

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 6, 2019

Rev. Rosemary McMahan, Interim Pastor

Elder Nellie Gates, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus" Dr. Gilbreath

We Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

Pastor's Welcome (Please sign the friendship roster.)

Call to Worship

One: Christ Jesus has made us his own!

All: The news is good! We join in grateful worship.

One: Christ Jesus has made us his own!

All: The meal is ready! He invites us to come and share.

One: Christ Jesus has made us his own!

All: His gift is peace-- with God and with each other.

One: Together, let us worship God with joy.

Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn of Worship "When Morning Gilds the Skies" #667
Please pass your prayer cards to the aisle for pickup.

Invitation to Confession: "All who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves" (I Cor. 11:29). Let us make our confession together as God makes us new through worship.

All: Lord of life, you have called us before you today, as we are. We confess that we have not lived lives of perfect obedience, we have taken detours and stumbled along the way, we have not been your body of Christ to this world. Yet we believe in your assurance that if we truly repent, you will forgive us. Hear our prayer, Lord, and lift our sins so that our hearts may be ready to receive you in Word and Sacrament and we may be changed. In Christ's name we pray. Amen. (We make our silent confession.)

Declaration of Forgiveness: We are so blessed to have a God who seeks after us and desires to forgive us and make us whole. Friends, believe in the Good News of the Gospel! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

*Gloria Patri #581

Anthem "Here at Thy Table, Lord" Choir

We Listen for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Genesis 44:1-12 Elder Gates

Scripture Reading Matthew 26:26-28 Rev. McClure

Message "A Very Special Cup" Rev. McClure

*Hymn of Reflection "We Come as Guests Invited" #504

We Respond to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith: (adapted from the Belhar Confession)

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. This we believe.

Offertory "There's Something About That Name" Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology #606

*Prayer

Communion Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together" #525

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer (debt/debtors)

Communion of the People (Please come forward for communion by intinction.)

Prayer after Communion

Holy Triune God, we thank you for this meal that proclaims the peace and healing of the world. We thank you for this meal where a little is enough to change our lives; where a little is more than enough to feed those whose hearts yearn for community. May this bread and cup containing fruit of the vine nourish us so that we may grow in the faith and knowledge that in you, we are one. Amen.

We Go Forth to Minister

*Hymn of Sending	"We Are One in the Spirit"	#300
*Blessing and Sending	"When We All Get to Heaven"	Rev. McClure
Postlude	"Saved! Saved"	Dr. Gilbreath

*All that are able are invited to stand.

Bold italic type indicates our shared response.

To Our Visitors & Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of this congregation where everyone is welcome as God's child. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship or by email or phone. There is a place for you here, and we are delighted to have you with us today.

Please welcome Rev. Peggy McClure today as our guest minister.

Today is World Communion Sunday. Since 1940, this day, which began in the Presbyterian Church, has become a time when Christians across denominations and in every culture break bread and share the cup to remember and affirm Jesus Christ, not politicians, dictators, or presidents, as Head of the Church and the source of our salvation. No matter where they may be gathered this day--in a high steeple church, a mud hut, outside in a field, in a meeting house, in a storefront, or in a sanctuary on Danville Road, Decatur, Alabama--Christians remember that they are part of the whole body of believers. The Presbyterian Church (USA) does not claim to be the one, true church, but instead knows itself to be a special and blessed part of the entire Body of Christ which is the universal Church. That's why we proclaim our belief in "one holy catholic church," *catholic* meaning universal and world-wide. Thanks be to Jesus Christ!

Due to Pastor Rosemary's absence today, a Prayer for Wholeness will be next Sunday.

Scripture Reading Nellie Gates: Genesis 44:1-12

Then he commanded the steward of his house, “Fill the men’s sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man’s money in the top of his sack. Put my cup, the silver cup, in the top of the sack of the youngest, with his money for the grain.” And he did as Joseph told him. As soon as the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys. When they had gone only a short distance from the city, Joseph said to his steward, “Go, follow after the men; and when you overtake them, say to them, ‘Why have you returned evil for good? Why have you stolen my silver cup? Is it not from this that my lord drinks? Does he not indeed use it for divination? You have done wrong in doing this.’ ” When he overtook them, he repeated these words to them. They said to him, “Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your servants that they should do such a thing! Look, the money that we found at the top of our sacks, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan; why then would we steal silver or gold from your lord’s house? Should it be found with any one of your servants, let him die; moreover the rest of us will become my lord’s slaves.” He said, “Even so; in accordance with your words, let it be: he with whom it is found shall become my slave, but the rest of you shall go free.” Then each one quickly lowered his sack to the ground, and each opened his sack. He searched, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest; and the cup was found in Benjamin’s sack.

Scripture Reading Rev. McClure: Matthew 26:26-28

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.