



St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 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.

The season of Lent is a 40-day period of reflection in preparation for a remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection.

As a gentle reminder, please only read aloud what is italicized and bold. (Anything else indicates a time to listen and reflect on the spoken word.)

Call to Worship, Prayer of Preparation, and Assurance of Pardon prepared by the Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty.

GATHERING

Prelude

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome

Time to Center



Finding the Way to the Cross

Call to Worship

We are continuing in the maze today, seeking the way to the cross.

The path is dark and we are scared.

We will put one foot in front of the other, and keep moving forward.

But what if we hit a dead end?

We will turn around and seek another path.

Am I alone?

No, never, we are in this maze together and we have Jesus right here with us.

Did you know there are paragraphs beneath each hymn in our hymnal explaining their origins or interesting features? Maybe worth checking out

Prayer of Confession prepared by the Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty with contributions from the Rev. Jan Reynolds.

Does Jesus know the way?
Jesus IS the way. Keep going.
Let us worship God.

Song | *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

Glory to God #775

Call to Confession

If we wish to keep moving forward, we need to lay aside burdens that weigh us down.
Unburden your hearts with honest prayers of confession, to draw closer to the Way.
Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus stood before Pilate, we confess that we often prefer to stay in the shadows rather than be open to the light of Your kingdom.

We, like Pilate, often fear the false voices of this world asking 'What is truth?' while Truth stands right before us.

Like the crowds, we choose a convenient, temporary "fix" over the righteous way of the King of Kings. Forgive us for when we have compromised our faith out of fear, failing to listen to Your voice within us, rejecting Your wisdom and light.

God, in Your mercy, hear our confession and grant us the grace and courage to stand for the truth of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior, Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

...In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Though from our perspective the path is winding and unclear,
Jesus sees from above and is the way.
Jesus has cleared the way for us.

Friends, believe the good news,
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

***Response of Praise | *I Want to Walk as a Child of the
Light (v. 1 only)***

Glory to God #377

***Passing the Peace**
... The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE WORD

Prayer of Preparation

*Jesus, you are the Word
and we pray that we might encounter you
in the words of scripture today. Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Psalms

Psalm 145:10-13

Conversation with the Younger Church

A Reading from the Gospel According to John

John 18:28-40

Sermon

The Rev. Jan Reynolds

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn | *Go to Dark Gethsemane (vv 1 and 2)*

Glory to God #220

**Worshipping God with our Tithes and Offerings
Invitation to Generosity**

Offertory Anthem | *If I Had Been*

by Ruth Elaine Schram

*We respond to our
generous God by
practicing grateful
generosity. You are
encouraged to give as
you are able, to honor or
even exceed your
pledge!*

Song of Praise | *In the Lord, I'll be Ever Thankful
Glory to God #654

***Prayer of Dedication**

God of the wilderness,
We give these offerings in gratitude,
rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.
We give these offerings in faith,
trusting that you will provide for our needs.
We give these offerings in hope,
knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.
And with these offerings, we give ourselves;
May we live with generous hearts,
with open hands.
Amen

Once a month we practice healing prayer and, on these weeks, you are invited to use the prayer time in whatever way will be most healing for you – you may meditate quietly in your seat, take a walk, bring forward prayer cards and/or light candles to represent your prayers, come to Pastor Amy for anointing, or head to the prayer room for one-on-one prayer.

Healing Prayer

The Prayer that Jesus Taught

SENDING

Our Ministry in Christ
Announcements

Charge and Benediction

Sung Response | *Sent Out In Jesus' Name
St. A's Songbook #193

Postlude

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 - 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 - Join us on the first Saturday of each month to fill bags with hygiene and personal items to be distributed to our unhoused neighbors. The next gathering will be April 4th, 10:30am-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 (April 4th).

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.

March Birthdays

Amy Tanous - March 1, Shirley McIntyre - March 7, Roland Zapata - March 7,
Shirley Tormey - March 9, Kevin Sanderson-Doughty - March 12,
Eric Chavez - March 14, Janet Berg - March 15, Clee Lloyd - March 16,
Pat Quesnel - March 25, Diana Zapata - March 28

March Anniversaries

Larry & Carol Patterson - March 19, Diane & John Calhoun - March 19

Learning & Fellowship Opportunities

- **Sunday Coffee Hour** - Volunteers are needed for Sundays. Contact Marie Dolson or Gail Planck 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.
- **Sanctuary Choir** - Rehearsal will be held after service today in the chapel.
- **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 on Wednesday, March 18th as we continue to examine Celtic Spirituality with a focus on the first seven days of Creation.

Upcoming Events

<p>March 15 & 22 10:00am Hybrid Worship (Town Hall after service on 3/22)</p>	<p>March 22 5:00pm Supper Church St. Andrew's</p>
<p>February 18 - April 5 "One Great Hour of Sharing" Special Offering</p>	<p>March 25 9:30-11:30am Quilters Group St. Andrew's</p>
<p>March 15 11:00am Sanctuary Choir St. Andrew's</p>	<p>March 29 10:30am Palm Sunday Service Multnomah Presbyterian Church</p>
<p>March 18 12:30-2:00pm Spiritual Formation Group St. Andrew's</p>	<p>April 11 SW Hope 5k 9:45am Kids Fun Run / Bunny Chase 10:15am 5k Run / Walk Oregon Episcopal School 6300 SW Nicol Rd, Portland Register Today!</p>
<p>March 19 10:00am-12:00pm St. A's Book Club St. Andrew's</p>	

New News & Announcements

See your eNews for full details

ABOUT OUR FOCAL IMAGE

Our Lenten image shows a maze in the foreground with a cross seen through fog in the distance, reflecting that our Lenten journey will not be a straight and simple march to the cross. In Week 4, we are continuing to wind our way through the maze and can see the cross in the distance, but know we're getting closer.

In our readings from John's gospel, we'll encounter Jesus opening the eyes of his friends and disciples to who he is and what he is calling them to do, and then the cowardice of Peter's denial of Jesus and of Pilate's giving in to the crowd's call for crucifixion. We invite you to consider your own faith journey and what Lent means to you as we come to the cross together.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

We are partnering with our kindred churches to share Holy Week services, reflecting our belief that we are truly one body in Christ. By rotating locations, we remind ourselves that the road to the cross—and ultimately the empty tomb—is not a journey taken alone. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

- Palm Sunday (March 29) - 10:30am service at Multnomah PC
- Maundy Thursday (April 2) - 6:00pm meal, followed by service 6:30pm at Valley Community PC
- Good Friday (April 3) - 7:30pm service at Multnomah PC
- Easter Sunday (April 5) - 10:00am at St. Andrew's PC

PARKING LOT CLEANUP - THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Jeannette and Todd Kloos, Scouts from Troop 150 and others representing Scouting America, and everyone else who volunteered their time yesterday helping remove invasive plant species, tidy up our parking lot and the grounds by Restoration Creek, and removing trash from our property. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful group of people in our midst!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The Presbyterian Church (USA) explains that this Special Offering is “interpreted during Lent and received on Palm Sunday and/or Easter Sunday in response to Christ's call to ministries of compassion for the most vulnerable around the world.” Please be on the lookout for materials about this Special Offering and give as you are able.

Thoughts from Pastor Amy (Written March 11th)

Dear friends in Christ,

This week we are combining the Pastor and Session notes into this one update.

You may recall that in 2025 the Session engaged A.E. Sloane Leadership to conduct a thorough interview process with the congregation. There was a congregational survey, focus groups, and a story-telling event. Each of these provided good information for the consultants' understanding of who St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is, and what particular gifts we bring to the world around us. The goal of the consultancy process was to help us more fully understand the views of the congregation as a whole at this moment in time and identify the unique gifts we have to offer the community at large – some of which may have not yet been discovered. This would then guide us as we decide how we want to move forward.

The Session had planned to review the A.E. Sloane results in February, but that was delayed until our March meeting due to Pastor Sarah's acceptance of a new call. The Session meeting on March 19th will primarily be devoted to understanding the work that was done, and how that information can assist us in the tasks before us as we search for the next pastoral leader, especially as we describe our congregation during the search process. I reached out and spoke with one of the consultants from A.E. Sloane last week and am looking forward to sharing more about their results with the Session on the 19th. We are also planning on holding a Town Hall discussion after worship on Sunday March 22nd.

Speaking of our next pastoral leader, on March 5th, the Session met with the Rev. Robin Garvin who assists congregations with transitions on behalf of the Presbytery. She talked us through the various options for the next kind of pastoral leader. As a result, we believe St. Andrew's would be best served by a trained transitional pastor. A transitional pastor shepherds a congregation through a short transition time (averaging 12-18 months) as the Session and, most likely, also a Pastor Nominating Committee begin the work of finding the next pastor. The transitional pastor is more than a placeholder – in addition to providing for worship, administration, and pastoral care – they will have a list of tasks to be accomplished during the transition with the Session's help. A subgroup of the Session is currently working on a position description for the transitional pastor which will go before the full Session this coming Thursday. Once approved by us, it will go to the Presbytery's Commission on Ministry, Northwest region, for their quick approval. Following that, it will be posted in all the places that Presbyterian pastors usually look for new positions.

I realize that there has been some conversation about a future merger of the Southwest area Presbyterian churches. After speaking with the pastors of our

neighboring congregations, I now realize that any talk of merger is premature. We will hold open all future options, but the other congregations do not currently have a merger on their 10-year horizon. So, our Session will move forward with planning for the continuing ministry for our congregation, beginning first with a transitional pastor.

With thanks for your prayers,

Pastor Amy and your St. Andrew's Session