

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday of Epiphany

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

February 1, 2026

Elder Barb Mouton, Liturgist

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude

"More About Jesus"

We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome

*Call to Worship:

One: In a world that rewards selfishness,

All: it is wise to hoard resources, foolish to share.

One: In a world built on violence,

All: it is wise to be suspicious, foolish to risk compassion.

One: But God's wisdom is not the wisdom of the world:

All: Greed will not serve us in heaven. Self-preservation will not save us in the end, so we will choose to be foolish; we will choose the way of love.

One: Let us worship God.

*Hymn "Lift High the Cross"

#826

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

What have we done to you, dear God? We dishonor you every time we treat another with disrespect. We shatter your heart when we find it easier to break our word, then to take the risk to keep it. We fill your ears with the gossip, lies, and slander we speak about those around us. You are wise enough to forgive our foolishness; you are strong enough to overcome our weakness; you are loving enough to heal the hurt we cause to you and to others. And so you give us new hope and new life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen. (Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" v.1 #444

Assurance of Pardon:

One: What has God done to us? Shown mercy! What has God done for us?

Forgiven us! This is the good news for us.

All: We will not boast, for it is not our doing. We will give thanks to God for such grace and hope. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Gloria Patri

#581

We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

*Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#213

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Sermon

"Foolishness"

We Respond to God's Word

Call for the Offering

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

Offertory

"My Tribute"

*Doxology

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

Communion Anthem

"Here, O My Lord, I See You"

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving - Written by Thom M. Shuman

One: May the God of foolishness be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: People of God, open your hearts.

All: We offer them to the God who transforms us.

One: Join in singing praises to our God.

All: With joy and wonder, we lift our voices.

One: You were foolish enough to overcome chaos, Wise God...

One: With those who wonder what to offer, with all who seek to worship you, we sing songs of praise to you:

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

One: Holiness is your nature, God, and Jesus Christ is your gift of salvation...

One: ...we sing of that mystery we call faith:

All: *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. (#553 in the hymnal)*

Rev. Brogdon continues

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer After Communion

O God, we have been nourished at this table by your grace and hope, and so we will go to those who hunger for justice, as well as to those who thirst for reconciliation. We are called to follow the One who is weak and powerless, and so we will bring healing to the broken among us, as well as comfort to those who grieve in every moment. We learn what is right and good from your Holy Spirit, and so we will go as fools to be blessings to the wise, as well as to do not what is easy, but what is difficult. Amen.

We Are Sent Into the World

*Benediction

Postlude

“He Has Made Me Glad”

*Please rise in body or spirit

Please use in body or spirit.
Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

Calendar:

TODAY Congregational Meeting after service

Tues., Feb. 3 10:00 AM Presbyterian Women's Meeting

Thurs., Feb. 5 1:00 PM Caring Hands
Mon., Feb. 9 HAD Lunch – Sign up to bring cornbread, rolls, dessert or serve

The logo for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. It features a large, stylized blue flower icon on the left. To the right of the flower, the word "St." is written in a large, black, sans-serif font. Below "St.", the word "ANDREW" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font, with the "A" being the first letter of the church's name. Underneath "ANDREW", the words "YTERIAN CHURCH" are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

February 1, 2026

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

Scripture Reading, Barb Mouton: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not

know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”