



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

Welcome to Worship! | September 7, 2025 | 13th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Prelude *Allegro from Sonata in G, Op. 49, No. 2*

Ludwig van Beethoven

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Dr. Gary Smith

Come now, all who thirst,
and drink the water of life.
Come now, all who hunger,
and be filled with good things.
Come now, all who seek,
and be warmed by the fire of God's love.
Let us worship God!

***Hymn 409** *God Is Here!*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you call us into community, teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us; we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation; we cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and nourish us with your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Sung Response 581** *Glory Be to the Father*

***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 16:24-28

Second Lesson Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Sermon *Choices, Choices, Choices*

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

***Hymn 475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

***Affirmation of Faith** Apostles' Creed (hymnal, p. 35)

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Offertory *Beautiful City*

André Thomas

Three gates in the east! Three gates in the west! Three gates in the north! Three gates in the south! Twelve gates to the city Hallelu. Oh, what a beautiful city! In bright mansions above, Lord, I want to live up yonder, in bright mansions above. My mother lives up in glory, I want to live there too. My father lives up in glory, I want to live there too. My sister lives up in glory, I want to live there too. My brother lives up in glory, I want to live there too! I want to be in that number. Hallelujah!

***Doxology 606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

COMMUNION

(All are invited to the Lord's Table. The elements will be shared by intinction, each person receiving a piece of bread to dip into the common cup. The congregation will exit each row on the left side aisles and return on the right side aisles. Pre-packaged elements and gluten-free bread are available.)

***Choral Invitation 507** *Come to the Table* (v.2 Grace)

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Receiving Communion Together

Communion Music *Bread of the World*

Daniel Burton

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

***Hymn 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

***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 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Victor Labenskes

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington
Parish Associate, Rev. Dr. Gary Smith
Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger
Choir Director, Angela Burns

Pianists, Sara Bryant and Steve Lowry
Adult Choir
Production Coordinator, Jim Fox
Lay Reader, Scott Murray

Our Mission

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