

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

BE YOU

BE LOVED



BELIEVE

BELONG

May 4, 2025

10:00am

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Email: secretary@standrewfamily.org

Standrewfamily.org

The Rev. Suzanne M. Stierwalt, Pastor



ELCA

In preparing for worship, you may observe a period of silence for meditation and prayer (see pages 72-83 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship or the Psalms beginning on page 338).

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

During Lutheran church services, everyone participates. For the bold words, please join us in reading them out loud.

We welcome you and thank you for your presence in worship with us today! We welcome all people in our midst from all walks of life – God’s people in all places.

As Christians, we believe in the good news of God’s offer of salvation in God’s Son Jesus Christ – in his death on the cross and in his resurrection to new life. **As Lutherans**, we emphasize the good news of **grace and love God gives freely and unconditionally to all people** in Jesus Christ. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9) Just as all are welcome by the grace of God, so too all are welcome in this church: God’s church!

At St. Andrew, we love our Littles, Middles, and Bigs. We don’t have a nursery; we have a “Prayground.” A place **RIGHT UP FRONT** where curious minds can see, hear, wiggle, jump, and be kids. Kids of all ages are invited to sit, or stand, or crawl...to ask questions, to dance and sing, and to fully participate in worship. Kids are **NOT** the “future of the church”; they are the **NOW**. Sitting still and being completely quiet in worship is not required. We do ask that the adults who belong to the child sit up front, too. Our children learn by watching and following your lead.

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME

Beloveds, we begin our service with the rite of confession, not as a condemnation, but as a gift given to us by God. It is here where we are able to lay down our burdens at the foot of the cross and fully receive the gift of forgiveness given to us by our merciful God.

A moment of silence.

ELW is the name for the cranberry hymn book in your pew. It stands for Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the name of the Triune God.

The Prayer of the Day marks a turn in the service. Led by the presiding minister, the Prayer of the Day gathers all our praise into one.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to a life of service to our neighbor as we seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are Easter people and brought to new life in the Risen Christ, a life of restoration, reconciliation, and forgiveness. God hears us and sees us and knows our hearts. Beloveds, walk in the joy of this great love poured out for you knowing that in the name of the Father + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, all of your sins are forgiven. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” ELW 392

THE 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

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-20

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy

Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

This is the Word of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 30

¹ I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

² **O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

³ You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ **Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵ God’s wrath is short; God’s favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ **While I felt secure, I said,
“I shall never be disturbed.**

⁷ You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸ **I cried to you, O Lord;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹ “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ **Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;
O Lord, be my helper.”**

¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb

be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

This is the Word of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(stand as you are able)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*We celebrate
the living
word: Jesus
Christ, who is
present in the
reading of the
Gospel.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 21st Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

¹ After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

*Preaching
brings God's
word of law
and gospel
into our time
and place to
awaken and
nourish faith.*

*Our creed
reflects our
shared faith
as Lutheran
Christians,
linking us
with believers
throughout
history.*

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

(please be seated)

PRAYGROUND CONVERSATION & SERMON The Rev. Suzanne Stierwalt

(stand as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW 661

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

(please continue on pg. 9)

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(please be seated)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION "To You All Hearts Are Open" ACS 1012

To you all hearts are o - pen, to
 you all de - sires known. To you there are no
 se - crets, al - might - y God; we come to you.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip and encourage all of our dedicated volunteers who give their time and love to create a vibrant worship space and true display of hospitality. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Make us wise stewards of our local watersheds and all that you have entrusted to our care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Lutheran worship, we pray for others through intercessory prayers. We focus on the needs of the community, church, world, and leaders. These prayers follow a pattern where the congregation responds in bold text.

Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of those who truly have a heart for the vulnerable. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Bless the communities of PVH, Oasis, Mercy Chefs, and other local non-profits that pour out into the lives of so many.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure those who experience hopelessness or need your tender care and healing. This morning, we lift up to you:

For whom else do we pray? Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your protective hand is upon all who you've chosen to be a hedge of protection for others. We pray for all police officers, especially our PPD, for all firefighters and first responders, and for our military members, especially those who are deployed.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the witness of your saints of all times and places. May their lives of faith guide us on our own journeys with you, today and every day.
We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us, in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

(stand as you are able)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*If you are watching online,
please share the peace with each other in our comment box.*

We share the peace – the very peace by which Jesus greeted his disciples after the resurrection. It is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us.

OFFERING

Our offerings support the ministries of Christ's church in the congregation, our Virginia Synod, and our global mission partners.

We give thanks to God by offering the gifts we have been entrusted with for the sake of the world. Our offering also is an act of faith, of placing our trust in God instead of ourselves and our wealth.

At St. Andrew, we do not pass an offering plate. You can support our mission and ministries by placing a donation in the basket at the back of the sanctuary or by using the QR code below

***Again, we thank you!
Your generosity makes a difference.***

Thank you for your donation.

Scan here.



OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with the gifts we offer trusting that you will multiply them. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

SACRAMENT

To the Tune of “Thine Is the Glory”

Holy are you, God
Maker of all things
For the world we live in
To you our praises sing.

For Jesus our Savior
Who defeats the grave
Raised again the third day
All of our lives he saved.

The sacrament begins with the preface. We greet one another in remembrance of our renewed relation in Christ, who invites us to His Precious Supper.

**Thine is the glory
Our Savior and King
Gathered here together
Our thanks to you we bring.**

He called them to the table
Disciples known as friends.
Took bread, gave thanks and broke it
His love that never ends
Eat this is my body, I give it for you
Share it now among you, remember me as you do.

**Thine is the glory
Our Savior and our Friend
We eat and we remember
Your love that never ends.**

After the meal, he lifted up the cup
This blood is the new promise
Let it fill you up.
Remember as you drink it
My life poured out for you
Forgiveness for all our sin
This cup will make you new.

**Thine is the glory
Our Savior and our Lord
We drink and we remember
Through it we are restored.**

Blessed be the Father
Blessed be the Son
Blessed be the Spirit
Victory is won.

Thine is the glory
With this bread and cup
In blessed remembrance
Our hearts are now filled up.

Words by The Rev. Suzanne Stierwalt

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.**

(please be seated)

"This Is Christ's Body" *(sing 2 times)*

ACS 967

This song echoes John the Baptist's pronouncement that Jesus is the Passover Lamb of God's people and the Savior of the world.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with mer - cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y, with mer - cy and love. bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one." The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

*Christ's body
and blood
given to us,
God forgives
us and
nourishes us
for mission.
We ask God
to send us in
witness to the
world.*

*The
communion
hymn(s) aid
us in worship
while we
commune.
Their content
often centers
on the Lord's
Supper, or the
theme of the
day.*

*The Post-
Communion
Prayer
centers on the
gift we have
received
through the
meal which
Christ has
given us.*

COMMUNION

*We warmly welcome everyone to receive Holy Communion.
If you prefer a blessing, just fold your arms across your chest while
kneeling at the altar. Parents are encouraged to bring their little ones for
a special blessing too. We're excited to share this moment with you!*

COMMUNION HYMN "What Wondrous Love is This" ELW 666

(stand as you are able)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

To the Tune of "Thine Is the Glory"

**Lord, you have fed us
Let us become what we receive
One body in Christ Jesus
In you, we believe.**

**Let us feed the hungry
Let us clothe the poor
Let us pour out your grace
Love our neighbors more.**

**Worship has ended
Let service begin
Let us go forth in your peace
To share Good News again.**

Words by The Rev. Suzanne Stierwalt

Sending brings our worship full circle. We have been gathered, in all our diversity, and shaped into a community, one body in Christ.

We have gathered together in our diversity, unified as one community in Christ.

SENDING

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

BENEDICTION

Beloved Children, God is more infinitely concerned about your future than your past. So make haste to love, Be quick to forgive, and remember that the One who created you, +Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Loves you, just as you are. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “Go My Children with My Blessing” ELW 543

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
You are the Body of Christ, raised up for the world.
Go in peace, Share the good news! **Thanks be to God!**

THANK YOU FOR SERVING TODAY:

Ministers: The People of St. Andrew

Pastor: The Rev. Suzanne Stierwalt **Music Minister:** Alyssa Harney

Assisting Minister: Nicole Lamarre

Usher: Jason Wallace **Greeter:** Justin Ross

Technician: Jimmy Gaydos, Justin Wallace **Parish Admin:** Nell Bartel

Musicians: Alyssa Harney, Josh Kritz

Altar Guild: Cathy Benton

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Prayer requests will stay in the bulletin for two weeks unless requested otherwise.

Please place their names on our SA Prayer Wall.

Those who are a part of our community of faith: Ryan, Shanell, Cherise, Jen, Jean, Larry, Mindy, Joseph, Cathy, Darlene, Carol & John, Jamie, Janice, Jason, Brian, All victims of war and natural disasters, The Boncque family, Tommy & Ellen, Rachel, Kimbi, Fred & Barb, Laurey, Lutheran Church of the Master.

We also pray for those serving on active duty in our armed forces.

If you know someone who is deployed, please let us know.

**Next Sunday's Readings, May 11, 2025 4th Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30**

THIS WEEK at St. Andrew – May 4-11, 2025

Today:	10am	Worship – Onsite & Online 3rd Sunday of Easter
Monday:	7pm	Toastmasters
	7-8pm	Pack 207 Scout Meeting
Thursday:	10am	Zoom Bible Study with Edith Blake
Sunday:	10am	Worship – Onsite & Online
5/11/25		4th Sunday of Easter

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 12, 7-8pm Pack 207 Scout Meeting
Tuesday, May 13, 5pm – Scouts Troop 2574
Thursday, May 15, 10am – Zoom Bible Study
Saturday, May 17, 8-12pm – Property Saturday
Sunday, May 18, 10am – Worship & Coffee Hour after Worship
Monday, May 19, 7pm – Toastmasters
Monday, May 19, 7-8pm – Scouts Pack 207
Wednesday, May 21, 6:30pm – SOS
Thursday, May 22, 10am – Zoom Bible Study

St. Andrew Lutheran Church Purpose-Vision-Mission Statement:

Purpose: We are a welcoming community that supports, feeds, and accepts all.

**Vision: We are a loving family being restored through God's grace,
creating meaningful connections with the community.**

Mission: Be You. Be Loved. Belong. Believe.