



# ASCENSION SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. | MAY 17, 2026

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, IOWA CITY

# Today's Worship Participants

The Rev. Jordan Warntjes, *pastor*  
Kim Kipp, *worship leader*  
Logos Choir | Austen Wilson, *director*  
Middle School Bells | Pat Penn, *director*  
Thomas Hartley, *time for young disciples*  
Amy Schmidt-Rundell, *mission & outreach*  
Julia Van Den Top, *organist and accompanist*



# After Worship Activities

- The Spring 2026 Learning Academy semester concludes today with a presentation from **Inside Out Reentry Community**. | The Hub
- We also will be hosting a **Mini-Ministry & Sensory Fair** after worship today, highlighting the many ways to get involved in the shared work of St. Andrew. For more information see pg. 11 | The Atrium & Lettuce Feed Others Garden



# Bulletin Cover

The Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine is a Roman Catholic Shrine in Oklahoma City dedicated to Stanley Rother, an Oklahoma-born priest, missionary, and martyr. Rother served in the Santiago Atitlán region of Guatemala from 1968 until he was killed by gunmen in the mission's rectory. In 2016, Pope Francis confirmed that Rother had died a martyr, leading to Rother's beatification on September 23, 2017, in Oklahoma City. He is the first U.S.-born priest and martyr to be beatified by the Catholic Church, and is only the second person to be beatified on American soil. Photo by Jeff Charis-Carlson, March 2023.



# Flowers on the Chancel

Today's flowers are given by Michelle & Dave DeGroot and Katelynn & Abraham Sala in celebration of PFC Isaac DeGroot's graduation from Army Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Virginia, on May 6.



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**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.



# Ascension Sunday

9:30 a.m. | May 17, 2026

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

## Welcome + Announcements

**Connecting Hearts, Renewing Lives** | Today's Mini-Ministry & Sensory Fair

**Prelude** | *I Will Be a Child of Peace*, by Elaine Hagenberg

✠ **Call to Gather** | *adapted from Psalm 68*

The Psalmist today gives us a vision of God riding upon the clouds –  
of God marching through the wilderness  
as the earth quakes and the heavens pour down rain.

**But the Psalmist also extols this same God as the “Father of Orphans,”  
as the “Protector of Widows,”  
as Shelter for the Desolate,  
and as the Liberator of Captives.**

Let's sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth,  
**let's sing to the one who provides for the needy,**  
to the one whose very nature is goodness,  
**to the one whose very habitation is sanctuary.**

Blessed be God!

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “Morning Has Broken,” pg. 6

✠ Prayer of Confession and Promise of Ever-Present Grace | *adapted from Acts 1, John 17, and 1 Peter 4*

The author of today's gospel reading describes an ascension scene in which,  
after the disciples ask a clueless question,  
a cloud takes Jesus out of sight  
and two men in white robes appear and speak to the crowd:

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**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.

“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

**Because we just saw Jesus disappear, exactly when we need him most.**

“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

**Because we are confused and afraid of what God is asking of us in this moment.**

“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

**Because we are still timidly asking, “Lord, is this the time?”,  
even though we already feel God’s Spirit calling us to love boldly.**

“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

**Because we are scared to be Christ’s witnesses in Jerusalem,  
in all Judea and Samaria, let alone to the ends of the earth.**

“Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?”

**Because there is so much we need to ask forgiveness for  
that we don't even know where to begin.**

Let’s begin like those confused disciples before us, by devoting ourselves to prayer –  
by opening our hearts to God, even when our heads get in the way.

*Time for Silent Confession*

Friends, take heart.

Jesus continues to care for us.

He urges us to cast all our cares on him,

and he prays for our continued protection and perfection.

**Thanks be to God.**

✕ **Musical Response** | “Halle, Halle”

✕ **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!**

**New Testament Reading** | Acts 1:6-14 (NRSVUE)

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

## Time for Young Disciples †

### Gospel Reading | John 17:1-11 (NRSVUE)

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

### The Message | Pastor Jordan Warntjes

✠ **Hymn of Response** | “The Church’s One Foundation,” pg. 7 (*hymnal*, #251)

### Offering Our Time, Treasure, and Talents

**Offertory** | *Gaudio Exsultans*, by Valerie W. Stephenson

✠ **Response to Our Offerings** | ✠ **Response to Our Offerings** | “Doxology”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise God, in Jesus fully known:*

*Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*



Give Online

### Prayers of the People | Joys & Concerns | 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** | “Lead Me, Guide Me,” pg. 9 (*hymnal*, #329)

✠ **Benediction**

### Postlude

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† 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.

# Morning Has Broken 664



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

This 20th-century text was created to provide words for this traditional tune named for a small village on the Isle of Mull, off the west coast of Scotland. Through repeated use of "new" and "first," each morning is treated as a re-creation of the promise of the original day.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931, alt.  
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Beverly A. Howard, 2012  
 Text © David Higham Assoc., Ltd.  
 Music Arr. © 2012 Beverly A. Howard

BUNESSAN  
 5.5.5.4.D

## The Church's One Foundation

D A G A D

1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
 3 Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,  
 4 Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,

F# G D A

she is his new creation by water and the Word.  
 her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 by sufferings rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
 she waits the consummation of peace forevermore,

D G D Bm Em

From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
 One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
 yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 till with the vision glorious her long-ing eyes are blest,

D Gmaj7 Em7 Asus A D

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.  
 and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,  
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
 O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
 like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, P.D.

Music (AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D): Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, P.D.

# Lead Me, Guide Me

## Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For if you  
 lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each  
 day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

## Verses

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To  
 2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous-ness. Be my  
 3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am

help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the  
 aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting  
 blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways

D.C.  
 dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.  
 all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.  
 let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995  
 Tune: LEAD ME, GUIDE ME, Irregular with refrain: Doris M. Akers, 1922-1995; harm. by Richard Smallwood, b.1948  
 © 1953, (renewed), arr. © 2011, Doris M. Akers, admin. by Chappell & Co., Inc.

# Upcoming Events

- **Mini-Ministry & Sensory Fair** | Today
- **Give a Seedling** | Today
- **Meetup @ Friday Night Concert** | Friday
- **Give a Seedling & Adopt a Tomato** | May 25
- **Office Closed (Memorial Day)** | May 25
- **Food Market** | May 27
- **Free Lunch** | June 3
- **At the Table** | June 4
- **Celebration of Life: Lee Witwer** | June 6
- **Stronghold** | June 7–12
- **Lunch Bunch** | June 8–Aug 14
- **Wedding of Heidi Schmidt-Rundell** | June 13
- **Congregational Meeting** | June 14
- **Vacation Bible School** | June 15–19
- **Senior Moments** | June 16
- **Meetup @ Iowa City Pride Parade** | June 20
- **Food Market** | June 24
- **Meetup @ Yotopia** | June 25
- **Jazz Sunday** | June 28
- **Free Lunch** | July 1
- **At the Table** | July 2
- **Office Closed (Independence Day)** | July 3
- **Beer & Hymns @ Big Grove** | July 6
- **Installation of Rev. Jordan Warntjes** | July 12
- **Food Market** | July 22
- **Guatemala Mission Trip** | July 25–Aug. 1
- **Synod School** | July 26–31
- **Free Lunch** | Aug. 5
- **At the Table** | Aug. 6
- **Big Table** | Aug. 7
- **Girls Rock!** | Aug. 10–14
- **Senior Moments** | Aug. 18
- **School Year's Eve** | Aug. 23
- **Food Market** | Aug. 26
- **Ministry Fair** | Aug. 30
- **Free Lunch** | Sept. 2
- **At the Table** | Sept. 3
- **Big Table** | Sept. 4
- **Office Closed (Labor Day)** | Sept. 7
- **Sunday School Kickoff** | Sept. 13
- **Celebrating All Abilities Sunday** | Sept. 13
- **At the Table** | Oct. 1
- **Big Table** | Oct. 2
- **World Communion Sunday** | Oct. 4
- **Free Lunch** | Oct. 7
- **Senior Moments** | Oct. 20
- **Trunk or Treat** | Oct. 25
- **Food Market** | Oct. 28
- **All Saints Sunday** | Nov. 1
- **Free Lunch** | Nov. 4



## MEET PASTOR JORDAN

COFFEE. SMALL GROUPS. MINISTRY TEAMS. PORCH SWINGS. BACKYARD PATIOS.

PASTOR JORDAN WARNTJES IS GETTING TO KNOW THE PEOPLE AND STORIES OF ST. ANDREW.

INVITE HIM TO JOIN YOUR GROUP OR GATHERING.

PASTOR JORDAN WARNTJES

✉ PASTORJORDAN@SAINTANDREW-IC.ORG

☎ 319-333-0126

# Nominating Team Report

## May 2026

St. Andrew's Nominating Team would like to propose the following list of nominees for church officers. We are appreciative of those who have served, completing their terms and those who have prayerfully considered our request to accept a nomination. †

### Session

- Chloe Goers (Class of 2027)
- Margaret Heidger (Class of 2029)
- John Linder (Class of 2029)
- Josh Schilling (Class of 2029)
- Jessica Steele (Class of 2029)
- Adam Wolf (Class of 2029)

### Deacons

- Eli Benson (Class of 2027)
- Jean Barth (Class of 2029)
- LuAnn Robinson (Class of 2029)
- Jamie Tanas (Class of 2029)
- Mettie Thomopolous (Class of 2029)
- David Weitzel (Class of 2029)

### Nominating Team

- Pat Cone-Fisher Class (Class of 2027)
- Paul Heidger (Class of 2027)
- Marissa Moore (Class of 2027)
- Jeremy Penn (Class of 2027)

### Personnel

- Twila Finkelstein (Class of 2029)

— *St. Andrew Nominating Team 2025-26 | Elders: Helen Bryce and Paula McCue; Deacon: Jim Halverson; and At Large: Kyle Bernard, Paul Heidger, Marissa Moore, and Toni Van Voorhis*

† The nominees listed above will be voted on during the next Congregational Meeting, which Session typically sets for the second Sunday in June.

# Mini-Ministry & Sensory Fair

Today's Mini-Ministry & Sensory Fair offers a reminder that ministry at St. Andrew rarely happens in just one room ... or even indoors. Alongside hands-on activities, you'll find simple, clear ways to plug into what's happening this summer with:

- Vacation Bible School | The Atrium
- The Lunch Bunch Program | The Atrium
- The Food Market | The Atrium
- Lettuce Feed Others | The Garden (outside)
- Orchard for All | The Orchard (outside)

Outside the Upper Level Main Entrance, there will even be a sensory table for kids, while activities at the Lettuce Feed Others Garden include making seed balls for the prairie and learning about this year's "Give a Seedling" and "Adopt a Tomato" projects.

Today and next week, members are invited to donate extra vegetable seedlings for local food pantries and the St. Andrew Food Market.

Starting May 24, gardeners can also "adopt" tomato and other plants: grow them at home through the summer, then donate some of the produce back to help support neighbors across the community.

If there's a theme today, it's this: just because the school year winds down doesn't mean the ministry does. In many ways, it's just getting started—and we'll need plenty of helping hands to keep it growing.

And if you'd prefer to stay indoors, the final Learning Academy class of the season will be offered at the same time, featuring Inside Out Reentry Community — a chance to learn about and engage a different kind of work happening just beyond our walls. | The Hub



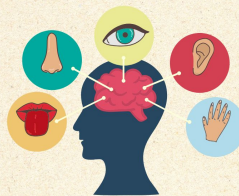
**INSIDE OUT**  
REENTRY COMMUNITY

May 17

**"Returning to  
the 'Real' World"**

*with representatives  
from Inside/Out Ministries  
a learning academy class*

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN  
**SENSORY FAIR**



**After Worship**

**May 17, 2026**

# 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](mailto: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).

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## ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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319-338-7523 |

[www.saintandrew.ccbchurch.com](http://www.saintandrew.ccbchurch.com) | [bit.ly/SAPCYouTube](https://bit.ly/SAPCYouTube)