

Twenty-Third Sunday in Pentecost, November 6, 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

Get comfortable in your seat. Find your feet on the floor.

Take a deep breath in through your nose. Hold it.

Release it through your mouth.

You've got a friend... in the triune God revealed in Jesus,
and you've got friends...

in the community of St. A's.

Breathe in awareness of the friendship available to you.

Breathe out your friendship to those around you.

Again friendship in.

Again friendship out.

As the Christ candle is lit,

sit with the assurance that you've got a friend.

Music plays while the Christ candle is lit.

***Opening Responses**

Worship Assistant: God is here, with and for us.

Higher Voices: God's wisdom is for all,
not limited to those with letters after their name.

Lower Voices: God's healing is for all,
not limited to those who can afford it.

Worship Assistant: God's presence is for all,

not limited to any place or time.
All: *Whoever we are,
however we got to this moment,
wherever we find ourselves,
God is here, with and for us.*

***Opening Prayer**

You are the God of the great and the good,
the small and the humble,
the top of the heap and the bottom rung of the ladder.
You speak your word in the voices of those we rarely listen to,
your invitation to abundant life comes
through those who appear to have so little,
and we ask for ears to hear.
Teach us to lay aside our egos and enter into community,
sharing and learning and serving alongside each other,
trusting the guides you send us
to show us the grace you have planted in this world.
Amen.

***Opening Hymn** *God Is Here* Glory to God #409

Call to Confession

Let us reveal the depths of our hearts to God our friend,
who is here with us and for us today and every day.
Please pray with me

Prayer of Confession

*Holy God, you have promised to meet us when we seek you.
We confess that we have expectations
about what that will look and feel like.
We expect that being in the right building at the right time
will make us holy.
We expect that saying the right words and doing the right moves
are almost like magic, forcing you to act.
We confess that we often continue our traditions
without asking whether they bring us closer to you.
We resist the idea that you might work differently
than the way we've always done things,
or outside of our special holy place,
or beyond the borders of our approved people,*

*or without any payment or deals to be made.
Forgive us for trapping you in our books of rules and rituals.
Forgive us for narrowing our spiritual lives
to a place and time and order.
Forgive us for trying to channel your grace
into our systems of control.
Disrupt our self-centered story
and lead us again to your waters that heal
that we may rise and walk in your way.
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 #29

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 8:2-3*
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. ***Thanks be to God.***

A Reading from 2 Kings *2 Kings 5:1-15a*
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. ***Thanks be to God.***

You, O God have formed us,
shaped us in your image.
Breathed in us the breath of life
and gave to us the earth.

***Still, we turn away, God.
Still, we wander from you.
God, you are calling.***

Let us hear your words!

God of priests and prophets,
God of all disciples,
God of the faithful who have run their course in faith.
Saints whose lives inspire us,
Holy friends who've shaped us,
***God, for this witness,
we give thanks and praise.***

***Holy, holy, holy, God of light and glory
Blessed is the one who comes
carrying your name.***

***Holy, holy, holy, you are most holy.
You sent us Christ to usher in your reign.***

Gathered at the table, sharing with disciples
Jesus took and broke the bread
as he gave thanks to you.
“Take and eat this bread, friend,
symbol of my body.
Share and remember these my words to you.”

When the meal was over,
Jesus shared the wine
“Drink from this, the cup of life,
forgiveness shared with you.”
Jesus, we remember. Jesus, we are grateful.
Gift of redemption, covenant made new.

***Holy God, we praise you.
All the saints adore you.
All their days they walked your ways
and followed Jesus Christ.
In this bless'd communion,***

***We are all your people,
Then, now, and always, to eternal life.***

Holy, Holy, Holy!
God pour out your Spirit.
Make these gifts become for us
the body and the blood.
Make us hands and feet, God.
Christ for the world!
We are redeemed, God, made new in your love.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We lay our thanksgiving and concern at Christ's feet as we come to his table.
O God, hear now the prayers of your people today.
First hear us as we name saints who have gone before us
whom we welcome to this table with us today:
*Worshippers voice the names of saints who have died
or type these into the chat and Pastor Sarah will read them.*
Now hear the particular requests of this gathered community today:
Prayer concerns submitted on zoom and on cards are read aloud.
Lord, in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***
And now with the confidence of the children of God we pray...

Sharing the Bread and Cup

I invite the servers forward.
All the bread is gluten free, all the juice is unfermented.
You are invited to come forward and receive bread and a small cup of juice.
We ask that you take these elements back to your seat and hold on to them
so that we can be united with our kindred in Christ at home
and all receive together.
If you want or need to be served in your seat,
raise your hand as the traveling server comes by
and we will be delighted to serve you.
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

***Sung Prayer after Communion**

***Sent forth from the table,
thankful for the mystery,
Thankful for this holy meal
in which we share in Christ,
Joining with your saints, God***

***We are Christ's body.
Sent forth to change the world
giving others life.***

SENDING

Our Ministry in Christ

*Stewardship Testimonial- Scott and Becky Schiefelbein
Announcements*

Charge and Sung Benediction

And All God's People Say...

Postlude

Worship Sources

Opening Responses, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession all by the Rev. Teri Peterson, shared with the Bible Worm Collective, of which Pastor Sarah is a member.

The Sung communion liturgy is by the Rev. Beth Quick and shared in her book *Singing at the Table: Sung Communion Liturgies and Reflections on Sharing the Sacrament*, self published for digital download in 2020, all rights reserved to Elizabeth Ann Quick.