In Jesus' name, Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Acts Acts 15:1-18

... For the Word of God in scripture.
For the Word of God among us.
For the Word of God within us.
Thanks be to God.

Story Telling in Community

Introduction and Centering

Story Sharing

Find 2-3 people near you with whom to share.

Prompts for Story Sharing

Share a story of working with others to make a decision on behalf of a community.

	<p>Or</p> <p><i>Share a story of a time when you realized God's grace was wider or deeper than you had previously imagined.</i></p> <p>Reflection on Our Experience</p> <p>Prayer</p> <p>RESPONSE TO THE WORD</p> <p>Silent Reflection on the Word Read and Shared</p> <p>Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer <i>Roberta will gather prayers verbally and on zoom. She will repeat prayers shared concluding with "This is his/her/my/their prayer" and all are invited to respond "This is our prayer"</i></p> <p>Offering our Gifts to God Invitation to Generosity</p> <p>Offertory Song <i>Let us Build a House</i> Glory to God #301</p> <p>SENDING</p> <p>Our Ministry in Christ</p> <p>Charge and Blessing</p> <p>Sharing the Peace of Christ</p> <p>Postlude</p>
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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.

Join us for Supper Church on second and fourth Sundays at 5pm.

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



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visit our website at www.standrewspdx.com

Office hours: Mon - Thurs, 8:30 - 2:30, Bookkeeper Hours: Mon & Weds, 9:00 - 3:00

Mission Updates

See your eNews or contact the office for full details.

Neighborhood House - See their website - www.nhpdx.org - for a list of volunteer opportunities and donation needs.

Ziploc Ministry - Join us on the first Saturday of each month to fill bags with hygiene and personal items for our community partners, including Operation Nightwatch. The next gathering will be June 7th, 10:30-12:00pm. **New socks and men's boxer-briefs donations always needed**

West Women & Children's Shelter - We prepare and deliver monthly, homemade casseroles and other food items to this domestic violence shelter. Recipes and instructions are provided. Casseroles are dropped off at the first Saturday Ziploc event.

Quilters - Gathers on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 9:30am. Contact Gail Planck for more info.

Homelessness Outreach -Join us this coming Wednesday, May 21st, 6:30pm, at Riversgate Church for a screening of the film 'No Place To Grow Old', about aging into homelessness in Portland and throughout the country. A Q&A session with a panel of experts will follow.

May Birthdays

Bev Ruggles - May 1, Marilyn Palumbo - May 5, Katelan Gerhardt - May 11,
Amy Houchen - May 11, Dwain Peterson - May 13, Katy Rustvold - May 14,
Ellen Krusi - May 17, Marianne Parshley - May 17, Susan Peterson - May 17,
Michael House - May 18, Todd Gerhardt - May 24
Mary Silver - May 25, Sharon Nelson - May 26, Don DeFrancq - May 29,
Nina Shiefelbein - May 30, Diane Kleve - May 31

May Anniversaries

Randy & Roberta Schlechter - May 30, Ray & Paddy Blair - May 31

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

- **Sunday Coffee Hour** - Volunteers are needed for Sunday Coffee hour after worship. Contact Becky Schiefelbein for more info.
- **Supper Church** - Supper Church is on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, at 5pm in our chapel. Join us for this children and family focused service, with dinner provided. Please RSVP to help with our planning.
- **Spiritual Formation Group** - This group is taking a break until summer. We'll announce the new dates soon.
- **Anti-Racism Discussion Group** - Meets on the second Thursday of the month, at 6:00 on Zoom. Our current book for discussion is "Anti-Racism as Daily Practice: Refuse Shame, Change White Communities, and Help Create a Just World," by Jennifer Harvey.
- **Enneagram Study Group** -Gathers on the 4th Saturday of each month, at 1:00pm on Zoom. You are invited to focus on the lines of the Enneagram, and which types are connected to yours. Or just come and learn!
- **Sanctuary Choir** - Rehearsals are right after worship in the choir room, simply come join us if you'd like to participate.

Upcoming Events

May 18 & 25

10:00am Hybrid Worship

May 21

6:30pm 'No Place To Grow Old' film screening
Riversgate Church (in Multnomah Village)

May 23 & 30

10:00-12:00pm Virtual Coffee House
Zoom

May 24

1:00pm Enneagram Discussion Group, Zoom

May 25

5:00pm Supper Church, St. Andrew's

May 28

9:30am Quilters, St. Andrew's

New News & Announcements
see your eNews for full details

Congregation Survey - Deadline May 18

As St. Andrew's begins its congregational development work (see next article) with AE Sloan Leadership we need as many people affiliated with St. Andrew's as we can to complete a congregational survey. It takes only 5-10 minutes to complete. There will also be opportunities to do this in person at Sunday worship on May 11 & 18. Look for helpers in the narthex who will be set up with computers for you to use. Please spread the word about the importance of taking this survey! All those who consider St. Andrew's as their home are invited - members, active non-members, friends of the congregation, staff, etc. For more information contact John Calhoun, or the office.

Housing Justice Event

On Wednesday, May 21, 6:30-8:30 at Riversgate Church, the Pathways Home Housing Justice Team will be hosting a screening of the film, 'No Place To Grow Old', a locally made film about aging into homelessness in Portland and around the country. There will be a follow up time for questions and answers with a panel of experts on this subject. We would love to see people from St. Andrew's there! RSVPs are encouraged. Spread the word! Contact Katy in the office if you'd like to help distribute flyers, or for more information in general.

Meals For Jan Reynolds & Family

Jan Reynolds is home after a week in the hospital due to a recurrence of lymphoma. Daughter Annie has flown in from the East Coast and will be with Jan and her husband, John, until they leave for the memorial service in California for their son Thomas, Memorial Day weekend. In addition to continuing to pray for the Reynolds family, if you would like to sign up to bring a meal to them in the time before they leave, please contact Rebecca Nason and she will send you a link to the Meal Train where you can do so. There is an option to purchase a gift card for Door Dash or elsewhere if all the slots are full.