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**April 30  
2023**

**St. Andrews  
Presbyterian Church**

**11:00 AM**

**April 30, 2023**

**SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1821 SW 37<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66611  
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**Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones, Pastor**

***“Loving People to New Life in Christ”***

*With God's grace, St. Andrews strives to be a growing inclusive community of faith, working together, sharing Jesus' love, and using our gifts to build and nurture a spiritual community.*

Welcome to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. We extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today.

Please join us for a time of fellowship and light refreshments in Fellowship Hall following worship.

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION ~ for your personal reflection before worship.

Shepherding God, bring us into your fold. Lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Help us see the way we should go, the way we should live. Help us hear your voice calling our name. enliven this time of worship, that we may find true life as we join with others: praising your name, celebrating your great goodness, and sharing your love for all people. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

ENTRANCE OF THE WORSHIP LEADER

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ORGAN PRELUDE Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

WH Doane/J Southbridge

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Can you hear the voice of God?

People: We hear God calling us by name.

Pastor: Are you troubled or distressed?

People: We come here to find a place to rest for awhile.

Pastor: Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

People: We come to praise our Shepherding God, whose pathways and doors lead to life.

\*HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

No. 39

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Shepherding God, be with us in our need. Like sheep who have gone astray - we have not heeded your voice, calling us to follow the right paths, beckoning us to lie down and be restored; we have acted as if our salvation lies in busyness and control. We do not want to be sheep - dependent on a shepherd for everything. We want to do it alone - to maintain our independence. Forgive us for rejecting your shepherding care and your love and guidance. Forgive us for our need to do it by ourselves, to be separate from the flock. Forgive us for doubting your presence in times of trouble. Forgive us our despair in the face of seemingly unrelenting evil and death. Lead us back to the path of life. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

DECLARATION OF GOD'S PARDON

Pastor: Jesus said, I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly. In so confessing, we have returned to the shepherd, the guardian of our souls who welcomes us with open arms and a glad heart.

know that the shepherd of our lives never abandons us, is always calling our name, and unfailingly loves and forgives us.

People: Praise be to God!

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE Gloria Patri Hymnal No 581

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: As Christ Jesus has shared his peace with each of us, let us now share that peace with each other.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also in you.

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN Sanctuary No. 701

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 23 Pew Bible OT pg. 485

SERMON Life Just Keeps Happening...So Very Much

Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones

HYMN OF RESPONSE Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us No. 187

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*CALL FOR THE OFFERING

\*OFFERING (Please remember to leave your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary)

\* DOXOLOGY Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow No. 606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION - unison

Generous, life-giving God, you sent Jesus that we might have life and have it abundantly. In response to this great gift, we now offer ourselves and our resources. May these gifts help us as a church to be your voice, calling all people to abundant life and to their true identities as your beloved. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

\*HYMN From All That Dwells Below the Skies No. 327

\* CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: We have been refreshed and restored. We have been called and guided. Let us go forth knowing who our true shepherd is, following his path, secure in the knowledge that goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our life.

Extinguishing the candles of worship and taking the light of Christ into the world.

POSTLUDE                      Recessional                      Daniel E. Gawthrop

When you see an \* please stand as you are able.

**TODAY'S SERVANTS**

Pastor                      Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones  
Organist                      Francene Beall  
Music Director                      Stephanie Reynolds

**JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS**

Joy- Sharon McDaniels- Thank you for St. Andrews support in celebrating the restoration of their new home.

Judy Morton- Joy in new job and friendly welcoming

Linda Ozaki (continued improvement), Suzie Marker (continued prayers, chemo treatment every other week now), Karen Beckley, Kaylin McDaniels.

Keeping in our prayers: Kathy Fuller, Dolores Wilmers, Rita Kelly, Cheryl Kelly, AJ Jones

Remember all service men and women -both active duty and veterans, firefighters, EMTs, police officers, and medical personnel.

Prayers for the hungry and the homeless. Prayers for the victims of wars and gun violence .

Pray for our government officials and world leaders.

**Birthdays**

None this week

**Anniversaries**

Richmond and Sharon McDaniels, May 1, 1976

**Calendar**

Today, April 30-  
Sunday, May 7-

10:15 - Bible Study; 11:00 - Worship  
10:15 - Bible Study; 11:00 - Worship  
Communion