



ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DENTON, TEXAS

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 10, 2026

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Moderato

Christian Rinck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Patterson

Come, people of God! Let us proclaim together the goodness of God,
who has called us out of darkness into marvelous light!
Once we were not a people,
but now we are God's people;
once we had not received mercy,
but now we have received mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

Sarah Barnett

*HYMN 234

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace. In his name we pray. Amen. (Time of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

We are born anew, through the living and enduring word of God.
Alleluia! Praise to the risen Christ!

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 589)

HONDURAS ALLELUIA

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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Susan Ramsay

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 14:15-21

New Testament, page 103

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Christ, Whose Glory Fill the Skies

T. Frederick Candlyn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.
Amen.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

New Testament, page 220

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Making Your Defense"

Richard B. Culp

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 230

Joyful Is the Dark

LINDNER

*APOSTLES' CREED (ECUMENICAL VERSION) (unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Prayer Teams

Lauri Goldston

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

Here I Am, Lord
Tyler Warwas, tenor
Text: Hymn 69

Daniel Schutte, arr. Craig Courtney

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 591, refrain)

HALLE, HALLE

*Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

We are God's people.

Let God's word ring through our being and God's Spirit breathe new life into our lungs.

What does it mean to be disciples of Christ?

To be moved by gratitude for all we have been given, to live as neighbors amid difference, to speak truth with compassion, to act in gentleness and mercy, and to rebuke what is harmful and inhumane, in God's name.

With one voice, in many tongues, go from here united in purpose, that we may speak of the good news of the resurrection wherever we go:

Christ is risen, and a new life has begun.

*HYMN 54

Make a Joyful Noise

DIX

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major BWV 557

J. S. Bach

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

The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God by the McStravick family in loving memory of Margaret Plunkett on this Mother's Day.

Emily Fair is serving as acolyte for today's worship service.

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.

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.

230 Joyful Is the Dark

Capo 1: (C) (F) (Dm7) (G) (C)
 D^b G^b E^bm7 A^b D^b

1 Joy - ful is the dark, ho - ly, hid - den God,
 2 Joy - ful is the dark Spir - it of the deep,
 3 Joy - ful is the dark, shad - owed sta - ble floor;
 4 Joy - ful is the dark cool - ness of the tomb,
 5 Joy - ful is the dark depth of love di - vine,

(Dm) (Dm7) (Em) (Gsus) (G)
 E^bm E^bm7 Fm A^bsus A^b

roll - ing cloud of night be - yond all nam - ing:
 wing - ing wild - ly o'er the world's cre - a - tion,
 an - gels flick - er, God on earth con - fess - ing,
 wait - ing for the won - der of the morn - ing;
 roar - ing, loom - ing thun - der - cloud of glo - ry,

(Dm) (C) (F) (Dm) (G) (C)
 E^bm D^b G^b E^bm A^b D^b

maj - es - ty in dark - ness, en - er - gy of love,
 silk - en sheen of mid - night plum - age black and bright,
 as with ex - ul - ta - tion, Mar - y, giv - ing birth,
 nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom:
 ho - ly, haunt - ing beau - ty, liv - ing, lov - ing God.

(Dm) (Em7) (Dm) (Gsus) (G) (C)
 E^bm Fm7 E^bm A^bsus A^b D^b

1-4 5

Word - in - flesh, the mys - ter - y pro - claim - ing.
 swoop - ing with the beau - ty of a ra - ven.
 hails the in - fant cry of need and bless - ing.
 dark - ness was the cra - dle of the dawn - ing.
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing and tell the sto - ry!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text opens each stanza with a line inspired by the phrase "joyful darkness far beyond our seeing," which the author used in another text about the same time (see no. 760). Its numerous biblical images include Genesis 1:2, Exodus 20:18–21, 1 Kings 8:10–13, and Psalm 18:8–12.

591 Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Refrain

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah!
hal - le -

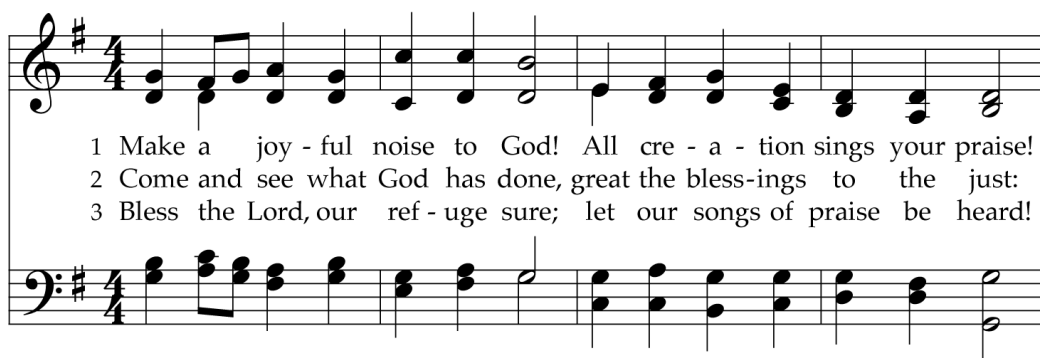
Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah!
Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -
hal - le -

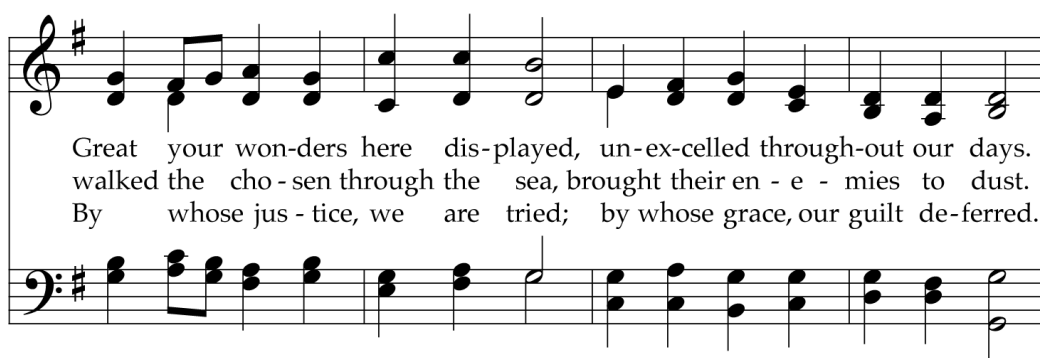
lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!
Fine

Make a Joyful Noise to God! 54

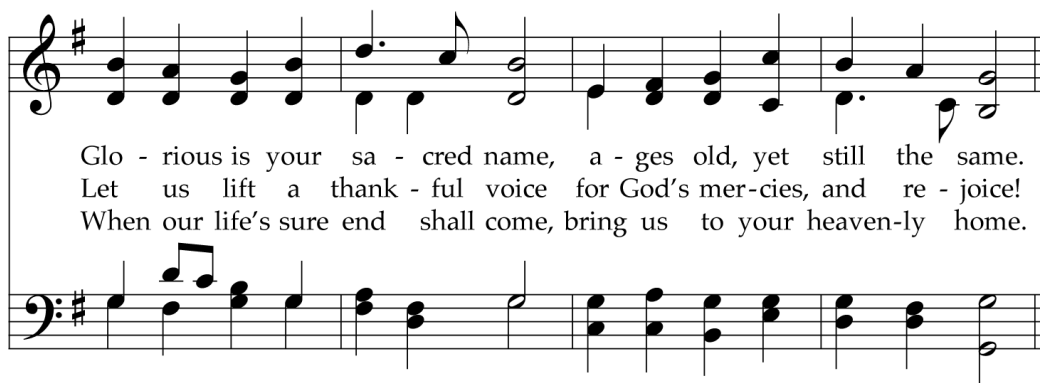
(Psalm 66)



1 Make a joy - ful noise to God! All cre - a - tion sings your praise!
 2 Come and see what God has done, great the bless - ings to the just:
 3 Bless the Lord, our ref - uge sure; let our songs of praise be heard!



Great your won - ders here dis - played, un - ex - celled through - out our days.
 walked the cho - sen through the sea, brought their en - e - mies to dust.
 By whose jus - tice, we are tried; by whose grace, our guilt de - ferred.



Glo - rious is your sa - cred name, a - ges old, yet still the same.
 Let us lift a thank - ful voice for God's mer - cies, and re - joice!
 When our life's sure end shall come, bring us to your heav - en - ly home.

This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

John 14:15-21

15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. **16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. **17** This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

18 “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. **19** In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. **20** On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. **21** They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

1 Peter 3:13-22

13 Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? **14** But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, **15** but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, **16** yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. **17** For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. **18** For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, **19** in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, **20** who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. **21** And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **22** who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Senior Sunday
Sunday, May 17

Senior Sunday worship, followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall, May 17. Join us to celebrate our graduating high school seniors.

Theology on Tap
Monday, May 11

Theology On Tap will meet Monday, May 11, 6:30pm, at Denton County Brewing Company (in the back room). Our topic is, "Making Room at the Table." We will be discussing how we show Jesus's love through our practices of inclusion. We hope you will join us for the conversation!

Summer Guide Deadline
Sunday, May 10

The Summer Guide is St. Andrew's publication that shares all of the events happening around St. Andrew from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Committees and groups of the church hosting events are invited to submit their 3-5 sentence announcement by 11:00pm on Sunday, May 10, to Lou Korom, lou@standrewdenton.com, for inclusion in the guide. The guide will be mailed the week of May 24.

Mark Your Calendar!

5th Sunday Event – Hygiene Kit Assembly
Sunday, May 31 at 9:30am, Fellowship Hall

Everyone of all ages is invited to come to Fellowship Hall and participate in our next 5th Sunday event, scheduled for Sunday, May 31, starting at 9:30am. At this 5th Sunday Event, we will assemble approximately 500 hygiene kits for emergency distribution by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The event will start with breakfast for all followed by five tables where the kits will be assembled by participants taking about 20-30 minutes to complete. Questions? Contact Russ Tillman, k5nrk@bellsouth.net.

Substitute Teachers Needed

The Children's Place is seeking caring and reliable substitute teachers for our school! Candidates should enjoy working with young children and be able to lift up to 25 pounds, as well as comfortably move to and from the floor throughout the day. If you have a heart for kids and a flexible schedule, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Kirsten Trachsel at by phone at 940-387-7716 or thechildrensplacedenton@gmail.com.

Vacation Bible School Registration Is Open!

June 22-26, 2026
9:00am-Noon

Children finishing kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to Vacation Bible School, June 22-26, 2026! This year's curriculum is titled "Road Trip: On The Go With God." Join us for a thrilling road trip adventure where kids (Travelers) explore exciting destinations with the Navigators and their pup, Scout! Through engaging Bible stories, interactive games and fun challenges, they'll discover that God is always with them. Road Trip VBS is more than just fun - it's a journey of faith, friendship, and unforgettable memories! Kids will set their GPS to biblical truth and embark on a journey of discovering that God's presence is ALWAYS near. Using the Bible as their navigation guide, kids will learn how Biblical heroes followed God and how they can too.

Questions? Contact VBS Director Alison McStravick, alison.mcstravick@gmail.com.

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: women's and men's underwear, (all sizes). beard nets, food safe rubber gloves, hand soap and condiment containers.

Give-a-Meal

\$3.00 Feeds One Person in Need for a Day

Matching Funds Results

Many thanks to all who donated to the Give-a-Meal program in April. Your generous efforts raised \$1,302 that were matched \$1000 by the Mission Committee. As a result, \$2302 has been donated to the Denton Community Food Center to provide food for those in need. This amazing donation will provide about 767 meals to those in need. Remember, donations can be made by mail or online. Please write Give-a-Meal 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

Caia McCullar

James West, brother-in-law of Sandy Speigel

Ashley Jenkins, cousin of Edie Chavira

Ryder Shaw, friend of the Hooper family

Sara Armstrong

Laura Hill, friend of Lauri Goldston

Bob Heilig

Mayer Knox Morin, son of Lori and David Morin

Renee Poinboeuf

Sue Atkinson, aunt of Lauri Goldston

Alice Orgain, friend of Debby Ishee and Mary Smith

We are grateful for the opportunity to pray for and with the people on our prayer list each Sunday. Our Sunday morning prayers are joined through the week by members and the prayer teams that meet each week. Names will remain on the list for four weeks. If there is a need and desire to add the name back to the list, please let the church office know, and we will add the name to the list.

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 Mustard Seed

Karen Raabe and Nursery Staff

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 3/31/2026

Income (pledges + other income)	\$265,997
Expenses	\$283,374
Difference	-\$17,377

Give online at: standrewdenton.com/give

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Richard B. Culp, Senior Pastor

Lisa Patterson, Associate Pastor

Chrissy Stevens, Dickson Pastoral Resident

Kathryn Davidson, Director of Music

Stephanie Raesz, Youth Director

Kirsten Trachsel, Director of Children's and Handbell Choirs

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.