

The Church Responds

The Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed *(In Unison)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

A Minute for Stewardship

The Church Goes Forth to Serve

The Closing Hymn #307 "God of Grace and God of Glory" *(Glory to God)*

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

The Benediction and Postlude

Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

November 8, 2020

23^d Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

The Church in Preparation

The Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Introit and Time of Centering #76 "Do Not Be Afraid" *(Glory to God)*

Refrain:

Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Chosen and beloved, you are my own.
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you: by your name I called you for my own.

Look up, a new thing I am doing;
it springs forth; look and see it grow.
Through wilderness I'll make a level highway;
through deserts, make streams and rivers flow.

Refrain:

I am God, who blots out your transgressions;
for my own sake I do not chide or blame.
Only this much I ask, that you love me
and seek me and honor my name.

Refrain:

The Lord, the Holy One of Israel
has promised to lead us on our way,
and we who love and worship God our Maker
will listen to hear the Spirit say:

Refrain:

The Call to Worship

Leader: Children of Light, look to God for goodness and mercy.

People: **Wake us up, O God, so that we may stand firm in faith and love.**

Leader: Let us encourage one another in the name of the living God.

People: **Let us worship the Lord.**

The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Fill us, gracious God, with a sense of your abiding presence. Awaken our spirits to realities unseen. Turn us from our fear-filled anxieties and insecurities and help us to live with trust in you. May faith and love dominate all our relationships as we enter into the joy of serving in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Opening Hymn #425 “Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining” (*Presby Hymnal*)

Lord of light, Your name outshining All the stars and suns of space,
Use our talents in Your kingdom As the servants of Your grace;
Use us to fulfill Your purpose In the gift of Christ Your Son:
Abba, as in highest heaven, So on earth Your will be done.

By the toil of faithful workers In some far outlying field,
By the courage where the radiance Of the cross is still revealed,
By the victories of meekness, Through reproach and suffering won:
Abba, as in highest heaven, So on earth Your will be done.

Grant that knowledge, still increasing, At Your feet may lowly kneel;
With Your grace our triumphs hallow, With Your charity our zeal;
Lift the nations from the shadows To the gladness of the sun:
Abba, as in highest heaven, So on earth Your will be done.

By the prayers of faithful watchers, Never silent day or night;
By the cross of Jesus, bringing Peace to all and healing light;
By the love that passes knowledge, Making all Your children one:
Abba, as in highest heaven, So on earth Your will be done.

The Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

Merciful God, we are not ready for you to come. The light of our lamps sputters from lack of oil; the light of our witness flickers from lack of faith. We do not love others as you ask or care for your creation as you command. We do not live in expectation of your return. Forgive us, Lord. Make us ready to greet you. Fill us with the fuel of your grace that we may burn brightly with your love. Empower us to illuminate our world with your mercy, justice, and peace, until you come again. Amen.

A Time of Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

Musical Response

“Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

The Church in Proclamation

Scripture Readings

Matthew 25: 1 – 13

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Special Music

“Perfect Peace”

Vocalist: Deanna Golden

Pianist: Melinda Ripper

The Micro Message

Musical Response #350 “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning” (*Glory to God*)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, for the time is drawing nigh.

Refrain:

Sisters, don't grow weary; brothers, don't grow weary;
children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

It's our faith makes us happy; it's our faith makes us happy;
it's our faith makes us happy, for the time is drawing nigh.

Refrain:

We are climbing Jacob's ladder; we are climbing Jacob's ladder;
we are climbing Jacob's ladder, for the time is drawing nigh.

Refrain:

The Sermon

Rev. Merry Meloy

The Hymn #362

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”

(*Glory to God*)

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh.
Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil;
Look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand;
arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25: 1 – 13

25 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ 12 But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The flowers today are given by Chuck King in memory of George and Charlotte King.

Happy Birthday to:



November 11	Rick Bonnett
November 11	Alison Jones
November 11	Chris Rodgers

A Note of Thanks

Patty Walters would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, cards and prayers following her recent surgery. She loves and dearly misses seeing her church family!