



## ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DENTON, TEXAS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

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### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Prelude in E-flat Major Op. 52 No. 2

Moritz Brosig

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Peal con brio  
Handbell Choir

Karen Thompson

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Adapted from Psalm 22)

You who fear the Lord, praise the Lord!

**All you offspring of Jacob, glorify the Lord; stand in awe of Lord, all you offspring of Israel!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before the Lord.

**Future generations will be told about the Lord and proclaim the Lord's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that the Lord has done it.**

OPENING PRAYER

Lisa Patterson

\*HYMN 234

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of overflowing grace, we confess that we have failed to live according to your way of faithfulness and steadfast love. You call us to live in faith but we continue to live in fear. You set us free from the power of evil but we are still captivated by sin. You lead us into a new way of life but we remain in the ways of death. Forgive us, loving God. Open our hearts to the gift of your grace, transform our lives by your Holy Spirit, and teach us to love one another, even as you have loved us. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, we pray. Amen. (Time of silent confession).**

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 578)

ORE PORIAJU VEREKO

*O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.  
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.*

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

CALL TO FAITHFULNESS

(Adapted from Ephesians 5)

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 240, (Refrain)

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.*

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lenora McCroskey

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 8: 26-40

New Testament, page 119

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Calypso on "He Leadeth Me"

Bradbury, arr. Waldrop

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 15: 1-8

New Testament, page 103

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Connected*

Richard B. Culp

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN 311

Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

TOKYO

\*APOSTLES' CREED (UNISON)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

STEPHEN MINISTER COMMISSIONING

See Insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

The Day of Resurrection

John Neale, arr. Henry Smart

\*SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 609, *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*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!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMN 243

Be Not Afraid

BE NOT AFRAID

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in F-sharp Minor Op 52 No. 8

Moritz Brosig

*Bold Text indicates congregational participation. \*Those who are able are asked to stand.*

## THE COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

### WORDS OF PREPARATION

There are varieties of gifts.

**But it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

There are different ways for serving God.

**But it is the Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way,

**But it is God's purpose that is accomplished.**

To each is given a gift by the Spirit to be used for the common good.

**Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.**

### PRESENTATION OF STEPHEN MINISTER

**Stephen Leader Karen Dower:** On behalf of the Stephen Ministers of St. Andrew, I present Arminta Hiler. She has completed Stephen Ministry training and now commits to engaging in this ministry, just as our Lord Jesus did: serving those in our congregation and community who need to be comforted; responding to the needs of others; being a friend to those who are burdened under the stress of life; listening patiently in a hurried world; healing divisions and striving to make people whole; using her skills and talents to help those people whom she serves, including praying for them; helping our community grow in its care as she shares her care; and sharing her personal experiences of faith with others so that they may celebrate the presence of Christ in our world.

### QUESTIONS FOR THE STEPHEN MINISTER

Arminta, do you commit to the ministries for which you been trained?

*(I do, with God's help)*

Will you nurture the skills you have learned and use them in service to others—to support, encourage, build up and comfort people in all their needs?

*(I will, with God's help)*

Will you serve as a Stephen Minister from St. Andrew Presbyterian Church?

*(I will, with God's help)*

### QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Will you open your hearts to the ministry these Stephen Ministers and pray for them?

**We will, with God's help.**

Will you accept their ministry in your own life when you find yourself in need of support?

**We will, with God's help.**

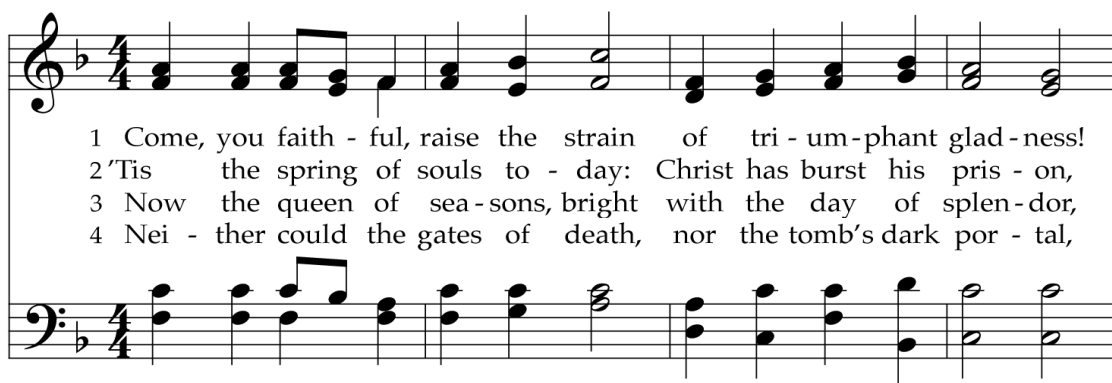
### ANOINTING OF STEPHEN MINISTER

#### PRAYER (Unison)

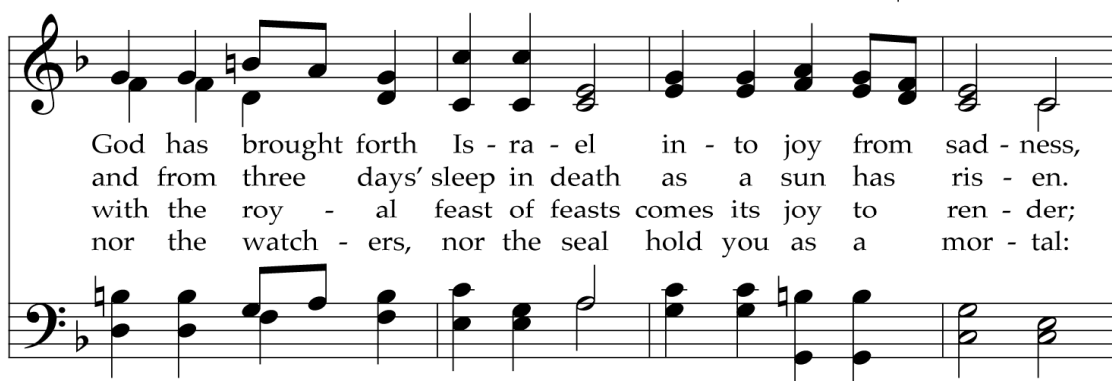
Almighty God, we ask that you take Arminta into your care. We give thanks for the gifts and talents you have provided her and ask that you guide her work as Stephen Minister. We pray for all the Stephen Ministers this day, that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit, be quick to serve, patient in listening, and willing to share themselves with others. Keep the Stephen Ministers strong in the faith you have given them for the sake of Jesus, who cares for all of us in every way. In his name, we pray. Amen.

### DISMISSAL

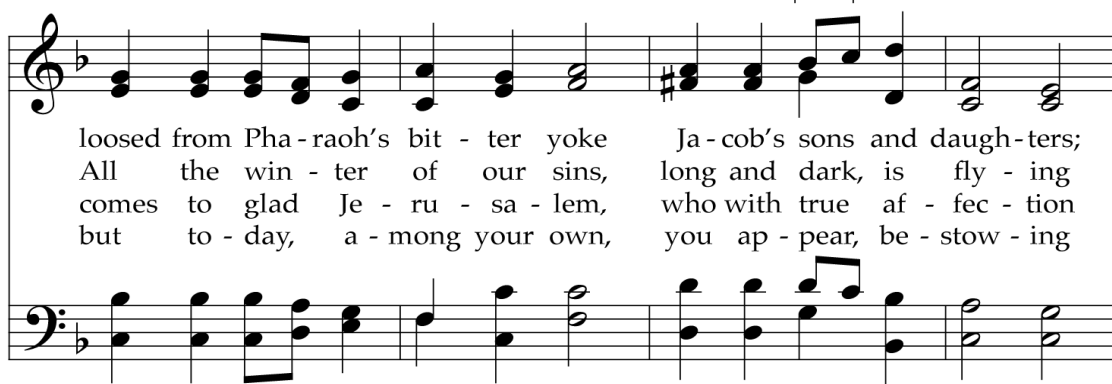
## Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain 234



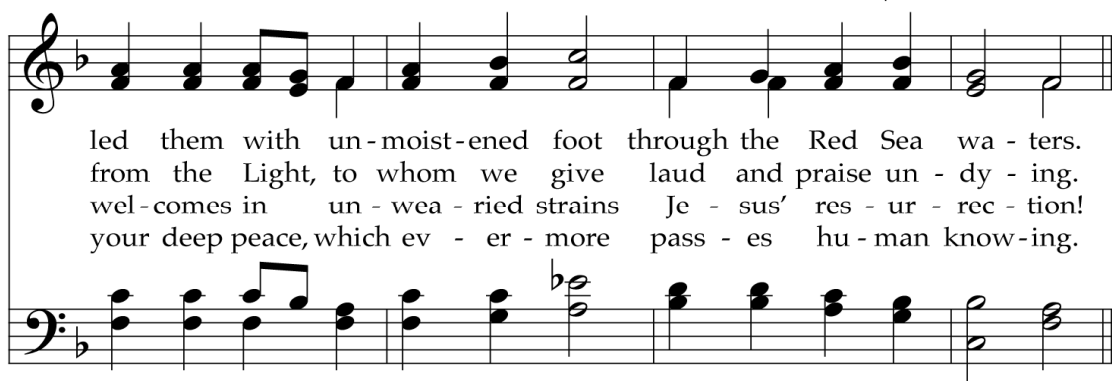
1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,  
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.  
 with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;  
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal:



loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
 but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
 from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
 your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

One of the many ancient hymns translated into English in the 19th century, this 8th-century Eastertide hymn was originally part of a longer Greek liturgical text. This tune was created for this text by a church organist who later rose to fame as a composer of operettas.

## O Lord, Have Mercy

578

*Kyrie eleison**Oré poriajú verekó*

Capo 2: (G) (C) (D) (G)  
A D E A

1 O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O  
2 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

Greek 1 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri -  
2 Chri - ste e - le - i - son; Chri - ste e - le - i - son; Chri -

Guarani 1 O - ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, Ñan - de - ya - ra. O -  
2 O - ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, Je - su Cris - to. O -

(E) (Am) (D) (G)  
F# Bm E A

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.  
Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

e e - le - i - son; Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
ste e - le - i - son; Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, Ñan - de - ya - ra.  
ré po - ria - jú ve - re - kó, Je - su Cris - to.

# 311 Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather



1 Here, O Lord, your ser - vants gath - er, hand we link with hand;  
 2 Man - y are the tongues we speak, scat - tered are the lands;  
 3 Na - ture's se - crets o - pen wide, chang - es nev - er cease;  
 4 Grant, O God, an age re - newed, filled with death - less love;



look - ing toward our Sav - ior's cross, joined in love we stand.  
 yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's de - mands.  
 where, O where, can wea - ry souls find the source of peace?  
 help us as we work and pray; send us from a - bove



As we seek the realm of God, we u - nite to pray:  
 While in dark - ness hope ap - pears, call - ing age and youth:  
 Un - to all those sore dis - tressed, torn by end - less strife:  
 truth and cour - age, faith and power need - ed in our strife:



Je - sus, Sav - ior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.  
 Je - sus, teach - er, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.  
 Je - sus, heal - er, bring your balm, for you are the Life.  
 Je - sus, Sav - ior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

*\*Optional finger cymbals*

This gentle hymn was created for a 1958 international convention of Christian educators in Japan. The tune's use of the *gagaku* mode, originally from China but later limited to use in the Japanese court, serves as a subtle but significant affirmation of Christ's sovereignty.

# 609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

D A D

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

Bm A D G D Bm E A D

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

D

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

G A D Em A Bm

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

Em D G A Em G A D

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



# Be Not Afraid

243

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody in the upper staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The accompaniment in the lower staff features a steady bass line with chords and single notes.

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

The second system of music is identical in notation to the first system, featuring the same two-staff arrangement with treble and bass clefs, one flat key signature, and 4/4 time signature.

Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as “Nebojte se.” The English version uses the language of the angel’s greeting to Mary Magdalene and “the other Mary,” who went to Jesus’ tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5–6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998  
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998  
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID  
4.4.8.D

## Acts 8: 26-40

<sup>26</sup> Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' <sup>31</sup>He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## John 15: 1-8

<sup>1</sup>'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

## **Vacation Bible School Registration Is Open!**

*June 17-21, 2024*

Registration is currently open to all members of the St. Andrew community using the link below!

<https://standrewdenton.com/vbs>

### **Parents' Night Out**

*Saturday, April 27*

Parents' Night Out is a program for the young families of St. Andrew. The program has a two-fold purpose: it gives parents an opportunity to spend quality time together without their children and it gives the children an evening of fun, age-appropriate activities with their friends at St. Andrew. The evening runs from 4:00pm to 8:00pm for infants-5yrs old in the Nursery. In the Rec Center, Kindergarten-elementary age will meet 4:00pm to 9:00pm, with pick-up from the media room in the main church building. Registration is required on Realm or email Karen Raabe at karen@standrewdenton.com.

### **Denton Association of Christian Women's Meeting**

*Tuesday, April 30*

**Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 105 S Wood Street, 76205**

Presentation by Sis. Ellen Frenkel on "Mapping Denton's Quakertown history on a quilt.

### **Ushers Needed**

Members who are interested in serving as an usher may contact Jonny Ramsey at 940-206-4468.

### **Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed**

For the month of June, St. Andrew will have special Summer Sunday school classes for our children in kindergarten through fifth grades. We need your help to make our exciting plans happen! Please consider volunteering for one or two of the following date: June 16. Contact Lisa Patterson, lisa@standrewdenton.com.

### **Mother's Day Gift Bags**

St. Andrew donates Mother's Day Gift Bags each year to give encouragement and hopefully bring a bright spot into lives of the homeless and less fortunate moms in our community. We are requesting help from the congregation in the form of new personal care and beauty products or if you'd like us to do the shopping, a monetary donation would be appreciated as well! Give online standrewdenton.com/give by selecting "Mother's Day Gift Bags" from the fund drop down menu. Deadline for all donations is Sunday, May 5. For more information, contact Amy Whiting at avickers@hotmail.com or the church office. Thank you for giving!

## **Denton Christian Preschool**

St. Andrew is starting to collect needed items for the students at Denton Christian Preschool. The items will be collected in March-April. The items needed include glue sticks, paper, kleenex, paper towels, watercolors, children's toothpaste, toilet paper construction paper, liquid hand soap, AA batteries, 9V batteries, and crayons. The items may be placed in the bin marked by the fellowship hall. For any questions, contact Rachel Odei at 940-735-6483.

### **Texas Wildfire Relief Recovery Update**

Recently Texas performers Michael Murphy and Lyle Lovett hosted a rangeland fire relief benefit dinner and concert in Amarillo on April 21st. The concert was streamed live and can now also be watched via YouTube by searching Rangeland Fire Benefit.

The Ruth Anderson Fund will match your donation dollar-for-dollar up to \$2,500 in total donations. There are many ways you can provide your donation to this effort:

**On-Line:** Visit <https://onrealm.org/StAndrewPresbyt15009/-/form/give/default> and identify your donation in the form section for Panhandle Fire.

**During Worship:** Donate using an offering envelope and writing Panhandle Fire on the envelope.

**Office Drop-Off:** Drop your donation off at the front desk at the church office.

**Palo Duro Presbytery:** Visit <https://paloduropresbytery.org/> and directly provide your donation.

They were burned...but not burned out!

### **Items Needed for Our Daily Bread**

The diaconate is collecting items for Our Daily Bread. Items may be donated in the box in the Narthex. Current needs are: bottle water, canned vegetables, canned soup, canned Chef Boyardee, canned stew, mac and cheese cups, Rice-a-Roni cups, sugar, Gatorade, travel size shampoo, travel size conditioner, travel size toothpaste, travel size deodorant, cough drops, chapstick, tissues, men's pants (size 36W), men's shirts sizes (2XL and up).

### **Give-a-Meal - \$2.29**

St. Andrew donated \$641.00 to the Give-a-Meal program in March! Thank you for supporting the needs of those who are experiencing food insecurity during this time. A monetary donation of \$2.29 feeds a person in need for a week. Donations can be made by mail or online. Please write Give-a-Meal-a-Month on your envelope or check when giving by mail. To give online, visit standrewdenton.com/give and be sure to choose Give-a-Meal from the fund options to the right of your monetary donation.

## Prayer Requests

Liam Keever  
Lynda Schupp  
Jim Kitchens  
Mel Fite  
Merritt Morin  
Steve Davis  
Norma Rockenbach

Kendall Hallford  
Jane Loveall  
Catherine Mitchell  
Jan Lewis  
Hudson Barnhill  
Phillip Young  
Sunny Hueholt

Madelon Clark, daughter of Joy Wright  
Thom Holbrook, friend of Linda Heilig  
James, Denton Red Shirt Ambassador  
Jessie Werts, grandmother of Kori Miller  
Rylen Lewis, grandson of Mark Lewis  
Sharon Schuyler, friend of the Fair family  
Sharice Modester, Treehouse parent  
Jery Eaton, friend of Chuck Smith  
Ben Reynolds, relative of Clarice Luce  
Carolyn Brown, sister-in-law of Janette Hindman  
Jane Jacobek, aunt of Michelle La Spata  
Karin Diaz, friend of Harriet Laney  
Ben Pierce and Family, brother of Bekah Barnett  
Lynn and Charlie Davis, friends of Chuck Smith  
Margie Ball,  
mother of Marissa Glasschroeder and Michael Ball  
Megan Terry Crawford,  
friend of Betty Sue and Mike Grandey  
Kim Hundley Owens, niece of Barbara Sims  
John Pierce, father of Bekah Barnett  
Sophia Lilley, mother of Lisa Haddad  
Family of Grace Milos

## WELCOME!

**W**e proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God. 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.

*If you wish to join St. Andrew today, please contact one of the ministers.*

### Children's Chapel

*During the worship service, children ages three years through kindergarten are invited to go to chapel immediately following the Children's Sermon.*

### Enrichment—The Books of the Bible

Karen Raabe and Nursery

Godly Play seeks to tell the stories of the faith so that children hear and remember these stories and become engaged in them. It also provides a place and opportunities for children to begin exploring the purpose and meaning of worship. Parents may come upstairs to the Children's Chapel to pick children up following the worship service.

### By the Numbers: As of 3/31/24

<b>Income</b> (pledges + other income)	<b>\$253,268</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$238,771</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$14,497</b>

Give online at: [standrewdenton.com/give](https://standrewdenton.com/give)

### ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 W. Oak Street Denton, TX 76201  
Phone (940) 387-3897 Fax (940) 381-2404  
[www.standrewdenton.com](http://www.standrewdenton.com)  
[info@standrewdenton.com](mailto:info@standrewdenton.com)

Richard B. Culp, Senior Pastor  
Lisa Patterson, Associate Pastor  
Stephanie Raesz, Youth Director  
Kirsten Trachsel, Director of Children's and Handbell Choirs  
J. Christine Le, Director of Music  
Daeun Kim, Organist



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



**St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.**

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing situations such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Please contact Richard Culp or Lisa Patterson to connect with Stephen Ministry.