



**St. Andrew Church's "Why" Statement...** *To come together as a worshipping community, nourished by God's love so that we may reflect God's love to others.*  
Adopted April 2023

**October 15, 2023**  
**20th Sunday after Pentecost**

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

**+GATHERING+**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.*

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. R Milford

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN You Satisfy the Hungry Heart**

**ELW 484**

*Refrain*

You satisfy the hungry heart  
with gift of finest wheat.  
Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,  
they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,  
we follow and rejoice. *Refrain*
- 2 With joyful lips we sing to you  
our praise and gratitude  
that you should count us worthy, Lord,  
to share this heav'nly food. *Refrain*
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share  
the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare  
our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain*

- 4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,  
no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain  
comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain*
- 5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;  
then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name  
in truth and charity. *Refrain*

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and  
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY.**

Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and  
poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet.  
Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a  
people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and  
Lord.

**Amen.**

## **+WORD+**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.*

## **CHILDREN'S BIBLE STORY TIME**

*Children may leave worship with the teachers for  
Bible Story Time. They will return during the Hymn of the Day.*

**FIRST READING****Isaiah 25:1-9**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.     **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM Psalm 23 Shepherd Me, O God**  
*We all sing the refrains; choir sings the verses.*

**ELW 780**

**Shepherd Me, O God**

*Refrain*  
 All  
 Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from  
 death in-to life. *to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5* *to stanza 4*

*Leader or All*  
 1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I  
 2 Gent-ly you raise me and heal my wea-ry soul, you  
 3 Though I should wan-der the val-ley of death, I  
 rest in the mead-ows of faith-ful-ness and love, I  
 lead me by path-ways of rich-teous-ness and truth, my  
 fear no c-vil, for you are at my side, your

*Refrain*  
 walk by the qui-et wa-ters of peace,  
 spir-it shall sing the mu-sic of your name.  
 rod and your staff, my com-fort and my hope.

*Leader or All*  
 4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of  
 ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

*Leader or All*  
 5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;  
 I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev-er-more.

*Final refrain*  
 All  
 Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-  
 yond my fears, from death in-to life.

## SECOND READING      **Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**



**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p. 102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

*Alleluia.* This is the LORD for whom I we have waited;\* let us be glad and rejoice in I God's salvation. *Alleluia.* (Isa. 25:9)

**GOSPEL****Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone

you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY Now We Join in Celebration

ELW 462

- 1 Now we join in celebration  
at our Savior's invitation,  
dressed no more in spirit somber,  
clothed instead in joy and wonder;  
for the Lord of all existence,  
putting off divine transcendence,  
stoops again in love to meet us,  
with his very life to feed us.
  
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gather,  
fill our hearts with holy rapture!  
For this bread and cup of blessing  
are for us the sure possessing  
of your loving deed on Calv'ry,  
of your living self, our vict'ry,  
pledge of your unfailing presence,  
foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

3 Lord, we share in this communion  
 as one fam'ly of God's children,  
 reconciled through you, our brother,  
 one in you with God our Father.  
 Give us grace to live for others,  
 serving all, both friends and strangers,  
 seeking justice, love, and mercy  
 till you come in final glory.

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.\*  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A** Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for  
 the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**A** For green pastures and still waters and all the beauty of the natural world, that creation flourishes and humankind lives in right relationship with all you have made.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**A** For the nations of the world and all who hold positions of authority, that they govern in accordance with God's vision of justice, providing shelter and refuge to all in need, striving toward the goal of peace and prosperity for all.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**A** For all experiencing valleys of illness and grief, that they be healed and comforted and find rest in the presence of the Good Shepherd who walks beside them. *We pray especially Bill, Marge, Arthur, Jim, Callum, Paul, Charles, Steven, Johanna, Carole, Trudi, Anna, Nancy, Susan, Marie, Jean, Tracey, Donna, Michael, Pat, Robert, and those we name before you, on our lips or in the silence of our hearts.*

(Pause for silence)

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**A** For this community of believers, that wherever there is conflict or discord, the love of Christ may keep us united and make us mindful of all that is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and excellent.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

**A** In thanksgiving for the beloved saints who now rest in your mercy, that their faithful witness guides your church until the day we join them at your heavenly feast.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

**A** Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **SHARE THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **+MEAL+**

*God feeds us in the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING** *An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

**Organ Voluntary on How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord ELW 580**

Arr. C. Callahan

**OFFERTORY HYMN God Whose Giving Knows No Ending ELW 678**  
 St. 1

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending



- 1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and end - less store:
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
- 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con - ferred;



na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's shat - tered door,  
 all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the church made one.  
 ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the gos - pel word.



gift - ed by you, we turn to you, of - f'ring up our - selves in praise;  
 Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone;  
 O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call,



thank - ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 born with tal - ents, make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006

Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

God of power, God of plenty,  
all things belong to you.

We bring your gifts to the table,  
that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

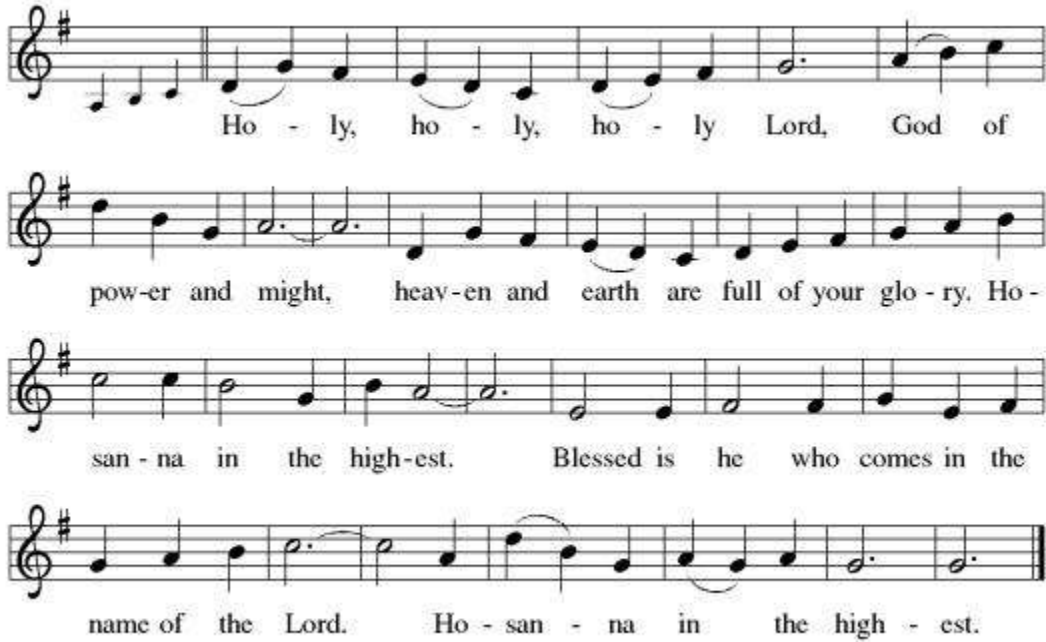
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY****ELW pg. 108**


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
 Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
 You have filled all creation with light and life;  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
 the promise to Israel,  
 the rescue from Egypt,  
 the gift of the promised land,  
 the words of the prophets;  
 and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
 who proclaimed the good news in word and deed



and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in Christ's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants

of every time and every place,  
 and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
 until he comes as victorious Lord of all.  
 Through him, with him, in him,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,  
 now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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 trespasses,  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the altar railing receive the Meal today. Please fill in along the railing from the pulpit to lectern sides. You may either stand or kneel to receive the Meal. The Meal will be served continuously. After you have received the Meal and after a quiet prayer of thanksgiving you may return to your seats via the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are available as an alternative. Please ask. White grape juice, in the center ring of each serving tray, is available as an alternative to the wine. Praise God for the*

life giving presence of the crucified-risen Christ in the bread and wine of this holy meal!

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready!

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMN "Lamb of God" ELW p. 112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Blessed be your name, O God,  
 for we have feasted on your Word,  
 Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
 Strengthened by this food,  
 send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
 where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
 In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

**+SENDING+**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN O God Our Help In Ages Past**

**ELW 632**

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
 our hope for years to come,  
 our shelter from the stormy blast,  
 and our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne  
 your saints have dwelt secure;  
 sufficient is your arm alone,  
 and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood  
 or earth received its frame,  
 from everlasting you are God,

to endless years the same.

- 4 A thousand ages in your sight  
are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, October 15, 2023**

Rev. Les Swenson, Deacon Gwynne Hopko

**Assistant Minister:** Arlene Creswell

**Lector:** Jen Alling

**Tech Team:** Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Noah Galvin, Connor Pratt

**Ushers:** Donald Millbrandt, Bill Golden, Kathy Golden

**Altar Guild:** Denise Martin

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### **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

#### **Monday, October 16, 2023**

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

7:00 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church Bible Study via zoom

#### **Tuesday, October 17, 2023**

6:45 Hand Bells

7:30 p.m. Reformation Choir

8:00 p.m. Voice Choir

#### **Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Bible Study

#### **Thursday, October 19, 2023**

7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Al Anon (Youth Room)

#### **Sunday, October 22, 2023; 21st Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour