

9:30 A.M. | FEBRUARY 22, 2026

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, IOWA CITY



Today's Worship Participants

The Rev. Dr. Carl Anderson, *transitional pastor*

Becky Benson, *worship leader*

Logos Choir and Angelic Voices | Austen Wilson, *director*

Julia Van Den Top, *organist and accompanist*



Sunday School and Other After Worship Activities

- **PreK-Middle School Sunday School:** Children are invited to their classrooms for a time of learning, storytelling, and growing together in faith.
- **High school students and adults** are invited to today's **Learning Academy class, "Contemplative Practices and Indigenous Spirituality,"** with the Revs. **Colette Soult**s and **Bobby Outterson-Murphy**. The class will explore a variety of meditative practices that are familiar to the Western Christian tradition, while putting them in conversation with Native American spiritualities. We hope that this will be an opportunity for each participant to reflect on how these practices relate to our own perspectives and preferred expressions of spirituality. | *The Hub*



Questions for Reflection

- What might it look like for me to carry the mind of Christ into my everyday choices this week?
- Where could I loosen my grip on pride or self-protection to make more room for love?
- How might humility mean paying closer attention to others without losing myself?
- What am I clinging to that keeps me from Christ's way of self-giving love?
- What small, quiet act of love might God be inviting me into right now?



STEWARDSHIP 2026



New Guest Connection

First Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. | February 22, 2026

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Welcome + Announcements

Prelude | *Do Not Be Afraid* | Congregation joins when directed

Call to Gather | *adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Speed*

The good news of the gospel is:

**manna in the desert,
water turned into wine,
love after loss,
forgiveness after pain.**

The good news of the gospel is:

**release for the captive,
hope for the hopeless,
mourning turned to dancing,
and strangers turned to friends.**

So come on in.

There's no time to waste!

This surprising good news is here for you.

Let us worship this good-news God.

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | "Abide with Me," pg. 7 (*hymnal*, #466)

✠ **Prayer of Confession and Promise of Ever-Present Grace** | *adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Speed*

You may have heard, "All is fair in love and war," or "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

But God says, "Forgive seventy times seven."

God says, "I am slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

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.

God says, “Turn the other cheek.”
God’s mercy catches us by surprise.
So with wonder and gratitude, let us go to God in prayer.
Let us be surprised by God’s grace all over again.
Friends, let us pray:

**Loving God, somewhere along the way we picked up the message
that in order to be faithful, we have to be serious.
We have to pray on our knees without ceasing.
We have to be somber in worship and quiet in our studies.
We have to check our wiggles and our questions at the door.
But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly and untamed.
You turn water into wine—surprising and extravagant.
And all of a sudden, we wonder:
Can we be like that mustard seed? Can we be faithful and unruly?
Can we be playful and curious? Can we be messy and still be yours?
We know the answer already.
The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course.
Forgive our doubt. Pull us closer into your embrace.
With faith like a mustard seed, we pray.**

Time for Silent Confession

God’s grace is wild and unruly.
God’s mercy is abundant and surprising.
God’s love is expansive and unending.
So if you ask, “Holy One, am I forgiven?”
the answer is and always will be:
of course, of course, of course.
This is the good news of the gospel.
Thanks be to God!

✠ **Musical Response** | “Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy)” (*hymnal*, #637) | 1st time: Choir only †

† During Lent, we have some meaningful and creative elements that will help attune us to the season. The response to the Confession is a fusion of traditional Christian liturgy in Greek with Ghanaian musical expression. The Kyrie eleison (*kee-ree-eh eh-leh-ee-sawn*), or “Lord, have mercy,” is one of the oldest prayers we have as a church. Accompanied by drums and sung mostly a cappella, it will be a powerful way to musically connect with the global church throughout the ages. — Austen Wilson

✕ **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!**

Gospel Reading | Matthew 4:1-11 (*The Voice*)

The word of the prophets for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Time for Young Disciples †

Epistle Reading | Philippians 2:1-11 (*The Voice*)

The word of the prophets for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Message | Pastor Carl Anderson

✕ **Hymn of Reflection** | "Be Kind to One Another," pg. 8

Offering Our Time, Treasure, and Talents

Church in Action | Car Seat Share Program

Offertory | *Be Still*, by Karen Marrolli

✕ **Response to Our Offerings** | "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" (*hymnal*, #876)

**1 God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.**



Give Online

† After the Time for Young Disciples, children in Kindergarten and younger are invited to head to the Lower Level Children's Area for children's programming.

Prayers of the People

Joys & Concerns

Lord's Prayer | *adapted from Luke 11:2-4 & Matthew 6:13 (The Voice)*

Father in heaven, may your name be revered.

May your kingdom come.

May your will be accomplished on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us the food we need for tomorrow.

Forgive us for our wrongs, as we forgive those who wrong us.

Lead us away from temptation, and save us from the evil one.

But let Your kingdom be ... and let it be powerful and glorious forever. Amen.

✕ **Sending Hymn** | "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me," pg. 9

✕ **Benediction** | *adapted from a liturgy by Sarah Speed*

On the longest nights, **we remember we are never alone.**

When joy wears thin, **we remember how God calls us by name.**

When hope flickers, **we remember that God hear our prayers.**

And when the weight of the world feels too heavy,

we rejoice that the heart of the gospel really is good news.

Go in peace.

Postlude | *Take the Name of Jesus with You*, arr. by Albin C. Whitworth



Contemplative Practices and
Indigenous Spirituality

a Learning Academy class

Feb. 22 & March 1

with the Rev. Colette Soultz
and the Rev. Bobby Outtersen-Murphy

466

Abide with Me

E^b B^b7 Cm E^b/G A^b B^b7 E^b

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide; the dark - ness
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day; earth's joys grow
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour. What but thy

A^b E^b Fm F7/E^b B^b E^b B^b7 Cm E^b A^b

deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide. When oth - er help - ers fail and
 dim, its glo - ries pass a - way. Change and de - cay in all a -
 grace can foil the tempt - er's power? Who like thy - self my guide and

C7 Fm B^b7 E^b Cm Fm E^b/B^b B^b7 E^b

com - forts flee, Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 round I see. O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 stay can be? Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.

4 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,
 ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.
 Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
 Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
 in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1847, alt., P.D.
 Music (EVENTIDE 10.10.10.10): William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.

Be Kind to One Another

**1 Be kind to one another, be tender-hearted too —
forgiving one another, as Christ has pardoned you.
Refrain from any gossip, for gossip is a sin.
Be open to new friendships, and welcome people in.**

**2 Be kind in all your speaking and hear what others say.
Be open to Christ's teaching, and in all matters, pray.
Be gentle, loving, faithful and keep a humble mind.
Remember what is truthful. In everything be kind.**

**3 Be kind within your circle, but look past what you see;
Be kind to those in trouble — the poor, the refugee.
The world is filled with violence; write letters, call out sin!
Don't ever sit in silence and let the evil win.**

**4 O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do:
Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you.
Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way.
May love become our message; may kindness win the day.**

Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864 ("The Church's One Foundation")

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I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Freely $\text{♪} = \text{♪}^3$

Cm G7 Cm G7 Cm G

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

C E^b B^b E^b G A^b

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

G Cm Dm7(♭5) B^b7 Cm

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

A^b B^b Cm A^b Fm G7 Cm Fm Cm

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Words: African American spiritual

Music (SOJOURNER irregular): African American spiritual, P.D.



First Sunday in Lent

the good news is... so good it catches us by surprise



We Are Small, We Are Numerous, We Are Deep

by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Inspired by Matthew 13:31-32

11"x14" Acrylic, mustard seed on paper

Loose mustard seeds are nearly impossible to contain. They drift and scatter with the slightest breeze, asserting their own unruly will much like the mustard plants themselves. The mustard plant, dismissed as invasive weeds by some, is cultivated for healing and nourishment by others. Even now, after completing this piece, I am still finding stray seeds in my laundry, my car, my hair.

“They tried to bury us; they didn’t know we were seeds,” a line attributed to Greek poet Dinos Christianopoulos,⁶ has become a rallying cry for separated families along the Mexican-American border. More than a century earlier, Toussaint Louverture—the formerly enslaved commander of the self-emancipated army of Black cultivators in

Saint-Domingue (colonial Haiti)—voiced a similar belief upon his deportation and imprisonment in France: “You have done no more than cut down the trunk of the tree of Black liberty. . . It will spring back from the roots, for they are numerous and deep.”

From the Corn Mother of Indigenous myth to African women braiding okra seeds into their hair as they were forced from their homelands, many of our ancestors understood the power of carrying life in its smallest form. Seed-carrying is an act of faith. These tiny, unassuming specks hold the audacious hope that wherever we go, we already have what we need to take root and flourish in strange and foreign soils. May our faith and our hopes be just as audacious, resilient, and uncontainable as the seeds which hold the fruits of our faith. —Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Look

Pay attention to the textures in the artwork. Notice everywhere you see mustard seeds.

Upcoming Events

- **Presbytery Leadership Meeting** | Tuesday
- **Food Market** | Wednesday
- **BASIC Pancake Fundraiser** | Next Sunday
- **Iowa City Free Lunch** | March 4
- **Lenten Potluck** | March 5
- **At the Table** | March 5
- **Night of 1,000 Dinners** | March 6
- **Men's Retreat** | March 7
- **Congregational Meeting** | March 8
- **Strike Up Some Fun @ BowlDogs** | March 8
- **Senior Moments** | March 17
- **Food Market** | March 25
- **Palm Sunday** | March 29
- **Iowa City Free Lunch** | April 1
- **Maundy Thursday** | April 2 | Potluck, 6 p.m.;
Worship Service, 7 p.m.
- **Good Friday** | April 3
- **Easter Sunday** | April 5 | Worship Services, 7,
9, and 11 a.m. | Potluck Brunch, 8-11 a.m.
- **Presbytery Meeting** | April 18
- **Handbell Concert** | April 18
- **Senior Moments** | April 19
- **Food Market** | April 22

Congregational Meeting

After Worship

March 8, 2026

ST. ANDREW
MEN'S RETREAT
SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026

THE VOYAGE WITHIN

SAILING THE WORLD WHILE LISTENING FOR GOD'S CALL



EASTER FLOWERS
2026 ORDER FORM

Please Order by March 1
tinyurl.com/easter-flowers-2026



HELLO
my name is



Ushers & Greeters Needed
tinyurl.com/sapc-ushers-greeters



Questions about Worship?

- **Welcome!** Whether you are joining us in person or online, we are *delighted* to worship together.
- St. Andrew is an open, affirming, and inclusive congregation. That means we welcome saints and sinners, skeptics and believers, families of *all* shapes and sizes, and people from every point along life's journey. So, whoever you are this morning, whatever you believe—whether you believe anything at all: *You are welcome here!*
- If you are here for the first time, we encourage you to stop by our Welcome Table or Information Kiosk near the main entrance in the Atrium. There you will find some good people who would love to answer any questions you might have about our faith community.
- If you can't stop at the Info Kiosk today, you can learn more about St. Andrew by emailing office@saintandrew-ic.org or filling out this short form: <https://tinyurl.com/sapc-guest>.
- Our worship services begin **in-person and online shortly before 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.
- **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**.
- Unless otherwise designated, gifts given to the **weekly offering** support the church budget, including staff salaries, utilities, mission outreach, and all aspects of ministry.
- To log into the **St. Andrew Connect** system, either download the **St. Andrew App** through the **App Store/Google Play** or visit <https://saintandrew.ccbchurch.com>.
- There are wheelchairs available for use as needed in the lower level entrance foyer and by the coat racks near the upper level entrance.
- There is an AED near the Coffee Kitchen should a medical emergency arise.
- Permission to livestream the music in this service is from CCLI (#617801) and One License (A-711114).

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



140 Gathering Place Lane, Iowa City, Iowa, 52246

319-338-7523 |

www.saintandrew.ccbchurch.com | bit.ly/SAPCYouTube