

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Perkasie, Pennsylvania

Rev. Barbara Pence

Phone (215) 257-2880

Website: www.standrewsucc.org

9:00 am Faith Formation

10:15 am Worship Service

August 16, 2026

Liturgist: Tara Howell

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

GREETING

If able, please rise in body or in spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ Jesus, friend of the poor, the meek and the merciful, has been enthroned above all authority and power in this world and in the world that is to come.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, serve the Lord with gladness come into his presence with singing

God has placed everything under Christ's wounded feet, appointed the one who wore a crown of thorns as the supreme head of the church, his body.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving come into his courts with praise. Give thanks and praise his loving name!

Hymn #471 As the Deer

Please be seated

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have sinned against both Shepherd and flock, even at times not knowing that we were blocking the work of divine love.

Forgive us for driving others away from the land of justice and safety.

We have sinned against both Shepherd and flock, even at times not knowing that we were blocking the work of divine love.

Forgive us for not attending to the needs of others.

We have sinned against both Shepherd and flock, even at times not knowing that we were blocking the work of divine love.

Forgive us for not bringing back to the fold those who are fearful and have gone missing from community.

WORDS OF GRACE

Like the bandits who were crucified next to Jesus, we too are forgiven— no matter how much we may have scoffed at the Shepherd's love, no matter that sometimes we may not have known what we were doing. For in the Shepherd all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through the Shepherd God was pleased to reconcile to God all things, whether on earth or in the heaven, by making peace through the blood of the cross. The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, has remembered us and forgiven us---the gates of Paradise have been unlocked; we are free to enter where the Shepherd reigns forever and ever!

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Jeremiah 23:1-6

The Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

The word of the Lord.

Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Jessica Reese Walmsley

If able, please rise in body or in spirit.

Hymn #384

Rock of Ages

Please be seated.

Koinonia Time (community; communion; fellowship; intimacy)

(Please date, sign, and pass the pew pad to your neighbors)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of Intercession

Lord’s Prayer
O God, our Creator and Redeemer, Holy is Your name. May we claim Your way of being in the world and risk doing Your will in all things. Provide us, we pray, with enough to meet our needs and give us strength to resist a world of greed and harmful power. Forgive us our sins and our stumbling for we will forgive others who have sinned against us and caused us pain. And do not put us to the test, Holy One, but set us free from evil. For it is your power we acknowledge in the world, and no other. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY
God of love, you have shown us how you love us and all people. Lead us to love one another through our lives and our gifts.

OFFERTORY
If able, please rise in body or in spirit.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Compassionate Shepherd, You do not abandon your flock, even when we wander or divide. You gather us in Christ, our righteousness, and teach us to live in unity, mercy, and peace. As we bring these gifts, may they be signs of our desire to follow your way—offering compassion where there has been hurt, justice where there has been harm, and hope where there has been despair. Strengthen us to live as people waiting not in fear, but in faith—serving the reign of Christ not just with words, but with lives shaped by generosity and love. In the name of the One who gathers and leads us always. Amen

Hymn #66 To God Be the Glory

BENEDICTION
Just as Christ looked down from the cross and prayed, "Father, forgive them," He has already extended that same radical mercy to you. As you leave this place, carry that grace in your heart, and be ready to pour it out onto others. Release your grievances, offer unearned kindness, and break the cycles of hurt around you. May God bless you and keep

you, May the very face of God shine upon you, and be gracious to you, May God’s presence embrace you and give you eternal peace.

Postlude

Portions of this liturgy are reprinted from “The Shepard Reigns “written by James E Janesek posted on United Church of Christ Worship Ways website
<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

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Filming Disclosure: Our services are filmed and recorded for online viewers. As congregant's faces may be captured, your entry into the Sanctuary constitutes your consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded for streaming or social purposes.
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**Head Ushers for August are Amanda Duffy and Tara Howell  
Today’s Ushers are Karen Peterson and Erin Rush  
Altar Guild representatives for August are Ethel Dietrich and Doris Lindmeier**

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**Pastor Barb’s contact information: Email – [pastorbarb90@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbarb90@gmail.com); Cell 267-374-5692**

**2026 Consistory**  
Elders: Ron Grace, Tara Howell, Doris Lindmeier, Karen Peterson  
Deacons: Amanda Duffy (President), Cindy Grace, Lance Ide, Erin Rush, Evie Starkey, Angela Stofflet (Secretary), Herb Volk (V. President)  
Jen Flexer (Treasurer)  
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## ST. ANDREW'S U.C.C. MISSION STATEMENT

St. Andrew's United Church of Christ is an inclusive community rooted in God's incredible love. Family, youth, and individuals of all ages, gather together in a warm and welcoming atmosphere to worship and praise God through music, prayer, the celebration of the sacraments, and the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

At St. Andrew's we strive to make God's message a living reality:

- Our faith inspires us to explore how the scriptures guide us to live and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- We are dedicated to Christian Education and the nurture of spiritual growth for people of all ages.
- We are committed to reaching out to serve our local and world community in Christ's name, offering ourselves and our resources to promote healing, understanding, forgiveness, and love.
- We recognize and honor the image of God in all people. We believe that our relationship with each other is a reflection of our relationship with God.
- We understand ourselves as stewards of many God given gifts. We seek to honor God by lifting up these gifts and dedicating them to the realization of God's vision for a just world.
- *"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it"*  
(1 Corinthians 12:27).

## PRAYER & DEVOTION

# 471

## As the Deer

Unison D A/C# Bm Dsus/A D/A

1 As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my  
2 I want you more than gold or sil - ver, on - ly  
3 You're my friend and you are my broth - er, e - ven

G A7sus A7 D G/A A7 D A/C#

soul longs af - ter you; you a - lone are my  
you can sat - is - fy; you a - lone are the  
though you are a king; I love you more than

Bm Dsus/A D/A G Asus A7 D

heart's de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.  
real joy-giv - er and the ap - ple of my eye.  
an - y oth - er, so much more than an - y - thing!

Refrain Bm Bm/A G D/F# G Bm/F#

You a - lone are my strength and shield; to you a - lone may my

WORDS and MUSIC: Martin Nyström (1956- ) alt

PRAYER & DEVOTION

Em F#sus F# D A/C#

spir - it yield. You a - lone are my

Bm Dsus/A D/A G A7sus A7 D

heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Rock of Ages 384

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful -  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when my

hide my - self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood,  
fill thy law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know,  
to thy cross I cling; na - ked, come to thee for dress,  
eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds un - known,

from thy wound - ed side which flowed, be of sin the  
could my tears for - ev - er flow, all for sin could  
help - less, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the  
see thee on thy judg - ment throne, Rock of A - ges,

dou - ble cure, save from wrath and make me pure.  
not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.  
foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die!  
cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

WORDS: Augustus M. Toplady (1740-1778)  
MUSIC: Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

TOPLADY  
7.7.7.7.7.

To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he hath done; so loved he the  
2 O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, to ev - ery be -  
3 Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -  
liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who  
joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er and

tone-ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.  
great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

*Refrain*  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)  
MUSIC: William H. Doane (1832-1915)

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
11.11.11.Ref.

Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther through

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he hath done.