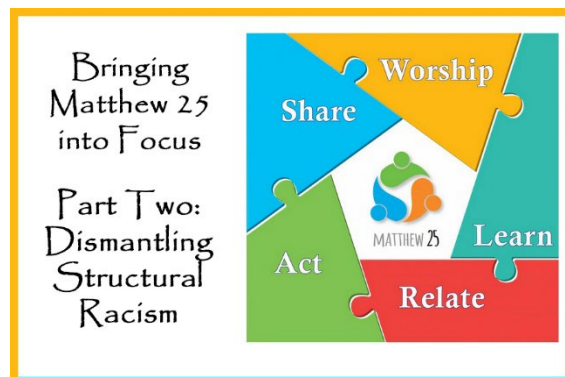


Worshiping God at
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
3rd Sunday After Pentecost
June 18, 2023



Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Teddie McConnell

There are two flower arrangements beautifying the sanctuary today:

Vickie and Ron Thomas: in memory of Vickie's father, Nick, and Ron's father, John.

Clarke and Pat Vestal: in celebration of their 61st wedding anniversary.

Prelude

Seung-mee Oh

Opening Prayer (Based on Ephesians 2)

Pastor Teddie

Living God, you sent Jesus into this world to break down the dividing walls of hostility and establish justice and peace among us through the reconciling work of the cross. Establish a new humanity in Christ. Make us no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with all your faithful people and members of your holy household, growing together as your dwelling place; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Call to Worship (Responsive) (Based on Psalm 40)

Diane Wilson

L: I waited patiently for the Lord, who inclined to me and heard my cry.

P: **God drew me up out of the desolate pit, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

Service parts in bold: Everyone speaks in unison.

Parts with an asterisk: * Please stand in body or in spirit.

L: The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

P: Many will see and hear; they will put their trust in the Lord.

L: Then I said: "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

P: I delight to do your will, O God; your law is in my heart.

Offering Our Praise

* Hymn #318

In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord close-binding human-kind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be. All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north. All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

* *Passing of the Peace*

Pastor Teddie

Let us share the peace of God with each other, as we greet one another in the name of Christ.

Receiving God's Grace

Call to Confession (Based on Psalm 40)

Diane

The Lord does not desire sacrifice as an offering for sin; God asks us to show love and mercy and waits with an open ear to hear our prayer. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Diane

O Lord our God, you have made each person in your own image — your holy handiwork, crowned with beauty. Yet we have denied your image in others. We have allowed our prejudice to obscure our vision of our neighbors. We have built up oppressive systems that mistreat the many and favor the few. We have remained silent and safe while others have suffered so much. Forgive us, God of grace. Set us free from the sin of structural racism, strengthen us to dismantle dividing walls, and help us to build a home of hope for all; through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior.

Please take time now for your own silent prayers. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Pastor Teddie

L: Tell the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation: the steadfast love and faithfulness of the Lord are everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God.

* Gloria Patri

Anthem

Under a Shady Tree (Written by Tom Eggleston)

Chancel Choir

Offering our Gifts

Call for the Offering (Based on 1 Corinthians 1)

Pastor Teddie

We give thanks to God always for the grace we have received in Jesus Christ.

God has enriched us with knowledge and speech that we might renounce the power of evil and bear witness to the grace and truth of Christ.

Let us be good stewards of these spiritual gifts by speaking up against structural racism, standing up with all who are oppressed, and offering up our lives in service to others.

Offering / Offertory

Seung-mee

* Doxology

* Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Pastor Teddie

God of all grace and peace, we give you thanks for the abundant gifts of your Spirit and the witness of our Lord Jesus Christ. Strengthen us to live according to your way — offering welcome to strangers, justice to the oppressed, liberation to those who are captive, and sanctuary to those who are persecuted. Keep us faithful in your service while we work, watch, and pray for the coming of your holy realm; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns / Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer

Greg Lee

Musical Reflection

Seung-mee Oh

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination (unison) (Based on John 1)

Diane

O Lord our God, teach us by your Word and send us your Spirit that we may follow in the way of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson

Genesis 1:1-31

Diane

When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Scripture Lesson

1 John 4:7-8

Pastor Teddie

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

"Bringing Matthew 25 into Focus - Part Two"

Pastor Teddie

The Gifts of God for the People of God



Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor Teddie

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Teddie

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this cup from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and the fruit of the vine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Breaking of the Bread / Communion of the People

Pastor Teddie

We give you thanks that The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

Invitation: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Prayer After Communion (unison)

Pastor Teddie

God, our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and forever.

* Hymn #300

We Are One in the Spirit

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

(Refrain): And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand; we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
(Refrain).

We will work with each other; we will work side by side; we will work with each other; we will work side by side, and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain).

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
(Refrain).

Taking God's Word into the World



Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Pastor Teddie

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Alleluia! **Amen.**

Sung Benediction

All

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever;
grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of grace forever;
may the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Fellowship Time

Come! Join us in the Fellowship Room for refreshments, snacks, and conversation following the worship service.