

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

7th Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Cerese Sweeley, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude "To God Be the Glory" Dr. Gilbreath

We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome Rev. Tripp Brogdon

Minute for Mission Sleep In Heavenly Peace Nellie Gates

Call to Worship:

One: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: It calls us beyond congeniality into radical giving.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

One: So let us commit our way to the Lord together, until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn "Christ is Alive!" #246

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response "Great is Thy Faithfulness" v.3 & refrain #39

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

*Gloria Patri #581

We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination Cerese Sweeley

Scripture Reading Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 Cerese Sweeley

Choir Anthem "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Choir

Scripture Reading Luke 6:27-38 Rev. Tripp Brogdon

Sermon "Mission Impossible" Rev. Tripp Brogdon

*Hymn "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" #444

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith: From the *Brief Statement of Faith*
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

Prayers of the People

One: God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Call for the Offering

(The offering plate is not passed, but is located on a stand outside the sanctuary doors.)

Offertory "The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent into the World

*Hymn "Be Still, My Soul" #819

*Benediction Rev. Tripp Brogdon

*Postlude "Glory to His Name" Dr. Gilbreath

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

Calendar of Events:

- Wed., Feb. 26 4:30 PM Choir
5:30 PM CONNECT w/Jerry & Carolyn Murray – Sleep In Heavenly Peace mission.
- Tues., March 4 10:00 AM Presbyterian Women's Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Lesson: "Economic Climate Justice"
Leader: Jan Foster
- Wed., March 5 4:30 PM Choir
5:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service
- Thurs., March 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.standrewdeatur.org



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Scripture Reading, Cerese Sweeley: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil. For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land. Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity. The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble. The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Luke 6:27-38

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to

you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”