SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

24th Sunday after Pentecost **November 8, 2026**
Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor **Elder Bob Naumann, Liturgist**
Mavis Stephens, Choir Director **Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist**

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE *We Shall Behold Him* JEFF GILBREATH

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP DON KOZA

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: It is late, and the Bridegroom has not yet come.
All: We are here with our lamps lit, waiting.
One: Some of us are rested, and some of us are weary.
All: Some of us have plenty, and some of us are running low.
One: Christ keeps watch with us through the night, and he is coming with the dawn.
All: Keep us awake, O Lord, and keep our lamps burning.
One: The doors are open, and the feast is ready.
All: Come, let us worship the Lord!

*** GATHERING HYMN** #403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* UNSER HERRSCHER

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Everlasting God, we say we want to see you, we say we want to know you, we say we want to serve you, but we also do not want to put in the work. We do not want to prepare for your coming by working for your kingdom on this earth. We do not keep alert for signs of you among us, so we schedule you in for an hour or so on Sundays. Forgive us. Inspire us to put our faith to action. Surprise us with your presence so we might learn to always be ready for you to arrive. Amen. (Silent Confession)

HYMN OF RESPONSE #473 *Shepherd Me, O God* SHEPHERD ME

Refrain x2
Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, from death into life.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Sisters and brothers, rejoice and be glad, for God is mighty to save and comes to you in peace to forgive, restore, and strengthen you eternally in Christ.
All: 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 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

CHOIR ANTHEM *Steal Away* STEAL AWAY

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:1-13

SERMON *"Ready…Set…"*

*** HYMN** #819 *Be Still, My Soul* FINLANDIA

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The 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

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 *Shall we Gather at the River* 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. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

*** HYMN** #350 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* KEEP YOUR LAMPS

*** BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE** *Soon and Very Soon* 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

Monday, November 9th
Providing lunch for HAD
1:00 PM Holiday Hope Chest Wrap Party
Tuesday, November 10th
2:00 PM Member Care Meeting
Wednesday, November 11th
Veterans Day – Church Office Closed
Mission Committee Meeting
Sunday, November 15th
Stewardship Sunday

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP: CONFESSION AND PARDON

Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God's presence. Nevertheless, we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This turn in worship from communal praise to corporate confession, established on the promise of God's grace, is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition.

A call to confession expresses God's initiative in calling for repentance and promising forgiveness in Christ. As members of Christ's body, we confess the reality of sin, captivity, and brokenness in personal and common life and ask for God's saving grace. A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God's mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus' name. Leading this element of worship from the font connects our confession with the grace and cleansing of Baptism, and the baptismal call to new life in Christ.



November 8, 2026

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
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Scripture Reading, Bob Naumann: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Brogdon: Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.