



affirmation sunday | 9:30 a.m. | nov. 12, 2023

st. andrew presbyterian church

Affirmation Sunday

9:30 a.m. | November 12, 2023

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Thought for Reflection

“To give someone a blessing is the most significant affirmation we can offer.” – Henri Nouwen

Welcome + Announcements

Prelude | *Awesome God*, arr. Sondra Tucker

✠ Call to Gather

God of all creation, we bless and praise you.

We thank you for the encouragement

you have given us through teachers and mentors and witnesses of your love.

We pray that as we worship today,

you will use our words and actions to encourage others.

We gather in the great communion of all God's people in every time and place.

To you be glory and praise,

through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “Open Your Ears O Faithful People,” pg. 7

✠ Prayer of Confession and Promise of Ever-Present Grace

In Matthew 25, we hear these words of Jesus,

“Come, you that are blessed by my Father,

inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

But when we hear Jesus recount the feeding of the hungry,

Providing water to the thirsty, and welcoming the stranger,

we fear we have missed the mark.

Hymns + Songs | Pages are listed for the printed bulletin

Numbers (#) are listed for music in the *Lift Up Your Hearts* (red) hymnal

Bold Print | Speak or sing together in unison.

✠ Please rise in body or in spirit.



New Guest Connection

May we turn again to the compassionate one and seek grace to live a new life.
Let us join in our prayer of confession.

**O God, like a good shepherd searching for a lost lamb,
like a woman looking for a lost coin,**

**like a father redeeming his son,
your love is rich beyond our deserving.**

You never forsake us, no matter how far we move from you.

Forgive us for the many times we have ignored people in need.

Turn us from selfish ways that prevent us from sharing life with others.

Open our hearts that we may enlarge our welcome to include all your people.

In your grace, may we know the joy of being found by your forgiving love.

And may we grow in grace as we love and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Time for Silent Confession

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.
In the name of Jesus, our one Lord and Savior,
embrace the gift of his grace and forgiveness.
Amen.

✠ **Musical Response** | “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful,” pg. 6

***In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful;
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.***

✠ **Sharing of Christ’s Peace & Compassion**

And now, as a visible sign
of what it means to live together
in the care and context
of Christ’s community,
let us extend Christ’s

peace and compassion
to those around us!
The peace of Christ be with you all!
And also with you!

First Reading | Psalm 78:1-7 (*Bible*, pg. 468)

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Time for Young Disciples | *Thomas Hartley, director of children's and family ministries*

Second Reading | Matthew 25:1-13 (*Bible*, pg. 806)

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon | *Living into the Bend* | Rev. Kyle Otterbein

✠ **Hymn** | "My Lord! What A Morning," pg. 8

Commissioning of Our Affirmands

Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
"Come, you that are blessed by my Father,
inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
for I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
I was naked and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me."

Then the righteous will answer him,
"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food,
or thirsty and gave you something to drink?
And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you,
or naked and gave you clothing?

✠ Following the *Time for Young Disciples*, Kindergartners and younger children are welcome to join activities in the Lower Level Children's Area.

And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?”

And the king will answer them,

”Truly I tell you,

just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,
you did it to me.”

Worship in Tithes and Offerings |

Growing to Serve | Iowa City Free Medical Clinic | Cecilia Norris

Offertory | *Soon and Very Soon*, arr. Rollo Dilworth

✠ **Response to Our Offerings** | “Now Thank We All Our God,” vs. 1

*Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.*

Prayers of the People & The 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.

✠ **Sending Hymn** | “My Faith Looks Up To Thee,” pg. 9 (*hymnal*, #426)

✂ Benediction

Postlude | *Children's Song Medley*, arr. Mark Hayes

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. W. Robert Martin III and Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *pastors*
Austen Wilson, *director of musical ministries*
Resound! | Laura Kastens, *assistant director of handbell ministries*
Logos Choir | Laura Kastens, *pianist & accompanist*
Percussion Ensemble

The Flowers on the Chancel are given by Allison and Kyle Bernard in celebration of Emma's first birthday.

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful 654

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near." The score includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Soprano part on the word "a - fraid".

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL
Irregular
TEXT: Taizé Community, 1986
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1986
Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People 453



1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple; o - pen your
2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have



ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
ears, now let them hear; they who would learn the



roy - al priest - hood; God has come to you.
way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

In the writings of the prophets, the ear is valued above other senses, and the essential declaration of Jewish faith is *shema Yisrael*, "Hear, O Israel" (Deuteronomy 5:1, 6:4-9; Jeremiah 2:4). "To hear" is no small thing, for this verb assumes what is truly heard will also be obeyed.

TEXT: Willard F. Jabusch, 1966; rev. 1982

MUSIC: Hasidic melody; arr. Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 2006

Text © 1966, 1982 Willard F. Jabusch (Published by OCP)

Music Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

YISRAEL V'ORAITA

9.8.9.5 with refrain

My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

Narrative Budget 2024 & Stewardship Sunday (Nov. 19)

St. Andrew's Stewardship Team is inviting you to look through the **Narrative Budget** prepared for 2024 (bit.ly/sapc-narrative-budget-2024). After looking through the budget, please prayerfully consider how much you may be willing to donate toward supporting St. Andrew's envisioned ministries next year.

There are several options available for when you are ready to make pledge:

- You can pledge online through **St. Andrew Connect**, using your credit card or bank account (bit.ly/sapc-stewardship-2024).
- If you would like St. Andrew to avoid the small processing fees associated with using your credit card, you can contact Finance Administrator John Benson directly (finance@saintandrew-ic.org).
- Or you can take and fill out a printed pledge card at the **Welcome Table** in the Atrium or on the **Receptionist Desk** in the Church Office.

Pledge Online



Stewardship 2024

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

D A D A A7

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im-part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When life's swift race is run, death's cold work al - most done,

D E A D

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire. As thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
 be near to me. Blest Sav - ior, then in love fear and dis -

Bm G D Em/G A7 D

guilt a - way. O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee, pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move. O bear me safe a - bove, re - deemed and free!



Sunday Nov. 19

9 a.m. - Noon

For the St. Andrew community, the annual **Alternative Gift Market** has long been a key event for kicking off the Advent Season — providing us with a timely reminder of the needs that exist across the globe as well as around the corner.

This year's market will include items featured in the **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Giving Catalog** as well as many other items that directly benefit our local mission partners.

Come ready to shop (and share) on **Sunday Nov. 19.**

Questions about Worship @ St. Andrew?

- **Welcome!** We are happy to have you join us today. If you would like more information about St. Andrew, please email office@saintandrew-ic.org or visit <https://bit.ly/sapc-connection>.
- Our worship services begin **in-person and online at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings**, followed by Sunday School and Adult Christian Education offerings from September to April and a variety of After Worship activities from May to August. *The service usually begins with Welcome & Announcements a few minutes before 9:30 a.m.*
- All ages are welcome in our worship services. Worship materials for all ages are available in **The Maker's Toolbox** outside the north entrance to the Sanctuary.
- **Nursery care** (up to age 2) is provided in the Lower Level throughout the morning. Programming for children (through Kindergarten age) begins in the Lower Level after the **Time for Young Disciples** on most Sundays and after the **Sharing of Christ's Peace and Compassion** on Communion Sundays.
- Large print hymnals, bibles, and bulletins also are available outside the Sanctuary doors. A T-Coil hearing assist loop is also available for those with this feature on their hearing aids.
- **Prayer Requests** may be written on a blue **Prayer Request Card** and placed in the offering plates as they are passed.
- Unless otherwise designated, gifts given to the weekly **offering**—either in the offering plates or through our website—support the annual church budget, including staff salaries, utilities, mission outreach, and all aspects of ministry at St. Andrew.
- To log into the **St. Andrew Connect** system, either download the **St. Andrew App** through the **App Store/Google Play** or visit saintandrew.ccbchurch.com.
- Permission to livestream the music in this service is from CCLI (#617801) and One License (A-711114).



St. Andrew Connect
saintandrew.ccbchurch.com



Pastoral, Ministry, and Administrative Staff & Church Elected Officers

Pastors

Rev. W. Robert Martin III, *lead pastor & head of staff* | rmartin@saintandrew-ic.org

Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *associate pastor* | kotterbein@saintandrew-ic.org

Rev. Mark Wilson Martin, *pastor emeritus* | pastormwm@gmail.com

Administrative Ministries

John Benson, *finance administrator* | finance@saintandrew-ic.org

Jeff Charis-Carlson, *director of communications and media ministries* | jcharisc@saintandrew-ic.org

Amy Schmidt-Rundell, *mission outreach coordinator* | amysr@saintandrew-ic.org

Tim Patrick, *building & grounds coordinator* | building@saintandrew-ic.org

Children's, Family & Student Ministries

Matt Moore, *director of student ministries* | mmoore@saintandrew-ic.org

Thomas Hartley, *director of children's and family ministries* | thartley@saintandrew-ic.org

Nichole Hoffman, *children's ministries outreach coordinator* | nhoffman@saintandrew-ic.org

Sara Penn, *children's ministries activities coordinator* | spenn@saintandrew-ic.org

Music Ministries

Austen Wilson, *director of music ministries* | awilson@saintandrew-ic.org

Laura Kastens, *assistant director of handbell ministries* | lkastens@saintandrew-ic.org

Lee Rabe, *assistant director of instrumental ministries* | lrabe@saintandrew-ic.org

Abby Chen, *organist & accompanist* | achen@saintandrew-ic.org

Elders

Class of 2024: Cade Benson, Jason Gehrs, Thomas Hartley, Sara Penn,
Karen Raynor, and Rebecca Schuchert

Class of 2025: Helen Bryce, Don Burch, Eric Goers, Jon Swearingen, and Bruce Walker

Class of 2026: Aaron Gibson, Mary Hausler, Virginia Ibrahim-Olin, Josh Schilling, and Gregs Thomopulos

Deacons

Class of 2024: Kathi Anderson, Katherine Habley, Cody Neddermeyer, Pam & Phil Karp,
Jenny Wilcox, and Elizabeth Young

Class of 2025: Erika Law Tuttle, Pat Penn, Amy & Jason Schmidt-Rundell, Kathy & Dave Duys,
and Dedi Walker

Class of 2026: Daniel Chappo, Jim Halverson, Scott Hoffman, Jamie Tanas & Mettie Thomopulos

Finance Team

Class of 2024: Jason Schuchert, *treasurer* | Michelle DeGroot, *assistant treasurer*

Personnel Team (at large)

Class of 2024: Kent Short | **Class of 2025:** Lisa Shileny & Wes Habley | **Class of 2026:** Twila Finkelstein

Nominating Team (at large)

Class of 2024: Kyle Bernard, Nichole Hoffman, Lori Hudson & Emily Neddermeyer

Bulletin Cover: “Lamp of Wisdom,” a freestanding sculpture located in Waterperry Gardens, Oxfordshire, England. From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, Tennessee. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54977>. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rowanbank/5815103193/>.



Sunday School & Adult Education Today

- **2 & 3 Year Olds** | Children's Area
- **4, 5 & Kindergarten** | Children's Area
- **1st & 2nd Grade** | Children's Area
- **3rd & 4th Grade** | Children's Area
- **5th & 6th Grade** | Room 19 (meet in the Children's Area first)
- **Jr. High** | Room 18
- **High School & Adult: Moore & Martin: Spiritual Inventories and Spiritual Influencers** | *Pastor Rob Martin* and *Matt Moore* will be team teaching a weekly class on a range of topics from Spiritual Gifts to the theologians who have inspired them. The class will be open to all ages from high school to retirement. | *Conference Room (#128)*
- **Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians | Oct. 8 - Nov. 12** | David Timmer, a professor emeritus of Central College (and father to Becky Benson), will offer a six-week course on the theology and the enduring legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), whose ideas about Christian community, cheap and costly grace, moral responsibility, and the “non-religious” future of Christianity continue to challenge us in the present. | *The Hub*

Reminder of Upcoming Events

- Big Table | Nov. 17
- Stewardship Sunday | Nov. 19
- Alternative Gift Market | Nov. 19
- ETC/BASIC Thanksgiving Dinner | Nov. 19
- Hanging of the Greens | Nov. 26
- Food Market Distribution | Nov. 30
- Student Ministry Cookie Decorating Fundraiser | Dec. 3
- “Lessons & Carols” and last day of Sunday School and Adult Ed for 2023 | Dec. 10
- Children's Christmas Pageant and “Cocoa & Carols” | Dec. 17
- Services on Christmas Eve Day | Dec. 24 | 9:30 a.m. (4th Week of Advent) | 5, 7, & 11 p.m. (Christmas Eve)
- St. Andrew Hosts the Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby | Jan. 20, 2024
- St. Andy's Talent Show | Jan. 27, 2024
- Women's Retreat | Feb. 2-3, 2024