

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

Perkasie, Pennsylvania

Rev. Barbara Pence

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Website: www.standrewsucc.org

9:00 am Faith Formation

10:15 am Worship Service

April 26, 2026

Liturgists: Shirley Metzger & Julia Metzger

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Earth Day

PRELUDE

GREETING

Please stand in body or in spirit

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalms 96, 104, 148)

Praise the Lord!

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

Praise the Lord, sun and moon, and all you shining stars!

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

Praise the Lord you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, and stormy wind. —Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Let heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!

Let the sea and everything in it roar!

Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate!

Then all the trees of the forest too

will shout out joyfully before the Lord because the Lord is coming!

The Lord is coming to establish justice on the earth!

Hymn # 40 For the Beauty of the Earth

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are a part of God's creation, created to share in its abundant life. Instead, we have used its resources for our own gain and put all of creation in jeopardy. Let us go to our Creator and ask for forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear Heavenly Father, we have forgotten your role you gave us, to rule over and protect your creation. We have destroyed our trees and other sources of oxygen. We have built factories in place of our trees, cutting them down for goods only for us. Lord, help us not be selfish in taking away the world from animals. Help us rebuild your wondrous creation. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

All creation comes from and is a reflection of God. We have been created by God and we have been gifted with the ability to renew the earth. God forgives us and makes us new so we can share new life with all of creation.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator God, you filled the earth with trees that have roots deep in the soil and branches reaching toward the heavens. By your Spirit, illumine these Scriptures, that we may grow in faith like trees planted by living water, bearing fruit and renewing the earth you created. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Ezekiel 47:1-12

The word of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Prayer

Dear Lord, we thank you for our precious trees. Giving them the ability to provide oxygen, lower our blood pressure and our stress. We pray Lord that you can keep giving us the blessing of trees every day. Amen.

Please stand in body or in spirit.

Hymn # 28 For Beauty of Meadows

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

Our Creator/Mother/Father/Spirit, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Community of faith, let us hold true to the ethos of the early church and hold all things in common. Let us share our abundance to enjoy shared life, to meet the needs among us, to care for creation, and to demonstrate our commitment to the kingdom of God on earth.

OFFERTORY

If able, please rise in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #147

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures high and low;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, may these gifts bless our life together, fortify our ministry, transform our community, and sustain creation in which we are a part of. Receive them as we give them—with gladness and thanksgiving. Amen.

Hymn #24 God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

BENEDICTION

May you be like trees planted along the sacred river, your roots deep in God's love, your leaves abundant with mercy and your life bearing fruit in every season. Go now in peace, nourished by the waters of life, steadfast as the trees of God, and fruitful in love for the healing of the world. Amen.

Postlude

Portions of today's liturgy are reprinted from Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*, Copyright 2015, Julia Metzger, [Canopy of Trees CJM Branded.pdf - Google Drive](#), and [Easter 4A - April 26 - United Church of Christ](#).

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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.

Head Ushers for April are Doris Lindmeier and Angela Stofflet

Today's Ushers are Lee Metzger and Ron Grace

Pastor Barb's contact information: Email – 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)



MISSION TEAM HOAGIE SALE

ST. ANDREW'S UCC

May 16, 2026

**PICK UP FRESH 10:00 TO 11:30
(They may also be picked up on Sunday May 17th
after church from refrigerator)**

The Mission Team is hosting a Hoagie Sale to support ongoing mission work. Complete the form below and place in the offering plate

The cost is \$10.00. The Hoagies will be either Italian or Turkey and will be made fresh.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS WILL BE SUNDAY, May 10

Seller's Name: _____ Phone # _____

NAME	Italian Onion	Italian No Onion	Turkey Onion	Turkey No Onion	Hot Peppers	Total Hoagies	Amt. Due	Amt. Paid

GOD OF CREATION

For the Beauty of the Earth 40

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 4 For the church that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our race so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,
 hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
 of - fering up on ev - ery shore her pure sac - ri - fice of love,
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

For Beauty of Meadows 28

1 For beau - ty of mead - ows, for gran - deur of trees,
 2 As stew - ards of beau - ty re - ceived at your hand,
 3 Teach us once a - gain to be gar - deners in peace;

for flow - ers of wood - lands, for crea - tures of seas,
 as crea - tures who hear your most ur - gent com - mand,
 all na - ture a - round us is ours but on lease;

for all you cre - at - ed and gave us to share,
 we turn from our waste - ful de - struc - tion of life,
 your name we would hal - low in all that we do,

we praise you, Cre - a - tor, ex - tol - ling your care.
 con - fess - ing our fail - ures, con - fess - ing our strife.
 ful - fill - ing our call - ing, cre - at - ing with you.

WORDS: Walter H. Farquharson (1936-)
 MUSIC: Welsh melody
 Words © 1971 Walter Farquharson

ST. DENIO
 11.11.11.11.

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 24

1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan-ets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
 2 You have called us to be faith-ful in our life and min - i - try.
 3 God, your will is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to life made new,

mold the moun-tains, fash-ion blos-soms, call forth sun-shine, wind, and rain.
 We re-spond in grate-ful wor-ship, joined in one com-mun - i - ty.
 now re-veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's work to dare and do.

We, cre - at - ed in your im - age, would a true re - flec - tion be
 When we blur your gra - cious im - age, fo - cus us and make us whole,
 Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion, fash - ion us with lov - ing care,

of your jus - tice, grace, and mer - cy, and the truth that makes us free.
 healed and strength-ened as your peo-ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 thus, new crea - tures in your im - age, we'll pro-claim Christ ev - ery-where.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber (1926-)
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
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HYMN TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D.