



ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DENTON, TEXAS

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Patterson

Our Lenten journey takes us through the wilderness to discover you anew, O God.

The wilderness is a place where we find the building stones of faith.

The wilderness is a place where we have to step out in faith to get to a new place.

The wilderness is a place of longing, lament, and miracles.

The wilderness is a place where we discover rules to shape us.

The wilderness is a place where we worship God.

Find us in the wilderness, O God.

May the wilderness be for us a place of discovery and renewal of faith.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION+

Lord God, forgive us: In our words, we are tempted to speak truth in whispered tones. In our work, we are tempted to serve you with halfhearted energy. In our worship, we are tempted to thank you with leftover gifts. Doing your will is not always a spontaneous choice: Your way is sometimes unclear; Your direction is often unpopular; Your path is seldom profitable. Create in us clean hearts, O God. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Time of silent confession).

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

(John 13: 34-35)

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 443, There Is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

C.J. Prater

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17: 22-34

See Insert

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 25: 10-22

See Insert

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Postcards from the Wilderness: The Ark of the Covenant

Richard B. Culp

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN 626

As the Deer

AS THE DEER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

(The Confession of 1967)

The church gathers to praise God, to hear God's word for humankind, to baptize and to join in the Lord's Supper, to pray for and present the world to him in worship, to enjoy fellowship, to receive instruction, strength, and comfort, to order and organize its own corporate life, to be tested, renewed, and reformed, and to speak and act in the world's affairs as may be appropriate to the needs of the time. Amen.

LENTEN MOMENT

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

During Lent, we will be using a Bidding Prayer. When the leader says, "your kingdom come," the congregation responds by praying, "your will be done."

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

Hymn 608, Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

(Worshippers are invited to exit in a socially-distanced manner during the last hymn)

POSTLUDE

+Prayer of Confession taken from Prayers for the Lord's Day: Hope for the Exiles, by James S. Lowry, pp. 12-13.

WELCOME!

We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Prayer Concerns

Sue Rose
David McCullar
Kim Warner
Catherine Mitchell

Twila Kimbrough
Harriet Laney
Andrea Godwin-Stremler
Steve Shirley

Pat Hiler
Helen Harrison
Scott Hendrix
Suzanne Baroodly

Jaime Hines, sister of David Hines
Madelon Clark, daughter of Joy Wright
Molly Hook, daughter of Marcia Merritt
James Earp, friend of Paden Neeley
Mary Earp, friend of Paden Neeley
Graham Coleman, family member of Lisa Haddad
Gavin Griffin, nephew of Pat Reinke
Margie and Flamen Ball, parents of Marissa Glasschroeder
and Michael Ball
Alberto Canas, friend of Alison and Kevin McStravick
Sandy and Woody Franks, friends of Stephen Carey
Ray Hundley, brother of Barbara Sims
Howard Shaw, friend of Susan Conn
Danelle Smith, daughter-in-law of Chuck Smith
Rosie McIntyre, daughter-in-law of Linda and Jim McIntyre
Sandi Parker, friend of the Campbells
Gino Curcuruto, uncle of Chris Curcuruto

Don Samuelson, husband of Gini Samuelson
Barbara Smith, sister of Linda Heilig
Shirley Graham, mother of Natalie Garcia
Drennan Fuller and Family, friend of Caitlyn Coyner
Steven Purser, brother of John Purser
John Pierce, father of Bekah Barnett
Lee Speir, brother of Ray Speir
Sally Kyser, friend of Belle and Ray Speir
Alice Condry, mother of Berniece Condry
Sharon and Johnny Miller, cousins of Barbara Sims
Kathy Torneo Whatley, cousin of Barbara Sims
Darryl Speigel, brother of Sandy Speigel
Rachel Moore, mother of Sharon Lunsford
Ouida Henderson, mother of Joyce Kain
Matthew McIntyre, son of Linda and Jim McIntyre
John Murphy, faculty member at UNT
Charlie Leavell, grandfather of Shannon Konkle

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty 403

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so
 3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be

en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,
 done in - deed; may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee,

waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed
 there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O
 while thou dost thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.
 en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.
 foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

In the first stanza "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The pre-existing tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

626

As the Deer

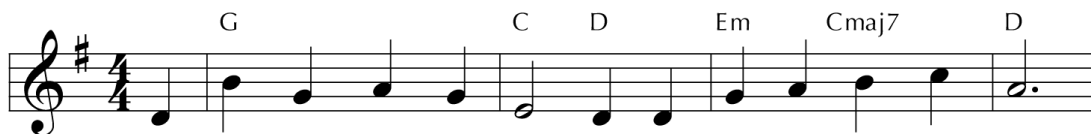
As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
 soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
 You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
 may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
 heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

Chords: D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, Asus, A7, D, Bm, Bm/A, G, D/F#, G, Bm, Em, F#sus, F#, D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, A7sus, A7, D

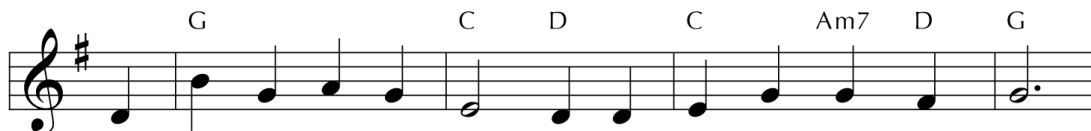
This praise chorus begins as a paraphrase of Psalm 42:1 and later incorporates parts of Psalm 28:7. In some early Christian communities, people chanted or sang Psalm 42 on their way to be baptized, and many early Christian baptisteries were decorated with deer drinking water.

How Lovely, Lord

(Psalm 84)



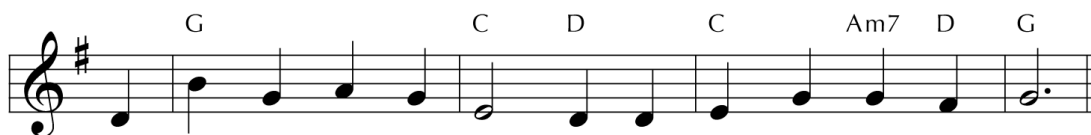
1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
 2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
 3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
 is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
 you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
 I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
 The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
 than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
 and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

Scripture Lessons

Acts 17: 22-34

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor^[J] he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God^[J] and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

³²When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³At that point Paul left them. ³⁴But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Exodus 25: 10-22

¹⁰They shall make an ark of acacia wood; it shall be two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. ¹¹You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and outside you shall overlay it, and you shall make a molding of gold upon it all around. ¹²You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side. ¹³You shall make poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, by which to carry the ark. ¹⁵The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it. ¹⁶You shall put into the ark the covenant that I shall give you.

spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings. They shall face one to another; the faces of the cherubim shall be turned toward the mercy seat. ²¹You shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark; and in the ark you shall put the covenant that I shall give you. ²²There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the covenant, I will deliver to you all my commands for the Israelites.

¹⁷Then you shall make a mercy seat of pure gold; two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its width. ¹⁸You shall make two cherubim of gold; you shall make them of hammered work, at the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹Make one cherub at the one end, and one cherub at the other; of one piece with the mercy seat you shall make the cherubim at its two ends. ²⁰The cherubim shall

Super Wednesday Meal

Wednesday, March 24

Meal by the Classic Cafe at Roanoke

Menu (\$14):

Pork jagerschnitzel with mushroom gravy, Braised red cabbage, Mashed potatoes
or

Chicken fried chicken with cream gravy, Braised red cabbage, Mashed potatoes

Deadline: Sunday, March 21 at midnight

Pickup: Wednesday, March 24 at 3:45pm at St. Andrew parking lot

Super Wednesday Classes

Children

Puppet Ministry and
Children's Time
6:00pm

Youth

Youth Group
7:30pm

Adults

The Wave
(College Group)
6:30pm

Jeff Snider and Soloists' Song and Conversation

Parker Hinnenkamp, organ
6:30pm

School Supply Drive for Denton Christian Preschool

The Diaconate is collecting for the Denton Christian Preschool! Their greatest needs right now are construction paper and glue sticks. Items can be dropped off in the church office. If you want to make financial contributions for supplies, please make checks out to "Preschool Supply Drive". You can also give online through Realm. For any questions, please contact Natalie Green at nataliecgreen@yahoo.com.

Men's Book Study

The St. Andrew Men's Book Study Group is meeting again Wednesdays at 8:00am at the Great Egg on Loop 288. If you choose not to attend in person, you may choose to meet virtually via Zoom. Email Jim White, acewalton1965@gmail.com, for more information.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, March 20

9:00am-3:00pm, Rec Center

Register online at redcross.org.

Theology On Tap

"Race In America" Follow-Up Discussion

March 22, 6:30pm

Theology On Tap will host a follow-up discussion to Rev. Dr. Michael Waters' "Race in America" series on Monday, March 22, 6:30pm, via ZOOM. Grace Presbytery's Social Justice Task Force hosted Dr. Waters' five-part series that delved into systemic racism and the Black experience. Dr. Waters shared with the series' participants what "Makes Me Wanna Holler" and how race shapes all American institutions, including our religious spaces. You are invited to join this follow-up discussion with those members who attended the series. We will talk about the things that make us want to holler and how to nurture a supportive, inclusive environment at St. Andrew. Please contact Kirsten Brown at brownke@lisd.net for more information.

Holy Week Worship Services

Monday-Wednesday

Devotional Services
Streaming Online

Maundy Thursday

April 1
6:00pm
Streaming Online
Reservation on St. Andrew Connect

Service of Tenebrae

April 2
7:30pm
Streaming Online
Reservation on St. Andrew Connect

Easter Vigil

April 3
Streaming Online

Easter Worship Services

Sunrise Service

7am
Drive-in Worship Service
No reservation required

Worship Service

10:45am
Streaming Online
Reservation on St. Andrew Connect

Worship Service

8:30am
Reservation on St. Andrew Connect

Return to In-person Worship

At its February Session meeting, the Session affirmed its previous decision to return to limited, in-person worship. Current safety protocols for worship attendance are still in place. This includes, but is not limited to, mask wearing and 6ft of social distance. Due to the limitation on the number of people that can attend in person, we ask that people reserve their space on St. Andrew Connect.

Giving

St. Andrew was blessed by strong giving last year and pledging for 2021 despite the pandemic. As we begin 2021, however, we find ourselves with a growing deficit. The Interpretation and Stewardship Committee hopes that the members of St. Andrew are finding the economic situation in 2021 such that we are all able to support the vital ministries we have budgeted for in 2021. If you are able to keep your pledge up to date in this first quarter of 2021, it would be greatly appreciated.

By the Numbers: As of 2/28/20

Income (pledges + other income)	\$118,132
Expenses	\$135,912
Difference	-\$17,780

Give online at: standrewdenton.com/give



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is a
Stephen Ministry Congregation.

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Richard B. Culp, Senior Pastor
Lisa Patterson, Associate Pastor
Jeff Snider, Director of Music
Parker Hinnenkamp, Organist
Stephanie Raesz, Youth Director
CJ Prater, Seminary Intern



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).