

Nov. 8, 2026

‘More Than We Imagined’ | Week 4

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City

Today's Worship Participants

The Rev. Jordan Warntjes, *pastor*
Helen Bryce, *worship leader*
Logos Choir | Austen Wilson, *director*
Brass Ensemble | Julia Van Den Top, *director, organist, and accompanist*
Resound! | Laura Kastens, *director*
Wendy Lindberg, *time for young disciples*

Flowers on the Chancel

- Today's flowers on the Chancel are given by Paula McCue: "In gratitude to my church family for all the love and support given to me over the years."
- Today's flowers in the Atrium are given "in celebration of Pastor Jordan's birthday, with thanks to God for his presence among us."
- If you would like to donate chancel flowers, sign up at https://tinyurl.com/sapc-flowers or email office@saintandrew-ic.org.

Sunday School & Learning Academy

- **PreK–5th Grade:** Stories, Questions, and Discoveries! Our youngest disciples gather in the Gathering Area after worship for another Sunday of learning, laughter, and discovery.
- **Middle School: Mike Anderson** and **Michael Tilley** continue their Tolkien-themed curriculum, transforming Middle School into Middle Earth. Anyone sixth grade and older is welcome to enter!
- **High School & Adults** | Learning Academy | *"I'm glad you stayed."* Four simple words that can mean the world to someone struggling to find a reason to keep going. This Sunday, we'll hear from the **I'm Glad You Stayed Project**. The organization works to break the silence around mental health, help people recognize when someone is struggling, and give them practical tools to respond. Come learn how showing up, speaking up, and paying attention can make a life-saving difference.

On the Cover

See Page 10.

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.

Finish the Race
Owe Nothing But Love

Stewardship 2027
More Than We Imagined!

New Guest Connection

‘More Than We Imagined’ | Week 4

9:30 a.m. | Nov. 8, 2026
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | Iowa City, Iowa

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude | *Fairest Lord Jesus,* arr. Barbara Kinyon

✠ **Call to Gather** | *inspired by the poem “The Summer Day,” by Mary Oliver*

Who made the morning?
Who filled the world with beauty, wonder, and possibility?
The God who gives us more than we could ever imagine.
Who taught the flowers to bloom, the birds to sing,
and our hearts to recognize the gifts all around us?
The God whose grace is woven into all creation.
We have been given this day, this world, and one another.
What will we do with our “one wild and precious life”?
Let us pay attention. Let us give thanks. Let us worship the God of abundant grace!

✠ **Gathering Hymn** | “Come, You Thankful People, Come,” pg. 6 (*hymnal*, #473)

✠ **Call to Confession & Promise of Grace** | *inspired by the poem “The Summer Day,” by Mary Oliver*

So much of life is spent hurrying from one thing to the next,
worrying about what we lack,
and overlooking the abundance already before us.
We forget to notice. We forget to wonder. We even forget to be grateful.

Let us confess the ways we have failed to recognize and share the gifts of God's grace.

God of wonder and abundance, forgive us:
when we move through your world without really seeing it,
when we measure our lives by what we own rather than what we give,
when we let fear crowd out generosity,
when we overlook the beauty and needs of those around us.
Open our eyes and our hearts.
Teach us to pay attention, to love generously, and to live gratefully.

Time for Silent Confession

Hear the good news: God's grace is not something we must search for or earn.
It is already here:
in the gift of another morning,
in the kindness of a neighbor,
in the love that welcomes us home.
Even when we fail to notice, God's love never fails us.
Thanks be to God: We are forgiven, we are loved, and we are free to begin again.

✠ **Musical Response** | "We Are Forgiven"

✠ **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!**

Scripture Reading | 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

For the word of God in Scripture,
For the word of God among us,
For the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Time for Young Disciples ✞

The Message | "More Grace" | Pastor Jordan Warntjes

✠ **Hymn of Response** | "We Give Thee but Thine Own," pg. 7 (*hymnal*, #877)

✞ After the Time for Young Disciples, parents are invited to lead their children in Kindergarten and younger down to the Lower Level for more age-appropriate programming.

Offering Our Time, Talents, and Treasure

Offertory | *I Sought the Lord*, by Karen Marrolli

✠ **Response to Our Offering** | "Now Thank We All Our God," vs. 1 (*hymnal*, # 543)

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has 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** | "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven," pg. 8

✠ **Benediction**

Postlude | *Harvest Home (Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*), arr. by Paul Frederick

You are invited to remain seated through the postlude, allowing this final offering to complete our worship.



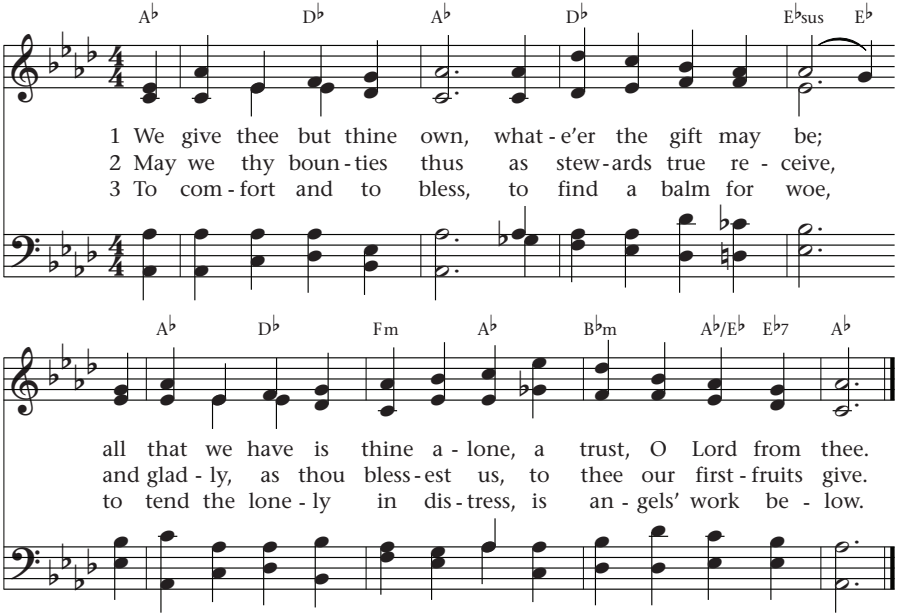


473 Come, You Thankful People, Come



Words: Henry Alford, 1844, alt., P.D.
Music (ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR 7.7.7.7 D): George J. Elvey, 1858, P.D.

877 We Give Thee but Thine Own



4 The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace—
it is a Christlike thing.

5 And we believe thy Word,
though dim our faith may be;
whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,
we do it unto thee.

Words: William W. How, 1858, alt., P.D.
Music (SCHUMANN 6.6.8.6): Mason and Webb, *Cantica Laudis,* 1850, P.D.





Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)



This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

TEXT: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center, 1974
MUSIC: John Goss, 1869
Text Adapt. © 1974 Ecumenical Women's Center

LAUDA ANIMA
8.7.8.7.8.7

Pastoral, Ministry, & Administrative Staff and **Elected Church Officers**

Pastors

Rev. Jordan Warntjes, *pastor and head of staff* | pastorjordan@saintandrew-ic.org
Rev. Colette Soults, *pastoral care associate* | pastoralcare@saintandrew-ic.org

Administrative Ministries

Walter Sparks, *finance administrator* | finance@saintandrew-ic.org
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Children's, Family & Student Ministries

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

Austen Wilson, *director of music ministries* | awilson@saintandrew-ic.org
Laura Kastens, *director of handbell ministries* | lkastens@saintandrew-ic.org
Julia Van Den Top, *organist & accompanist* | jvandentop@saintandrew-ic.org

Elders

Class of 2027: Becky Benson, Scott Fisher, Chloe Goers, Austin Kannegieter, Emily Neddermeyer, and Munir Tanas
2028: Helen Bryce, Paula McCue, Judy Swafford, and Jon Swearingen
2029: Margaret Heidger, John Linder, Josh Schilling, Jessica Steele, and Adam Wolf

Deacons

2027: Jordan Barrett, Eli Benson, Kathy & Dave Duys, Lynne Ginsberg, Cody Neddermeyer, and Jenni Stacy-Adams
2028: Laurel Crusinberry, Vern Dengler, Rick Graf, Cindy Seyfer, and Allison Van Iddekinge
2029: Jean Barth, LuAnn Robinson, Jamie Tanas, Mettie Thomopulos, and David Weitzel

Personnel Team (at large)

2027: Kent Short | **2028:** Ernie Found and Mindy Egeland | **2029:** Twila Finkelstein

Nominating Team (at large)

2027: Pat Cone-Fisher, Paul Heidger, Marissa Moore, and Jeremy Penn

On the Cover



The Prodigal Son,
by Kelly Latimore
20 × 24 in. | Acrylic, Flashe,
and Gold Leaf on Board

In **Kelly Latimore's *The Prodigal Son***, the father and son meet along a winding road, surrounded by hills, wildflowers, and a golden sky. The son, barefoot and dressed in tattered clothing, buries his face in his father's shoulder.

The father holds him close. There is no lecture, no accounting of what has been squandered, and no requirement to make things right before the embrace.

Reflecting on this familiar parable, theologian **Henri Nouwen** wondered whether he had spent too much of his life trying to find God without recognizing that God had been searching for him all along. "How am I to let myself be loved by God?" he asked.

But Nouwen also recognized that receiving grace is only part of the story. "I now see that the hands that forgive, console, heal, and offer a festive meal must become my own," he wrote in *The Return of the Prodigal Son*.

As we continue our *More Than We Imagined!* stewardship series, Latimore's icon reminds us that grace is not something we earn or even initiate. It is a gift already being offered, and one we are called to share. Our generosity begins with recognizing how generously we have been loved—and allowing that love to shape what we do next.

That invitation extends to our financial stewardship as well. **Campaign letters and pledge cards were mailed last week**, and you'll find another card on the last page of today's bulletin. As you consider what you can pledge toward St. Andrew's ministries in 2027, we encourage you to **return your pledge by next Sunday, Nov. 15**, to help us move forward with our budget planning.

After all, the question isn't simply how much we can give, but what we can make possible together when we share the grace we've received.

Upcoming Events

- **Iowa City Flute Choir Concert** | Nov. 15
- **Senior Moments** | Nov. 17
- **Food Market** | Nov. 18
- **Alternative Gift Market** | Nov. 22
- **Hanging of the Greens** | Nov. 22
- **Free Lunch** | Dec. 2
- **At the Table** | Dec. 3
- **Lessons & Carols** | Dec. 6
- **Children's Christmas Program** | Dec. 13
- **Senior Moments** | Dec. 15
- **Cocoa & Carols** | Dec. 20
- **Longest Night Service** | Dec. 21
- **Christmas Eve** (5, 7, & 10 p.m.) | Dec. 24
- **Food Market** | Dec. 30
- **Free Lunch** | Jan. 6, 2027
- **At the Table** | Jan. 7, 2027
- **Sunday School Resumes** | Jan. 10, 2027
- **Gifts of the Heart Packing** | Jan. 17
- **Orchestra Iowa** | Jan. 17
- **Senior Moments** | Jan. 19
- **Food Market** | Jan. 27
- **Women's Retreat** | Date TBD
- **Free Lunch** | Feb. 3
- **At the Table** | Feb. 4
- **Chili Cookoff** | Feb. 7
- **Senior Moments** | Feb. 16
- **Sound of Friendship** | Feb. 20
- **Pie for a Pint: Blood Drive** | Feb. 21
- **Food Market** | Feb. 24
- **Men's Retreat** | Feb. 27
- **Wartburg Choir & Orchestra** | Feb. 27
- **BASIC Pancake Breakfast** | Feb. 28
- **Free Lunch** | March 3
- **At the Table & Lenten Potluck** | March 4
- **Bowling @ Bowldogs** | March 7

More Than We Imagined!

SAINT ANDREW Presbyterian Church | Stewardship Pledge 2027

www.saintandrew-ic.org | *tinyurl.com/pledge-2027-sapc* | *319-338-7523*

This is my/our pledge to the annual budget at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in 2027: $_____.

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

Comments/Questions/Prayer Requests:

Name (please print) _____

Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

□ check here if your information has changed since last year

Questions about Worship?

- **Welcome!** 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- **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.
- There are wheelchairs available for use as needed in the lower level entrance foyer and by the coat racks near the upper level entrance.
- Permission to livestream the music in this service is from CCLI (#617801) and One License (A-711114).

Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form

More Than We Imagined!

□ **Please use my existing EFT account information for my 2027 commitment.**
□ **I would like to use EFT for my giving. Please use my account information below.**
□ **I will be giving online through the church website: tinyurl.com/pledge-2027-sapc.**

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: _____

Payment Period (select one)

□ 1st of each month
□ 16th of each month
□ 1st and 16th of each month
□ Quarterly

(please include a voided check)

Signature: _____ **Beginning Date for Withdrawals:** _____