

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

10th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

August 2, 2026
Elder Nellie Gates, Liturgist
Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

ARR. BY JOHN CARTER

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the days when the judges ruled, Naomi and Ruth walked the road back to Bethlehem together.

All: We gather today because someone has walked with us too.

One: Ruth said, "Where you go, I will go. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God."

All: This is a love that holds fast, a love that keeps its word.

One: God's steadfast love brought a foreign woman into the family line of David and into the family line of Christ.

All: God's steadfast love has brought us here, too.

All: Let us worship the God whose love does not let go!

* GATHERING HYMN #385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

OLD HUNDREDTH

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Steadfast God, your love for us does not waver, but ours for you and for each other often does. We confess that we choose convenience over loyalty. We stay close to people and to you when it costs us little, and we drift when it costs us more. We confess that we have withheld the kind of love Ruth gave so freely, which is a love that shows up, stays, and keeps its promises. Forgive us for the loyalty we have failed to give. Renew in us the kind of steadfast love that mirrors your own. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

HYMN OF RESPONSE #833

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

*O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depth its flow may richer, fuller be.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: God's steadfast love sets us free from our sin. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

* 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

Matthew 5:3-9

* HYMN #324

For All the Faithful Women

NYLAND

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 1:1-22

SERMON

"Loss and Loyalty"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

Shout to the Lord

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

ARR. BY LES PETITES SOEURS

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Holy God, it is right to thank you...

One: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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. (Glory to God #552)*

One: Holy is Christ Jesus, who came to live among us, full of grace and truth...

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

All: *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. (Glory to God #553)*

Rev. Brogdon continues.

All: *Amen, amen, amen. (Glory to God #554)*

Breaking of the Bread and the Sharing of the Cup

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, you have fed us at your table again. Send us from this place ready to work, ready to stay, and ready to love without holding back. Let this meal be more than memory. Let it be strength for the road ahead. In the name of Christ, our steadfast love. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

- * **HYMN** #306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS
- * **BENEDICTION**
- * **POSTLUDE** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* 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

Thursday, August 6th

1:00 P.M. - Caring Hands

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP: THE LORD'S DAY

The Service for the Lord's Day is a service of Word and Sacrament. We meet in the presence of the living Lord, who appeared to his disciples on the first day of the week — the day he rose from the dead — to interpret the scriptures and break bread. Following Jesus' example, the Church proclaims the fullness of the gospel in Word and Sacrament on the Lord's Day.

The Service for the Lord's Day includes other actions as well: gathering and singing, confession and pardon, prayer and offering, blessing, and sending. Through all these actions, we are drawn into Christ's presence and sent out in the power of the Spirit.

The order of worship offers a meaningful and reliable structure for the church's encounter with the living God. Over time, an order of worship helps to shape our faith and faithfulness as the people of God, becoming a pattern for how we live as Christians in the world. Our order of worship for the Service for the Lord's Day is rooted in scripture, the traditions of the universal Church, and our Reformed heritage. In particular, it seeks to uphold the centrality of Word and Sacraments in the Church's faith, life, and worship.

STEADFAST LOVE

A Sermon Series on Ruth and Esther

August 2, 2026

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
256-355-6310
www.standrewdecaturn.org

Scripture Reading, Nellie Gates: Matthew 5:3-9

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.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Ruth 1

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back each of you to your mother’s house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your

husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.” Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them; and the women said, “Is this Naomi?” She said to them, “Call me no longer Naomi, call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt bitterly with me. I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty; why call me Naomi when the Lord has dealt harshly with me, and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?” So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.