

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Elder Barb Mouton, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude "I'd Rather Have Jesus" Dr. Gilbreath

We Gather in God's Presence

Pastor's Welcome

Minute for Mission Holiday Hope Chests Barb Wyle

Call to Worship:

One: We will sing to God and bless God's name forever and ever.

All: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

One: We will declare God's mighty acts and celebrate God's abundant goodness.

All: Let us worship, singing of God's righteousness.

*Hymn "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" #509

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

God of generosity, we find ourselves bitter when faced with your abundant grace. We believe ourselves more deserving than others. We harbor anger and resentment towards those you forgive, instead of rejoicing in the abundant love you show. Forgive us when we wish your grace was scarce. Forgive the double standards we hold. Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace, and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy. Amen. (Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" #547, v.2

Assurance of Pardon:

One: The grace of God is boundless, poured out freely for all of us.

All: We will receive this gift of forgiveness, and trust God to transform our lives!

*Passing of the Peace

*Gloria Patri

#581

We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination Elder Barb Mouton

Scripture Reading Psalm 145:1-8 Elder Barb Mouton

Anthem "Breath of God" Choir

Scripture Reading Matthew 20:1-16 Rev. Brogdon

Sermon "It's Not Fair!" Rev. Brogdon

*Hymn "For the Fruit of All Creation" #36

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith: From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Prayers of the People

Call for the Offering

Offertory "He Touched Me" Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent into the World

*Hymn "Lead On, O King Eternal!" #269

*Benediction Rev. Brogdon

*Postlude "He Lifted Me" Dr. Gilbreath

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

Calendar of Events:

Today,	Shepherd Group: Bob Naumann & Shelly Shull
Wed., Sept. 27	4:30 PM Choir 5:30 PM Movie Night, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood"
Thurs., Sept. 28	1:00 PM Caring Hands
Sun., Oct. 1	Peace & Global Witness Offering

To Our 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 our congregation. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship, by email or phone. There is a place for you here.

Children's activity bags are available from an usher for the sermon time. Please leave the bag in the pew as you leave. A nursery is provided for children 3 years of age and under.

Flowers were placed in the sanctuary today by Faye Anderson in loving memory of Ken Anderson and Evelyn Daves.

Live Streams and recordings of each week's worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at www.standrewdecatour.org



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3310 Danville Rd. SW
Decatur, AL 35603
256-355-6310

Tripp@standrewdecatour.org
www.standrewdecatour.org

Scripture Reading, Barb Mouton: Psalm 145:1-8

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock

came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."