



St. Andrews-Covenant Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Welcome to Worship! | March 22, 2026 | 5th Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

Prelude *Cantilène Religieuse*

Théodore Dubois

Welcome

***Call to Worship[†]**

Jen Phelps

Welcome to the weary and the worn.

Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

This is God's house. You can make yourself at home here.

Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

***Hymn 853** *We Are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba)*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers. We love right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way. You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality. You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything. Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray.

Moment for Reflection and Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Sung Response 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Matthew 23:23

Second Lesson John 8:2-11

Sermon *The good news is...rooted in justice and mercy*

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

***Hymn 769** *For Everyone Born*

***Affirmation of Faith:** Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Offertory *O Love*

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow, may richer, fuller be. O Joy that seeks me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

***Doxology 606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING

***Hymn 749** *Come! Live in the Light! (We Are Called)*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Dismissal**

We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life goes with us.

Postlude *Postludium*

Gordon Young

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington
Liturgist, Jen Phelps
Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger
Choir Director, Angela Burns
Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant

Adult Choir
Children's m&m Drums
Production Coordinator, Jim Fox
Lay Reader, Lyda Williams

†Adapted from liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.

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