

# St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Stu Strong, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude "Have Thine Own Way, Lord/Finlandia" Dr. Gilbreath

## We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome Rev. Tripp Brogdon

Call to Worship:

One: God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

**All: God calls us to be builders as well.**

One: God calls us to build our lives:

**All: to restore broken places and continue to grow.**

One: God calls us to build our faith:

**All: to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.**

One: God calls us to build our community:

**All: to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.**

One: God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

**All: to preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.**

\*Hymn "Arise, Your Light Is Come" #744

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Holy God, we confess that we have wandered from your light. We follow paths of self-indulgence, instead of focusing on our need of you. We passively accept the suffering of the world, expecting others to stand up and work for the change we would like to see. Lord, in your strength, renew us and compel us by your invitation that we may work to pursue your justice and mercy for all people, sharing your light in ways great and small. Amen.**  
(Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" v.1 #582

Assurance of Pardon:

One: God's word does not come to condemn us, but to make us wise, reviving our souls and rejoicing our hearts.

**All: God's word has been fulfilled among us in Jesus Christ, who sets us free!**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Gloria Patri #581

## We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination Stu Strong

Scripture Reading Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Stu Strong

Choir Anthem "Dona Nobis Pacem" Choir

Scripture Reading Luke 4:14-21 Rev. Tripp Brogdon

Sermon "" Rev. Tripp Brogdon

\*Hymn "Live into Hope" #772

## We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Call for the Offering  
Offertory "Holy Bible, Book Divine" Dr. Gilbreath

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Dedication

## We Are Sent into the World

\*Hymn "Spirit, Open My Heart" #692

\*Benediction Rev. Tripp Brogdon

\*Postlude

“Standing on the Promises”

Dr. Gilbreath

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

***Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.***

**Calendar of Events:**

Mon., Jan. 27 6:00 PM NAP Men’s Meeting at First Presbyterian in Athens.  
Dinner will be served. If you would like to carpool, you can meet at St. Andrew at 5:00 PM. Sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

Tues., Feb. 4 10:00 AM Presbyterian Women’s Meeting  
Lesson: “Climate Change” Leader: Barb Mouton

Thurs., Feb. 6 1:00 PM Caring Hands

**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.

Live Streams and recordings of each week’s worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at [www.standrewdecalur.org](http://www.standrewdecalur.org)



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**Scripture Reading, Stu Strong: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

**Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Luke 4:14-21**

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."