



11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. | August 24, 2025

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Today's Worship Participants

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

Becky Benson, *worship leader*

Abby Chen, *organist and accompanist*

Flowers on the Chancel

- Today's flowers are given by Cindy Seyfer: "Thanks to all the wonderful teachers and administrators who educate and nurture our youth. Blessings to all the children and young adults at the start of the school year."
- If you would like to donate flowers for Sunday morning worship, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/sapc-flowers>, contact office@saintandrew-ic.org.

Bulletin Cover

- A photograph of the Hagia Sophia, or the Church of Holy Wisdom, which was dedicated in 360 C.E. in what is now Istanbul, Turkey. The largest church building in Christendom for almost 1,000 years, the current structure was erected in 532. The church became a mosque after the Ottoman Turks conquered the city in 1453, and in 1935 it became a museum. Hagia Sophia's design heavily influenced the development of Christian architecture, art, and worship. As Linda Safran notes: "The architecture of Hagia Sophia was meant to transform the ceremonies it housed, to place them on a level different from common existence, transforming them into more symbolic, heavenly drama."

Questions for Reflection

- Psalm 71 and today's Gathering Hymn call God a "rock" and "fortress." When have you prayed for such divine protection?
- Where "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" takes a bold stance, "Lord of All Hopefulness" takes a gentler approach to God's protection: "whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy." When have you felt both strength and tenderness in God's care?
- In Luke's Gospel, Jesus challenges religious leaders who value rules over compassion. When have you been more concerned with "keeping order" than with setting someone free?
- Hagia Sophia has been a church, mosque, and museum, standing for centuries as a sacred space through political, cultural, and religious upheavals. What does its endurance—and transformation—suggest about God's protection, not just for one community in one moment, but across generations and shifting circumstances?



**Johnson County
Interfaith Coalition**



School Year's Eve Sunday

9:30 a.m. | August 24, 2025

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Welcome + Announcements

Prelude | *If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee*, by Georg Neumark; arr. by Max Reger

✠ **Call to Gather** | *based on Jeremiah 1:4-10*

As the Holy One said to the prophet Jeremiah,

“Before I even formed you in your mother’s womb, I knew all about you.

Before you drew your first breath, I had already chosen you to speak My word to the nations.”

Ah, Eternal Lord! How can we possibly speak for you?

We are too young. ... Too old. ... Too untried. ... Too set in our ways.

“Don’t use your age as an excuse;

you can choose to go wherever I send you.

You can choose to say whatever words I give you.”

Then give us your words, O God,

not only words with the power to uproot and stamp out,

but also words meant to rebuild and renew.

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (*hymnal*, #776)

✠ **Prayer of Confession and Promise of Ever-Present Grace** | *based on Luke 13:10-17*

God offers us protection, yet we fail to call upon it.

Let us turn to the Eternal One and confess how far we have drifted from God’s protection.

Merciful God,

we point out the failures of others, hoping no one will notice our own.

We give voice to our self-righteous indignation,

yet neglect the chance to help others in life-changing ways.

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.

**Touch our lives with your message.
Shape our actions by the love you have planted in our hearts.
Give us courage to speak your words to our neighbors and enemies:**

“I know you.”

“I am with you.”

“I will defend you.”

Time for Silent Confession

Friends, take heart.

Scripture reminds us: we are invited to Mount Zion,
the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem,
a joyful feast.

The Spirit is perfecting us still, calling us to live on Earth as citizens of Heaven.

✠ **Musical Response** | “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

**1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**2 World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

✠ **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 | Luke 13:10-17 (*The Voice*)

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

Time for Young Disciples †

✕ **Hymn** | “Lord of All Hopefulness”

Psalm Reading | Psalm 71:1-6 (*The Voice*)

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

The Message | Pastor Carl Anderson

Offering Our Time, Treasure, and Talents

Offertory | *Amazing Grace: A Musical Portrait for Piano and Organ*, by John A. Behnke

✕ **Response to Our Offerings** | “All Together in God’s Presence”

All together in God’s presence we are gathered here today.
Now upon his holy union for God’s blessing let us pray.
Thank you, God for all you give us, all that’s faithful, good, and true.
Life and love are your creation. We are here because of you.

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Prayers of the People

Joys & Concerns

Lord’s Prayer | adapted from Matthew 6:9-14 (*The Voice*)

Abba, our father in heaven,
let your name remain holy.
Bring about your kingdom.
Manifest your will here on earth,
as it is manifest in heaven.



Give Online

† Children in Kindergarten and younger are invited to move down to the Lower Level Children’s Area following the Time for Young Disciples.

Give us each day that day's bread—no more, no less—
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive those who owe us something.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
But let Your kingdom be,
and let it be powerful and glorious forever. Amen.

✕ **Sending Hymn** | “Here I Am, Lord” (*hymnal*, #869)

✕ **Blessing of the Backpacks & Benediction**

Postlude | *To God be the Glory*, arr. by Abby Chen

Upcoming Events

- **At-Church “Home Stretch Check In”** | Today
- **In Worship Congregational Meeting** | Aug. 24
- **School Year’s Eve** | Aug. 24
- **Pedals & Pipes** | Aug. 24
- **Food Market** | Aug. 27
- **“Harvest of Gratitude”: A Volunteer Celebration Potluck** | Sept. 2
- **Instrument Ensembles Resume** | Sept. 2
- **Choir & Bells Resume** | Sept. 3
- **At the Table** | Sept. 4
- **Ministry Fair** | Sept. 7
- **All Abilities Art Exhibit** | Sept. 7
- **Sunday School Resumes** | Sept. 14
- **Senior Moments** | Sept. 16
- **Next Steps Class** | Sept. 21
- **Food Market** | Sept. 24
- **At the Table** | Oct. 2
- **Impacto Reunion** | Oct. 3
- **“Sound of Friendship” Concert** | Oct. 3
- **World Communion Sunday** | Oct. 5
- **BASIC Pancake Breakfast** | Oct. 5
- **Pilot Club Breakfast** | Oct. 11
- **Hayrides @ Dane Farm** | Oct. 11
- **Senior Moments** | Oct. 21
- **Trunk or Treat** | Oct. 26
- **Organ Recital for Abby Chen** | Oct. 27
- **Food Market** | Oct. 29
- **Minds Matter Resource Fair** | Nov. 1
- **Homemade from Heart Sale** | Nov. 1
- **Caregiver Wellness Day** | Nov. 6
- **At the Table** | Nov. 6
- **AGO Organ Recital** | Nov. 8

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

C G Am D7 G Am

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en
 4 That Word a - bove all earth - ly powers— no thanks to

C Dm G7 C G Am D7 G

nev - er fail - ing; our help - er he, a - mid the flood
 would be los - ing, were not the right Man on our side,
 to un - do us, we will not fear, for God has willed
 them— a - bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours

Am Em C Dm G7 C Am Dsus D G

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
 the Man of God's own choos - ing. You ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,

C Dm Am Dsus D G

does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:

Dm F A Dm E Am Em C Dm G7 C

and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same; and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure; one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still; his king - dom is for - ev - er!

Words: based on Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852, P.D.
 Music (EIN FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7): Martin Luther, 1529, alt.; harm. Johann S. Bach (1685-1750), P.D.

Here I Am, Lord

G C/G G C/G G D

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em Am7 C Am Am7/G D/F# D7/C

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

G C/G G C/G G D

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em Am7 C Am G/B C D

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Words: Daniel L. Schutte (b. 1947) © 1981 OCP (New Dawn Music), admin. OCP Publications
 Music (HERE I AM, LORD 7.7.7.4 D refrain 8.9.8.9): Daniel L. Schutte (b. 1947); arr. Michael Pope and John Weissrock © 1981 OCP (New Dawn Music), admin. OCP Publications

Refrain D G Gsus G C/G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

G Am7 G/B Am/C

I have heard you call - ing in the night.

D G Gsus G C/E

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

G Am7 D7 G Gsus G

I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



140 Gathering Place Lane, Iowa City, Iowa, 52246

319-338-7523 |

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

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form

- ☐ Please use my existing EFT account information for my 2022-25 commitment.
- ☐ I would like to use EFT for my giving. Please use my new account information below.
- ☐ I will be pledging online : <https://tinyurl.com/owe-nothing-but-love>

Name(s) _____

I/we authorize St. Andrew Presbyterian Church to electronically transfer funds from the checking or savings account of the financial institution named below to the account of St. Andrew. This authority is to remain in effect until St. Andrew has received written notification of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford St. Andrew and the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Amount per payment period: _____

Financial Institution: _____

Routing Number: _____

Account Number: _____

Signature: _____

Beginning Date for Withdrawals: _____

Payment Period (select one)

- ☐ 1st of each month
- ☐ 16th of each month
- ☐ 1st and 16th of each month
- ☐ Quarterly
- ☐ Annually

(please include a voided check)



Finish the Race | Owe Nothing But Love Stories from the Home Stretch Check-Ins

This month, St. Andrew members have been gathering in living rooms across Iowa City for a series of Home Stretch Check-Ins. These conversations have provided both financial updates and meaningful space to reflect on our journey.

The evenings begin with stories—baptisms, student years, new parenthood, or first Sundays that left lasting impressions. People speak of weddings and funerals held here, music that stirred them, and friendships that took root. The theme has been clear: St. Andrew is a place where life is woven together.

The gatherings also trace the long road of five capital campaigns over 17 years. From worshipping in a temporary space, to raising money for land, to the joy of entering our building, we remember how persistence and generosity have carried us.

Momentum has accelerated with a transformative gift: a \$1 million bequest from member Don Heineking. This legacy not only covers two-thirds of the remaining debt but also reframes the finish line—not as a “soft landing” but as a bold push to freedom from debt by 2027.

Yet these gatherings are about more than numbers. They are about identity and calling—always framed by the conviction that retiring debt will unleash resources for ministry. As one comment summed it up, this isn’t just a campaign, it’s “mission... stewardship... future-building.”

If you would like to attend or host a check-in, contact office@saintandrew-ic.org.

SAINT ANDREW Presbyterian Church

Finish the Race | Owe Nothing But Love | www.saintandrew-ic.org

This is my/our pledge to the Capital Campaign at St. Andrew for 2025-28: \$ _____.

Trusting in God's Abundance, I/we plan to give: ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually ☐ One-Time

Comments/Questions/Prayer Requests:

Name (please print)

Email

Address

Phone

☐ check here if your information
has changed since last year

City, State, Zip

Questions about Worship?

•**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 fill 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).

