



"We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." -Romans 6:3-11

When I normally think of Easter Sunday, I imagine the sun shining, blue skies, green grass, and colorful flowers. I picture a church sanctuary decorated with Easter lilies and the color white on the pastor's stole and the parament hanging over the pulpit. I hear hymns of praise, thanksgiving, and celebration. I feel pure joy.

The same will be true when we meet together this year for Easter. I must say, though, that I am experiencing another emotion alongside joy this year. I feel relief.

When we suspended in-person worship last year, it was during the season of Lent. In so many ways, it felt like Lent never ended. We found ourselves in the wilderness, not for forty days but for over a year!

With vaccines and other safety considerations, we are now able to be back together in-person for worship! I am relieved. It feels as if a weight is being lifted from my shoulders, and I wonder if you feel that same sense of relief.

This relief is helping me to fully embrace Easter again and to recapture the joy that accompanies it. It is freeing me to more wholly consider what Easter really means.

A few years ago I was introduced to a children's poem titled, "When I Think of Easter." It's short, so I'll share it in full with you.

*When I think of Easter, I think of hot cross buns,
Of chocolate eggs and holidays,
Of treasure hunts, what fun!*

*But then, I start to wonder, Why is there all this fuss?
What does this Easter really mean,
To others and to us?*

This year, the Easter message of Jesus' resurrection means the defeat of sickness and death that has held us captive for so long. It means that we have been given a new life apart from what has stifled us in our old life, one of sin and worry and isolation. Jesus is risen to new life, and so are we! He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

This is what Easter really means to me this year. What does it mean to you?

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Tripp

St. Andrew Elders & Ministry Leaders 2021 Chairperson

Clerk of Session.....	Stuart Strong
Worship	Linda Grissom
Member Care.....	Nellie Gates
Education & Spiritual Formation.....	Turner Matthews
Mission	Barbara Mouton
Communications & Outreach	Harold Culbert
Treasurer/Administration.....	Philip Gilbert
Finance	Greg Vogel
Building/Grounds	Bob Naumann
Nominating	TBD
Comptroller	Tommy Gates



Ceil Hydrick	4/7
Connie Lawton	4/7
Doug Coshow	4/22
Greg Vogel	4/22
Roger Faulk	4/24



W.C. and Ceresee Sweeley
April 24



Palm Sunday was a special day for St. Andrew. It was great to see all our church family and to talk with them from a distance, as you could hear the chatter on the streaming before the service started. It was a great day! Thanks for everyone cooperating with the temp check, wearing a mask, and remaining a recommended distance from others. We look forward to seeing more of you on Easter Sunday.

Remember the suggested guidelines: Wear a mask, remain 6 feet apart, and enter through the nursery/covered walkway door. (Of course, families may sit together.) On exiting you can go through the fountain door, but you need to move outside to make sure everyone can exit at a proper distance. Remember, streaming begins at 9:50 AM and will pick up all conversation in the sanctuary to be broadcast on the airways.

Nellie Gates, Worship Chair

Thank You



for your Kindness

Thank you so much for your generous donations to our Easter Dinners for the community. We passed our goal and was able to donate the extra items to the CCC.

It is great to be a part of such a loving and sharing congregation.

Barb Mouton, Missions Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Tuesday, April 6, 10:00 AM

"God Laments"

**Hosea 11:1-9; Luke 19:41-44
(Matthew 23:37-39; Luke 13:34-35)**

Leader: Nelda Gilbert



April Project: Collecting toiletries, socks, and feminine hygiene products for the homeless. Please put in the Donation Location

ALL ladies are invited to join us the first Tuesday of each month.

Presbyterian Women's Upcoming Events

There was not a bake sale on Palm Sunday due to COVID. But, stay tuned for information about how you can help support the mission projects our PW group has adopted this year. Although there wasn't a bake sale, we plan to keep up our giving with your help. More information is coming soon on how you can help.

The month of April, we will be collecting items for homeless women such as toiletries, socks, feminine hygiene products, etc.



Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 24, 10:30 AM

St. Andrew Fellowship Hall (via Zoom)

Everyone is invited! (MEN too)

Meditation and Communion led by Rev. Judy Mitchell Rich

The worship service is first followed by a business session. You may leave after the worship service if you want.

Vegetables are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread, and pumpkin pie.

HANDS ACROSS DECATUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hands Across Decatur is an organization we have been working with to provide for the homeless in our community.

Help is needed now to prepare their building to minister to the homeless. They need help putting in showers, a laundry area, dining center, warming/cooling/severe weather area, shelves to store goods, painters, people to clean and organize, etc. They will also need help moving to their new larger location on Fifth Avenue (behind their current building) May 1.

This location will help them offer so much more to the homeless. They need volunteers to make this dream a reality. Will you help?

Please call or text Barb Mouton at 256.476.6094 for more information.



**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, APRIL 1
6:00 PM, ON-LINE ONLY**

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 2
6:00 PM, ON-LINE ONLY**

**YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK AT
ST. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Decatur, AL**



When you are a child, you make funny faces at the mirror,
but when we become adults, the mirror gets even.

One chicken to another holding an Easter basket filled with
eggs, "close your eyes and I'll hide the kids again."





APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 PM Maundy Thurs. Service on-line	2 6:00 PM Good Friday Service on-line	3
4 Easter Sunday	5	6 Pres. Women 10:00 am	7	8 Caring hands 1:00 pm	9	10
11	12 Coloring Group 10:00 am	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 PEO 6:15p (B. Meier)	20	21	22 Caring Hands 1:00 pm	23	24 PW Spring Gathering 10:30 am
25	26 Coloring Group 10:00 am	27	28	29	30	



The Chronicle is published monthly by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. To submit articles by email send to: churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org by the 22nd of each month. You may also submit articles in print to the church office Monday through Thursday, 8:45 am—1:00 pm.

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Phone: 256-355-6310
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Sunday School 8:45 am
Worship Service 10:00 am
Facebook: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church,
Decatur AL
www.standrewdecatur.org
Email: churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org

He is Risen



**Celebrate Easter with
us at 10:00 AM**

Sunday, April 4

Please enter at covered
walkway, wear a mask and
social distance.

**He has risen!
Let Us Rejoice!**