



**September 17
2023**

**St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church**

11:00 AM

“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.

September 17, 2023

SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones, Pastor

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

Join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for some light refreshments and a time for visiting.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION ~ for your personal reflection before worship.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desire known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleans the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
ENTRANCE OF THE PASTOR

GREETING
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ORGAN PRELUDE Let All Things Now Living Arr: Michael Helman

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Disciples and doubters, faithful and feckless,

People: we are God's who welcomes us all.

Pastor: Followers and those who lag behind, open-hearted and close-minded,

People: we are the Lord's who is always patient with us.

Pastor: Reconcilers and rabble-rousers, foolish and fearless

People: we are the Spirit's, who encourages us in every moment.

*HYMN Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven No. 619

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: We do not have to beg God to forgive us, but simply confess our foolish words, our mistaken acts, our grudging hearts. Please join me as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

We could have mercy, Compassion's heart, but we judge others by those standards we cannot meet. We could welcome around us as sisters and brothers, but hold them at contempt's length away from us. We could have patience with family and friends, but tap our feet and drum our fingers until they do what we want. In your forgiveness, Tender God, you wipe the board clean of all our poor accounting. You don't deal off the bottom of the deck to us, but turn up the ace of grace for us. You gather up all our foolishness and hurl it beyond the edge of the universe, so the healing you intend for us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, will take place.

SILENT PRAYERS

DECLARATION OF GOD'S PARDON

Pastor: Here the good news. God does not hold a grudge against us. God lets go of anger to welcome us as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

People: We will not be afraid, but will open our hearts and lives to God's compassionate grace. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Gloria Patri* Hymnal No 581

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: God has called us to live in peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with 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 Matthew 18:21-35 Pew Bible NT pg. 18

SERMON The Mayfly

Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones

HYMN OF RESPONSE There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
No 435

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**

May these simple gifts offer a welcome to the friendless, a meal for the hungry, shelter for those in disasters, and hope for all who are despised in our times. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

***HYMN** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* No. 753

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Whether we believe or whether we struggle, we are God's

People: Let us go out to welcome the doubters and disciples around us.

Pastor: Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

People: Let us go to embrace all who have been abandoned by the world.

Pastor: Whether we are brave or quake at the knees, we are the Spirit's.

People: Let us go to encourage our sisters and brothers who struggle.

POSTLUDE All Things Bright and Beautiful

Arr: Michael Helman

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

Jan Rice,(4th Chemo treatment coming up), Jo Ann Miller (fall, broken bone in right foot), Kaylin McDaniels, Richmond McDaniels (cataract surgery), Martin's brother(not doing so well, in and out of ICU), Karen Beckley, Don and Suzie Marker, Linda Ozaki (severe cough).

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

Cheryl Kelly

Remember all who serve-our service men and women, firefighters, EMTs, police officers, and medical personnel.

Prayers for the hungry and the homeless.

Prayers for the victims of the hurricanes, floods and severe weather throughout the country.

Our nation's leaders and world leaders.

Birthdays

None this week

Anniversaries

None this week

Calendar

Today, September 17 -10:15 - Bible Study; 11:00 - Worship, Session following worship

Sunday, September 24 - 10:15 - Bible Study; 11:00 - Worship