

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

July 26, 2026

Elder Linda Grissom, Liturgist

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

ARR. BY JOHN F. WILSON

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,

All: whose love has conquered death.

One: Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,

All: who leads us into life.

One: Enter God's gates with praise and thanksgiving.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

One: I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord,

* **GATHERING HYMN** #624 *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

TOULON

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mystery, God of life, we imagine that we are capable judges of power and wisdom and goodness. We trust our own standards; we separate and categorize; we mark the performance of others. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, transform our withered imaginations until we yield the judgments we trust to a love we cannot control. Amen. (Silent Confession)

HYMN OF RESPONSE #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*
Verse 1

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? Sisters and brothers, nothing we have done, nothing we will ever do, is enough to separate us from the love of God made known in Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God; we are forgiven!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:31-39

CHOIR ANTHEM

The Love of God

ARR. BY LOVE OF GOD

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON

"That's It?"

* HYMN #819

Be Still My Soul

FINLANDIA

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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call for the Offering

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

Offertory

Breathe on Me

ARR. BY JEFF GILBREATH

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

* Prayer of Dedication

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN #370

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

We Have heard the Joyful Sound

ARR. BY JEFF GILBREATH

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW!

Whether you are a first-time guest, a long-time member, or somewhere in between, know that you are welcome in this place. We are so glad you are here, and we hope that your time in worship this morning draws you closer to God and to God's people. Our journeys of faith are not just lived on Sunday mornings, so we invite you to also join us in the fellowship and ministry of our congregation. Rev. Tripp is available to answer any questions you might have after worship, by email (tripp@standrewdecatur.org), or by phone. There is a place for you here!

THIS WEEK TOGETHER

Tuesday, July 28th

2:00 PM – Member Care Meeting

**The flowers in the sanctuary were placed by Don & Jan Foster in celebration of their 52nd wedding anniversary.*

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Each month moving forward, we will highlight a particular portion of our Presbyterian worship to explain what it is and why we do it. We begin with an overview of worship and our Service for the Lord's Day.

Worship is at the very heart of the church's life. All that the church is and does is rooted in its worship. The community of faith, gathered in response to God's call, is formed in its worship. Worship is the principal influence that shapes our faith, and is the most visible way we express the faith. In worship, through Word and Sacrament, the church is sustained by the presence of Christ and empowered by the work of the Holy Spirit. Joined in worship to the One who is the source of its life, the church is equipped to serve God in the world.

We gather to worship God on the Lord's Day (Sunday) because the Gospels testify that Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week. The Lord's Day is also called the "eighth day" of creation, a sign of the new creation that has begun with Christ's resurrection. While we may worship God on any day and at any time, the Sunday service in particular is a celebration of Christ's resurrection and an anticipation of the fullness of God's coming reign.





July 26, 2026

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
256-355-6310
www.standrewdecatour.org

Scripture Reading, Linda Grissom: Romans 8:31–39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Scripture Reading, Linda Grissom: Romans 8:31–39

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