***The Congregation Sings in Response** #2081 "Thank You, Jesus"

Thank you, Jesus, amen!
Thank you, Jesus, amen!
Thank you, Jesus, amen!
Alleluia! Amen!

***The Prayer of Dedication** *(In Unison)*

Loving God, may these gifts help others come to know Jesus as your Son, our Lord and Savior. May the witness of our hearts, our words, our hands, and our lives help others to know your truth and love. Amen.

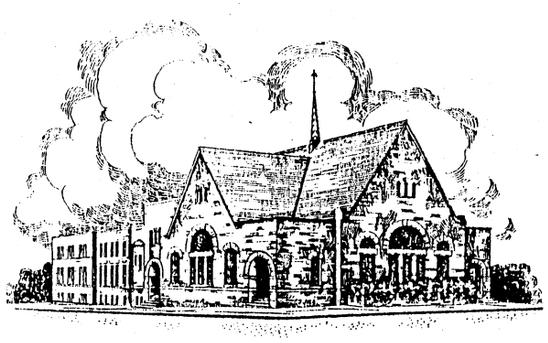
The Church Goes Forth to Serve

***The Closing Hymn** #298 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" *(Presby Hymnal)*

***The Benediction**

***The Postlude**

Welcome to Saint Andrews.
We're glad you're here!



Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church
201 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001 *Phone: (724) 287-4777*
Website: www.standrewsupc.org *Email: office@standrewsupc.org*

Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2026 17th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 AM
Installation of Elders

The Church in Preparation

The Prelude Pianist Melinda Ripper

Welcome and Announcements

The Introit and Time of Centering

The Call to Worship Kevin Moon

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and merciful,
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
People: God doesn't endlessly nag or scold,
God doesn't hold grudges or seek to settle old scores.
Leader: God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve,
or repay us according to our wrongdoing.
People: As high as heaven is above the earth,
God's forgiveness and love are larger still.
Leader: Let us worship God!

(Based on portions of Psalm 108)

The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Holy and loving God, we gather to give thanks for your abundant mercies. In Christ, you free us from all that holds us in bondage. Open our hearts and empower our spirits to receive your gift of grace. Give us the courage to reach out and embrace the new life that you intend for us. Amen.

***The Opening Hymn** #355 "Hear the Good News of Salvation" *(Presby Hymnal)*

(Ushers will collect prayer requests. Please pass them to the side aisles.)

*The people will rise in body or spirit

The Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Loving God, your grace and mercy are ever-present in our lives. Again and again, you offer us forgiveness. Again and again, you pick us up, dust us off and help us to start anew. Yet we do not extend such grace to others. We are quick to find fault, quick to assign blame, quick to harden our hearts and hold onto grudges. You call us to forgive, but we would rather nurse our resentments. You call us to seek reconciliation, but we find it easier to walk away and pull apart. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to extend the same mercy and grace you have shown us. Empower us to live as truly forgiven people, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

A Time of Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Congregation Sings in 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

The Scripture Readings Psalm 103: 1 – 13 O.T. p. 554
Matthew 18: 21 - 35 N.T. p. 20

Leader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God

The Message to Young Christians Denise Hawks

The Congregation Sings in Response #304 "Jesus Loves Me!"

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong; they are weak but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

The Sermon "God's New Math" Rev. Merry Meloy

***The Hymn** #445 "God, How Can We Forgive" *(Please See Insert)*

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.

The Installation of Elders

The Hymn #523 "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian" *(Presby Hymnal)*
(Beecher Tune)

The Offertory Invitation

Jesus' call to discipleship is a call to commitment. Jesus asks us to put our relationship with God first. Jesus asks us to give God our all. Let us bring before the Lord our tithes and offerings.

As the offering plates are being passed, please sign and pass the Friendship Registers located at the end of your pews. If you are visiting with us this morning, please help us get to know you by filling out the blue card in the pew rack in front of you. Thank you!

The Offertory Pianist Melinda Ripper

This Week at Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 20, 2026
10:30 AM – Worship and Installation of Elders

Monday, September 21, 2026
6:00 PM – Banned Book Study

Tuesday, September 22, 2026
4:00 PM – Beaver-Butler Presbytery, First UPC, Beaver Falls
7:00 PM – Community Orchestra

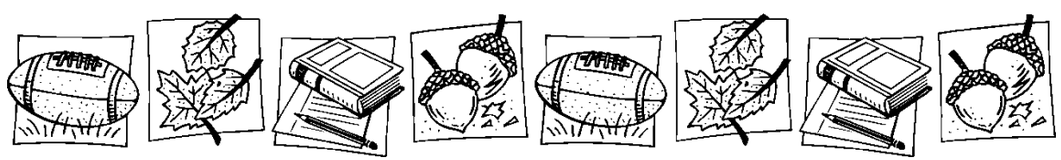
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
5:00 PM – Community Meal – Provided by Muddy Creek and Unionville Presbyterian Churches
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Matrona Family Resource Center

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Friday, September 25, 2026

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Next Sunday, September 27, 2026
10:30 AM – Worship



Worship Leaders

Ushers: John Minich	Michele Minich	Karen Pressler	Denny Rodgers
Next Week: Dale Hutchison	Natalie McKay	Paul Perry	Peggy Douthett

Liturgist: Kevin Moon — **Next Week:** TBA
Sound Tech: Jon McKay — **Next Week:** Jon McKay
Nursery Care: Denise Hawks — **Next Week:** Stephanie Arienzo
Flower Delivery: Carol Dreyer — **Next Week:** Kathy Eamigh
Open the Church: Paul Perry — **Next Week:** Paul Perry
Close the Church: Pastor Merry — **Next Week:** Denny Rodgers

The Flowers today are given by Pastor Merry in celebration of our Elders and Deacons.

Prayer Requests can be made by using the pink/purple prayer request cards found in the pew racks. Pass your requests to the center aisle during the Opening Hymn. They will be distributed to our Prayer Team to be included in this week's prayers.

Restrooms: From the front of the sanctuary, use the left entrance (by the piano) and follow the hallway to the right. The restrooms are down the hall on the left.

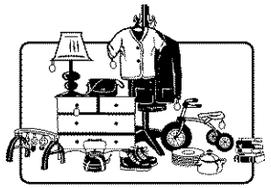
Child Care: The Church Nursery is available for children through kindergarten age. To find the nursery, please go to the left front entrance of the sanctuary and follow the hallway to the right. The nursery is on the left. If your child would like to be rocked during worship, a rocking chair is available on the left side of the sanctuary.

Rally Day Breakfast Thank You

A huge thank you to the Nurture Team and everyone who helped with this year's Rally Day Breakfast. It was wonderful!

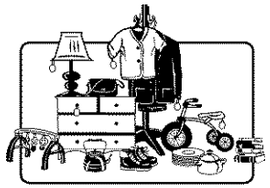
New Members Class

We will be offering a New Members Class later this fall. If you are interested in joining the church, or would just like to learn more about Saint Andrews, please see Pastor Merry or Jon McKay. Thank you!



Fall Indoor Yard Sale

"Friends & Family Sale"
Thursday, Oct. 1st
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm



Public Sale
Friday, Oct. 3rd and Saturday, Oct. 4th
9:00 am – 2:00 pm

The Fall Indoor Yard Sale is just a few weeks away! We will have a "Friends and Family" Sale on Thursday, Oct. 1, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Tickets are needed for admission and are available through Anzie. The public sale is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 2, and Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

To make the sale a success, we need your help! Volunteers are needed on Thursday morning starting at 9:00 am, Thursday afternoon (4:00 pm – 7:00 pm), Friday (8:45 am – 2:00 pm), Saturday morning (8:45 am – 2:00 pm) and Saturday afternoon starting at 1:45 pm. Please sign up on the schedule in the Narthex. Thanks! We just can't do it without you!

Banned Book Study
Tomorrow at 6:00 pm

Our next Banned Book Study will focus on George Orwell's *1984.* First published more than 75 years ago, Orwell's novel envisions a future where privacy is lost, independent thought is a crime, and human beings are under the complete control of a totalitarian government. The story raises questions about truth versus propaganda, the use of language, and the power and worth of individuals living under the thumb of an all-powerful state. In today's world where technology becomes ever more intrusive and the most basic facts are subject to debate, these questions remain both relevant and controversial.

We'll be discussing Orwell's classic tomorrow evening, September 21, at 6:00 pm in the Memorial Room. Please sign up in the Narthex so we know how much pizza to order. Thanks!

Be the Bridge
Butler Area Presbyterians
Invite You to a
Joint Book Study This Fall

As Christians, we are called to Christ's path of reconciliation and peace. But when we turn to issues of race, many of us don't know where or how to begin. The issues are so complex; the divisions are so deep. Fearful of saying or doing the wrong thing, we often stay silent. Yet open conversation is crucial for reconciliation. How can we be instruments of Christ's transforming grace if we are afraid to speak?

Latasha Morrison's *Be the Bridge* gives us a starting point. Morrison applies biblical principles such as lamentation, confession, and forgiveness to help guide us to constructive conversation and restoration. Her book offers a compelling vision of what it means for every follower of Jesus to become a bridge builder—committed to pursuing justice and unity in light of the Gospel.

Butler Area Presbyterians invite you to join us this fall as we explore Morrison's award-winning book together. We'll be gathering on:

Monday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 at Saint Andrews (201 E. Jefferson St.)
Monday, Nov. 2. at 6:30 at Hill (501 Second St.)
Monday, Dec. 7, at 6:30 at Covenant (107 Staley Ave.)

Discussion will be facilitated by Rev. C.F. Hoffman. To sign out a book or sign up for the study, please fill out a registration form on the table in the Narthex, and then give the form to Pastor Merry or place it in the offering plate. Thanks!

World Communion Sunday

We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper during worship on Sunday, October 4th. Please join us!

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

OPENING STATEMENT

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

I do.

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

I do and I will.

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

I will.

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

I will.

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

I will.

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

I do.

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

I will.

Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

I will.

To the Congregation:

Do we, the members of the church, accept these individuals as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

PRAYER

DECLARATION and CHARGE

WELCOME