



ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DENTON, TEXAS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 18, 2025

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort, BuxWV 185
(Keep us faithful to Your Word, Lord)

D. Buxtehude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted from Psalm 148)

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God on high!

Praise God, sun and moon.

Praise God, all you shining stars!

Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and ocean depths!

Kings and all peoples of the earth, princes and all rulers of the earth, praise the Lord!

Old and young together; all people praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Lisa Patterson

*HYMN 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you command us to love one another, yet we hold grudges and refuse to work for peace. You command us to care for all of creation, yet we neglect the earth and abuse nature through carelessness. You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus, yet we too often walk our own way. Forgive us, O God. Guide us as we work toward a new heaven here on earth. Lead us to reconciliation and a vision for your beloved community, as we share your love with your people everywhere. In Christ's name, we pray. 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.

*SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 589

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Now the Lord is risen indeed.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Todd

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 13: 31-35

New Testament, page 102

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Rejoice

Theron Kirk

Chancel Choir with Daeun Kim, Organ

Rejoice in the Lord, Rejoice.

Praise the Lord with harp,

Sing unto him a new song.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Revelation 21: 1-7

New Testament, page 244

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Alpha and Omega

Richard B. Culp

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 379

We Shall Overcome

WE SHALL OVERCOME

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)

from The Confession of 1967

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, a father's house, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents the triumph of God over all that resists God's will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. Amen.

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 & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

How Great Thou Art

arr. Forrest

Luo Xiaojing, Soprano with Daeun Kim, Piano

*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 THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

During Easter we celebrate and affirm that "Christ is risen indeed!"

This is good news because Christ's resurrection is not only for him, it is for us as well.

Through Christ's resurrection, God offers us a new life in which sin and death no longer hold power over us.

Claiming this new life, we are called to follow the risen Christ into the world, sharing the good news of resurrection for all people.

With the Spirit's help, let us join together in this life of discipleship.

*HYMN 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Amazing Grace

arr. J. Christopher Pardini

Bold Text indicates congregational participation.

Elizabeth Gibson is serving as acolyte for today's worship service.

Dr. Patterson will be out of the office from May 22-27. She will return on May 28.

Dr. Culp will be out of the office from May 21-27. In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the church office and Karen Dower (940-367-1001) and she will coordinate with the Stephen Ministers to provide the necessary pastoral care.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna! 248

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

589

Alleluia

Aleluya

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
 A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Now the Lord is risen in - deed.
 A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.

379

We Shall Overcome

1 We shall o - ver - come; we shall o - ver - come;
 2 We'll walk hand in hand; we'll walk hand in hand;
 3 We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace;
 4 We are not a - fraid; we are not a - fraid;
 5 God will see us through; God will see us through;

we shall o - ver - come some - day.
 we'll walk hand in hand some - day.
 we shall live in peace some - day.
 we are not a - fraid to - day.
 God will see us through to - day.

Refrain

O, deep in my heart I do be -

lieve we shall o - ver - come some - day!

Though now associated primarily with the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century, this spiritual most likely dates from the days of the slave trade; and similarities with the tune SICILIAN MARINERS (see no. 546) suggest that it might have been a worksong aboard slave ships.

TEXT: African American spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. William Farley Smith, 1986

Music Arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

WE SHALL OVERCOME

Irregular

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

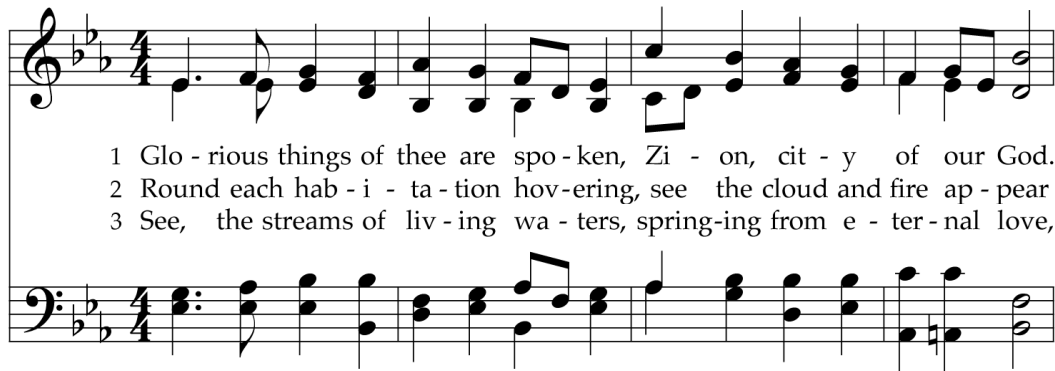
608

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

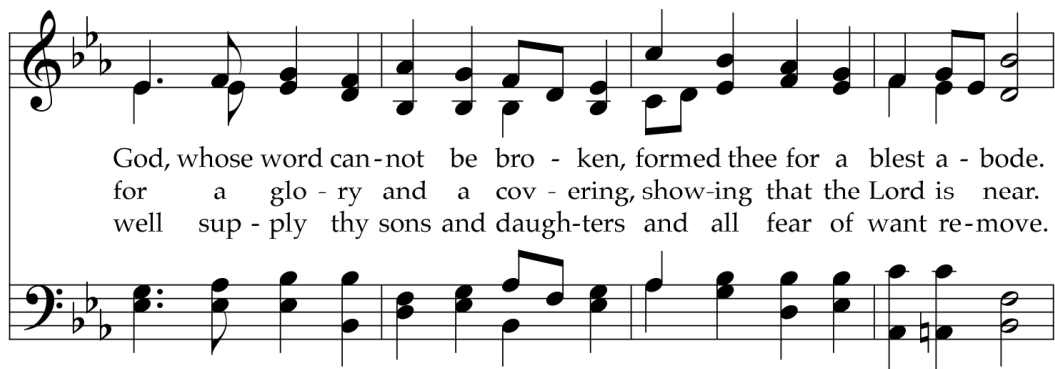
TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 2008
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg
Music © 2008 Hal H. Hopson

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)
LM

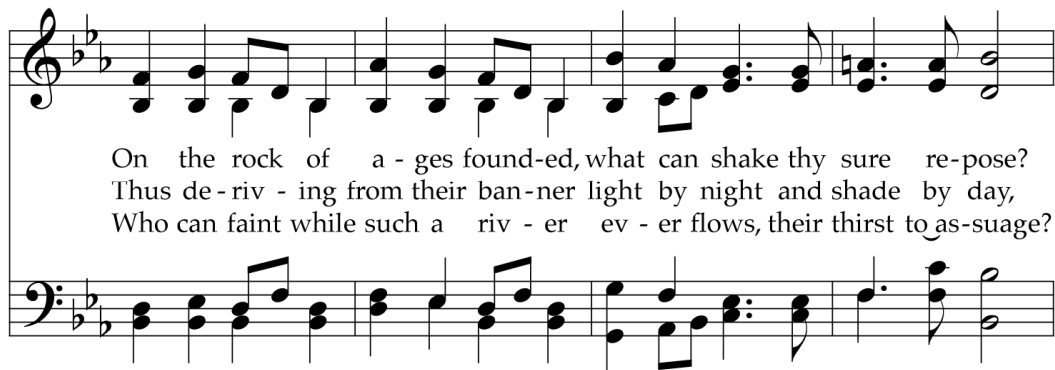
81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



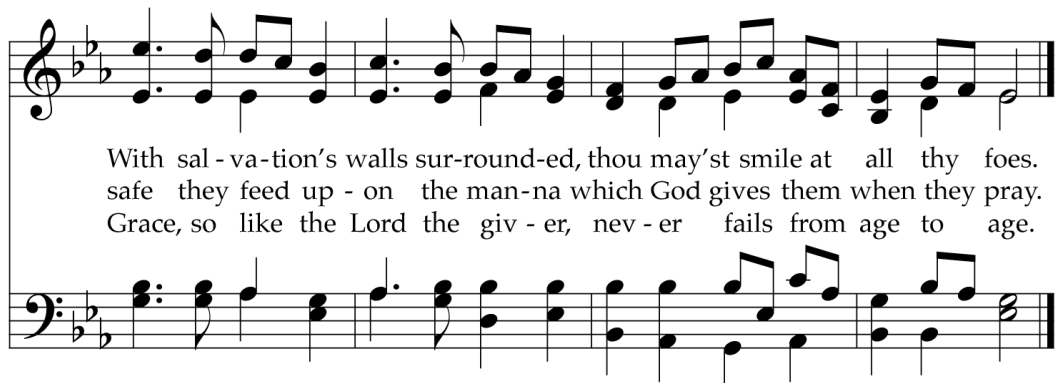
1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20-21 with allusions to several other passages.

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him,^[a] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Revelation 21: 1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Vacation Bible School 2025

This year's curriculum is titled "Waves of Wonder VBS: Living in God's Light." At Waves of Wonder VBS, we will explore scriptures in which God provides water for plants, animals and people. Through worship and drama, story, art, science, games, music and mission, our campers will deepen their understanding of the importance of water and be invited to join God in caring for this precious natural resource.

Join us for VBS, June 23 - 27, 9:00am-Noon. Registration kicks off the week at 8:45am on Monday, June 23 in the Narthex. We'll also have a VBS wrap-up Event on the evening of Friday, June 27. Questions? Contact Alison McStravick, alison.mcstravick@gmail.com, or Sarah Anne Adams, sarahanneadams@me.com. Sign up your student today using the link below!

standrewdenton.com/vbs

Apple Tree Project

For over 25 years, with the help from area churches and places of worship, Interfaith Ministries of Denton (IFM) has assisted thousands of students in Denton ISD. School begins in August so in June the Diaconate of St. Andrew chose to participate in the Apple Tree Backpack Project. The IFM has a goal of 5,000 backpacks for 2025. Our Goal is at least 250 backpacks.

There are three ways St. Andrew can help:

- Donate \$25.00 Amazon gift cards.
- Buy a backpack (must be 17" in size) and bring to church and put in the designated box.
- Visit our Give page or donate on Realm. Suggested donation: \$25.00.

Questions?

Contact coordinators Linda Heilig, l.heilig@verizon.net, or Susan Ramsay, susanramsay11@yahoo.com.

Chancel Flower Giving Opportunities Are Available!

Celebrating an anniversary or a birthday? Celebrating a person's or ministry's contribution to the church? Wanting to remember a loved one? Consider giving chancel flowers! Chancel flowers provide an ideal opportunity to commemorate that event, loved one, or ministry during a worship service at St. Andrew. A sign up sheet is available outside the church office. Questions? Please contact the coordinator, Lynn Carrico, lwcarrico@gmail.com.

Footsteps of Paul in Greece

October 8-21, 2025

Registration closes: June 21, 2025

Join the group from St. Andrew on a guided tour designed to experience the earliest home of Christianity outside of Israel. This 14-day pilgrimage traces the footsteps of Paul across Greece, including the ruins of Ephesus, Philippi, Thessaloniki, Berea, and more. On the way to Athens, we will spend time in the Meteora region, with its Byzantine monasteries, and we will explore the Acropolis, Roman Forum, Mars Hill, ancient Corinth. The pilgrimage concludes with a 3-night cruise including Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, and Santorini. Questions? Pick up a brochure in the narthex or contact Lisa Patterson or Richard Culp.

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: travel size shampoo, travel size body wash, ethnic hair care products, women's new underwear (sizes S, M, L), men's new underwear (all sizes), sports bras (all sizes), food safe rubber gloves, napkins.

Give-a-Meal - \$2.29

St. Andrew donated \$286.90 to the Give-a-Meal program in April! 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

Dave McRae	Perry McNeill
Joyce White	Harriet Laney
Caia McCullar	Sunny Hueholt
Connie Charat	Beverly Noah
Karyn Nelson	Diann Arthur
Chuck Smith	Steve Davis

Barry Wachal, friend of Chuck Smith
 Eva Rusk, mother of Stephanie Raesz
 Sophia Lilley, mother of Lisa Haddad
 Rosemary Meals, friend of Lisa Haddad

Lori Garrett, sister of Shim Garrett
 Mary Joan Fallon, family member
 of Trish and Glenn Highland

Ryker Elliott, grandson of Sue Elliott

Cindy Fisher, sister of Harriet Laney

Lee Barnett, cousin of Mike Barnett

Jon Conway, friend of Scott Campbell

Charlene Simpson and family, niece of Jan Lewis

Tecla Chavira, mother of Frank Chavira

Carole Hatcher, sister in law of Chuck Smith

Shannon Fronz, friend of Barnett family

Bill Tilley, uncle of Sara Armstrong

Keren Billyack, friend of Connie Charat

Richard Gascoyne, friend of Chuck Stoughton

Carol Syverson, mother-in-law of Karen Raabe

Peter DiClenti, cousin of Steve Pickett

Laura Bruening, mother of Lisa Dorr

John Tillman, brother of Russ Tillman

Debbie Kyzer, mother of Dan Kyzer

Ed Simpson, brother of Jan Lewis

Karen Whitson Ansley, niece of Lynn Carrico

Norma Watts, mother of Jill Richmond

Rylen Lewis, grandson of Mark Lewis

Ben Reynolds, relative of Clarice Luce

Lynn and Charlie Davis, friends of Chuck Smith

Megan Terry Crawford,

friend of Betty Sue and Mike Grandey

Kim Hundley Owens, niece of Barbara Sims

Family of Brian "Peanut" Anderson, friend of Scott Campbell

WELCOME!

We 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 Time with Young Disciples.

The Good Samaritan

Abigail Kyzer and Dan Kyzer

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 4/30/25

Income (pledges + other income)	\$346,432
Expenses	\$348,223
Difference	-\$1,791

Give online at: standrewdenton.com/give

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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.