

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Pentecost, November 20, 2022

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

3228 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland, Oregon

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



## GATHERING

**Prelude**

**The Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome**

**Time to Center**

*Music plays while the offerings are made and the Christ candle is lit.*

**\*Opening Responses**

So many voices call —  
***inviting us to trust them,  
to give ourselves to them,  
to follow them.***

So many voices make big promises to calm our fear —  
and big threats to stoke it.

***They call out to us, and it's easy to think  
“they're speaking my language.”***

Together, we come to seek God's voice amidst the noise.

***Together, may we hear the truth.***

**Opening Prayer**

***Your word comes out from your holiness, O God,  
teaching us the path we should go.***

***Lift our eyes to your way,  
and move our feet too.***

***For your ways are higher than our gaze normally looks,  
higher than we usually look.***

***Show us your biggest vision,***

*of peace and community and enough,  
and inspire us to pursue it.  
Amen.*

**\*Opening Song** *Come and Find the Quiet Center* SCREEN

### **Call to Confession**

Let us, indeed, find the quiet center,  
sitting first in silence with God, our friend,  
then by praying together.

### **Silent Prayers of Confession**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

*You show us a still more excellent way,  
O God of peace and justice.  
We confess that we are not ready  
to turn our weapons into farm equipment.  
We pray for peace while learning war,  
in our words and our policies and our choices.  
We confess that we sometimes like the idea  
that everyone will one day join us,  
vindicating our beliefs if not our actions.  
We pray for unity while insisting on uniformity.  
Forgive us, Creator and Ruler of all,  
for you call all to orient toward you,  
not to whitewash our uniqueness.  
Forgive us, Guide for the right path,  
for your teaching and judgment is trustworthy,  
and we have chosen distraction that distorts community.  
Forgive us, Giver of every good gift,  
for you call us to be among the nations as a blessing to all,  
not to manipulate and force to get our own way.  
Forgive us, and transform us —  
and through us transform the world,  
that your vision of nurture and abundance and peace  
may become reality.  
We ask in the name of the Prince of Peace, Christ our King.  
Amen.*

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ.

And Christ lived for us, Christ died for us,

Christ was raised for us, Christ reigns in power for us,

Christ prays for us.

That's the friend we have in Jesus!

Friends, believe the good news!

We are forgiven.

***We've got a friend!***

***Thanks be to God!***

**\*Sung Response of Praise** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness (v. 3 and refrain)*  
Glory to God #39

## **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

...The peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***

## **THE WORD**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

***O God, our friend, speak to us today,***

***and help us to listen as we listen to a trusted friend,***

***knowing that we are loved, ready to be challenged.***

***In Jesus' name, Amen.***

**A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew** *Matthew 5:14*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

***Thanks be to God.***

### **A Conversation with the Younger Church**

**A Reading from Isaiah** *Isaiah 36:1-3,13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon**

*Pastor Sarah Sanderson-Doughty*

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

### **Silent Reflection on the Word Preached**

**Hymn**

*Healer of our Every Ill*

Glory to God #795

## **Healing Prayer**

*For our prayer time this morning, we pick up St. A's practice of healing prayer. You are invited to use this time in whatever way will be most healing for you. You may meditate in your seat. You may come forward and light a candle or two to represent your prayers and put your prayer cards in the basket. You may come to Pastor Sarah for anointing. You may go to the prayer chapel for more in depth one on one prayer.*

## **Worshipping God with our Tithes and Offerings**

### **Invitation to Generosity**

### **Offertory**

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Glory to God #609

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

***In gratitude for the friendship we find in you  
and in the faith community to which you have called us,  
we make offerings of time, talent, and treasure.  
We give thanks for the abundance we enjoy and  
the many gifts of harvest.  
Bless today the gifts we offer of money and food  
and the commitments we are making for the year ahead.  
May those in our world who need friends  
be helped to find friendship through the ministry  
and generosity of our congregation. In Jesus' name, Amen.***

## **SENDING**

### **Our Ministry in Christ**

*Stewardship Testimonial - John Calhoun*

**\*Sung Charge** *In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful* Glory to God #654

### **\*Sung Benediction**

**\*And All God's People Say...**

### **Postlude**