

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



August 10, 2025

9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

10:30 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Prelude on Leoni"

Proulx

"Be still and know that I am God."

Psalm 46:10

(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE

"...I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:35b

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the convictions of things not seen.

Like Abraham and Sarah, let us follow God, even when we don't know where we are going.

By faith, let us look forward to the city that has foundations,
whose architect and builder is God.

Let us worship the God whose promise calls and claims us.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN 49

"The God of Abraham Praise"

LEONI

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

God calls us to walk in faith, but we do not always follow. Trusting in God's mercy,
let us confess our sin. Let us pray:

God of the ages, God of the old, old story, we hear of our ancestors and are astounded by their faith. They trusted you, but we waver. They believed your promise, but we cling to our own ideas. Forgive us and free us from our fear, that we may follow with joy wherever you may lead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

*KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

From age to age, from generation to generation, God's mercy never fails. Hear the good news! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

(Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE HEBREW TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 15:1-6

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE READING FROM HEBREWS: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (Responsively)

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith.

By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out without knowing where he was going.

By faith he lived in the land he had been promised as a stranger. He lived in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were coheirs of the same promise. He was looking forward to a city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

By faith even Sarah received the ability to have a child, though she herself was barren and past the age for having children, because she believed that the one who promised was faithful.

So descendants were born from one man (and he was as good as dead). They were as many as the number of the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth.

People who say this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it.

But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one.

Therefore, God isn't ashamed to be called their God; indeed, God has prepared a city for them.

The Word of God. The Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Salvation is Created"

Chesnokov

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:32-40

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"The Essentials"

THE RESPONSE

*HYMN 333

"How Our Hearts with Joy Abound"

GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT

***Affirmation of Faith** (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts

with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

BLESSING OF DEPARTING MEMBERS

Ray and Paula Nichols

THE ORDINATION, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF RULING ELDERS

Jerry Heiman and Cheryl Taylor

ORDINATION HYMN 69 (Verse 1) "Here, I Am, Lord"

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Chorus: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Andante espressivo"

Oldroyd

*DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (606)

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE SENDING

*HYMN 538

"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

HALLELUYA! PELO TSA RONA

*COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION (Unison)

Let us go forth into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return to no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all persons, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Happy are they who know where the real treasure is to be found.

Happy are they who take from the treasure and share it.

Friends of God, prepare to leave this church with spirits lighter than when you came in;
Trusting Christ to take an intimate interest in the costly investment he has made.

Invest in others as Christ's love has invested in you;

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Spirit.

The blessing of the eternal God is upon you:
redeeming grace, enfolding love, enduring fellowship.

Now and forever.

Amen!

POSTLUDE

"Prelude in C Major"

J.S. Bach

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor
Sharron Smith, Liturgist
Barb Aldredge, Sally Keeney, Ushers
Ron and Kit Robey, March Dye, Greeters
Ruby and Skylar Anderson, Acolytes
Michael Beery, Music Director
Laurence Smith, Guest Organist

CHECK OUT A BOOK FROM THE BOOK NOOK

Check out a book by Max Lucado for your summer reading:

JESUS, THE GOD WHO KNOWS YOUR NAME: Looks at every day encounters with Jesus experienced by friends and family.

THE APPLAUSE OF HEAVEN: God is your biggest fan and friend.

A GENTLE THUNDER: Hearing God through the storm.

IN THE GRIP OF GRACE: Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

JUST LIKE JESUS: God loves you the way you are but refuses to leave you that way.

THE GIFT FOR ALL PEOPLE: Thoughts on God's grace.

GOD WILL USE THIS FOR GOOD: Surviving the messes of life.

If you have a book you would like to suggest for addition to The Book Nook, please send a note to the church at office@benziestandrews.com.

**LET'S
TALK!**

Join us in reading an article or two
and then gathering to discuss the
interesting topic.

(Articles will be made available to you before we meet.)

Watch for sign up information!

10:30AM on the following Tuesdays

JULY 1

Staying Curious: Developing a Lifelong Sense of Wonder and Awe

JULY 15

The Epidemic of Loneliness: Finding Ways to Connect, Understand and See

JULY 29

Nonviolence: The Principles of Kingian Nonviolence

AUGUST 12

Public Theology: Our Outward Witness as Followers of Christ

AUGUST 26

Joy: The State of Joy

Inquirers' Class

9AM Sunday August 17

in Edwards Hall (lower level);

Session meeting following Worship

to receive new members.
