

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

12th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

August 16, 2026
Elder Linda Faulk, Liturgist
Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Here I Am, Lord

ARR. BY JACK SCHRADER

WELCOME

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Naomi told Ruth what to do, and Ruth said, "All that you tell me I will do."

All: We come here ready to act in faith, even when we don't know how things will turn out.

One: Ruth took a risk. She trusted that God's steadfast love was working through ordinary people and in an ordinary place.

All: We trust that same steadfast love is at work among us today.

One: Come, let us worship the Lord who is faithful to redeem.

All: We worship the God who never stops loving us!

* GATHERING HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Ruth risked everything. We often risk nothing. We stay where it's safe. We keep our hands to ourselves and our mouths shut when love calls us to act. We say we trust you, but we build our lives around not needing to. Forgive us for the times we've chosen safety over faithfulness, silence over courage, and comfort over love. Give us Ruth's nerve. Give us Boaz's honor. Give us the willingness to act. In the name of Christ we pray. 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 this good news: the God who redeemed Ruth and Naomi redeems us, too. In Christ, we are set free to act in love without fear. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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 7:7-8

CHOIR ANTHEM

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

ARR. BY MARTY HAUGEN

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 3:1-18

SERMON

"Daring to Act"

* HYMN #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

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

Something for Thee

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 #727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Make Me a Blessing

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 20th

1:00 PM 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 16, 2026

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

Scripture Reading, Linda Faulk: Matthew 7:7-8

“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Ruth 3:1-18

Naomi, her mother-in-law, said to her, “My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.” She said to her, “All that you tell me I will do.”

So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her. When Boaz had eaten and drunk, and he was in a contented mood, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came stealthily and uncovered his feet, and lay down. At midnight the man was startled, and turned over, and there, lying at his feet, was a woman! He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant; spread your cloak over your servant, for you are next-of-kin.” He said, “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter; this last instance of your loyalty is better than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, do not be afraid, I will do for you all that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy woman. But now, though it is true that I am a near kinsman, there is another kinsman more closely related than I. Remain this night, and in the morning, if he will act as next-of-kin for you, good; let him do it. If he is not willing to act as next-of-kin for you, then, as the Lord lives, I will act as next-of-kin for you. Lie down until the morning.”

So she lay at his feet until morning, but got up before one person could recognize another; for he said, “It must not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.” Then he said, “Bring the cloak you are wearing and hold it out.” So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley, and put it on her back; then he went into the city. She came to her mother-in-law, who said, “How did things go with you, my daughter?” Then she told her all that the man had done for her, saying, “He gave me these six measures of barley, for he said, ‘Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.’” She replied, “Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest, but will settle the matter today.”