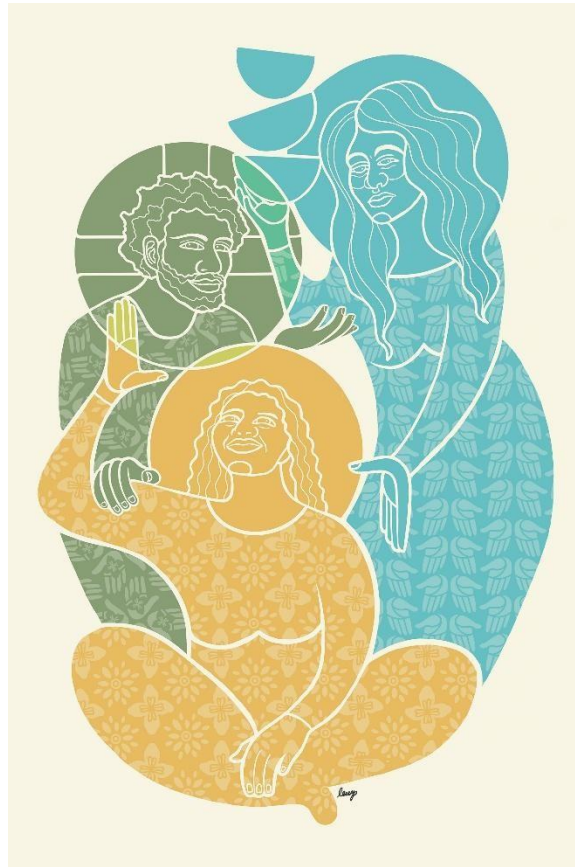




everything [in] between

faith & works



Second Sunday in Lent

St. Andrew Lutheran Church Sunday, March 16, 2025

Welcome to St. Andrew!

At St. Andrew Lutheran Church, we strive to be a loving and welcoming community of faith. We are centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ, who calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

All are welcome, without exception, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, education, income, or family status.

All are welcome here to worship God, receive the sacraments, and share in fellowship, leadership, and service. We commit to treasuring one another's similarities and differences as one body in Christ.

We are called to provide a safe space in the community as we break down the barriers of isolation. We will continue to discover what it means to be "Reconciling in Christ."

"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."
- Romans 15:7

Orientation to the Service

This bulletin will guide you through the entire service. Starting on page 3, words printed in **bold** are for everyone to say aloud together. Instructions and information are printed in *italics*.

Hymns (songs) are found in the hymnals in the pew racks in front of your seat.

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)

ACS = All Creation Sings (blue hymnal)

Green-topped Welcome Cards are found in the pew racks in front of your seat. We would love for guests, visitors, and anyone in need of prayer or more information about the church to fill one out. Please place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher after the service.

Children are welcome in worship! God put the wiggle in children, so please do not feel you have to shush or suppress those wiggles in God's house. All are welcome here! Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is happening in the service. There are worship activity bags available for children on a shelf in the back of the sanctuary, and a staffed nursery is available for very young ones. Ask an usher if you need help locating it.

Restrooms can be found by exiting the back of the sanctuary and turning right. Walk straight until you pass the coffee bar, and you will find the women's and men's restrooms to your right. A gender-neutral, ADA-compliant restroom will be found to your left, near the entrance to the kitchen.

Online access to the bulletin and hymns: standrewlutheran.com/worship/worship-bulletins/

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025 | 9:30 AM

In many translations, Jesus says that "Mary has chosen the better part," which has been used to create a divide between Mary and Martha. However, in the Greek, Mary has chosen the "good portion," and Martha's tasks are called "ministry." Therefore, perhaps Mary represents our faith, our desire to know God intimately, and Martha represents our good works, our desire to transform the world. Both are needed, and both are good.

PRELUDE

Rest in the Lord
Bells of Grace

Raymond H. Herbeck

GATHERING

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.

INVOCATION

God meets us in the night –
before the sun rises, before the wound heals,
before there are answers, before there is closure.

God meets us in the light –
where joy is effervescent, where laughter is
contagious, where flowers bloom from cracks in the
sidewalk, where people gather around tables.

God meets us in between –
at the edge of the water, at the beginning of the
wilderness, at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.

And if God meets us in all those places, then
surely God meets us everywhere – at the
water's edge, at the start of something new, after
the baptism, and before the call.

We are not alone. God is all around.
Let us worship the God of everything.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

The image shows three staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The notes are written in a simple, clear style. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff has the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The second staff has "Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy." The third staff has "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The music consists of a series of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The final note of each staff is a whole note.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

The story of Mary and Martha...

Pause for silent confession.

Let us pray together. **God of
grace, we long to do the
“right” thing.**

We long to make the “right” choice.

We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.

Show us how to hold our heart’s desire for perfection loosely.

Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.

For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you.

Show us the way. Amen.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Faithful friends, God knows your heart. When you mean well and lose your way, God knows. When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows. When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows. You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven. You have been sent to serve. This is the good news of the gospel! Nothing can separate you from God's love. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Allison Bengfort

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let us pray together.

Loving God, when our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones, when our stress rises like the tide, see us. Speak to us. Call us by name. See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room. Speak to

us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child. Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

POEM FOR REFLECTION

“Wildfire” by Rev. Sarah A. Speed

I can picture it—salty sweat, accumulating in her bangs. The scent of toasted sesame seeds, crushed oregano, sumac, and cumin. Flour on her hands, painting streaks of white in her hair when she ties it back. The sweet date she samples—the way it stretches and clings to the back of her teeth, leaving the taste of honey in her mouth.

I can picture Martha in that kitchen, plating meals, eager to see their eyes close. Their heads nod. To hear the swell of approval that rises from their lips. And I can picture her sister. Brows scrunched. Fingers fidgeting, wishing for a pen, for paper, for a way to write it down. I can see her mouth part like a fish in the air, questions forming and reforming on her curious lips. I can see her lean in, knees tucked, eyes bright. I can see her imagining the world he dreamed of.

And I can picture how, for generations, this story of two brazen women in scripture, a story of two women so close to Jesus, may have felt like an untamed wildfire. I can picture the way we put these women in boxes. I can imagine how people saw their full hearts, their untamed energy, and decided to label that as good and bad, better and worse. I can imagine how Martha’s questions were interpreted as nagging, or the interruption interpreted as needy.

I can picture how it happened, but what if it was all more beautiful than that? What if these sisters discovered a ministry of cooking? What if they discovered the faithfulness of learning, the kind of friendship that allows you to ask questions, or something in between?

I can imagine it. Can you?

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

GOSPEL

Luke 10:38-42

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴²but few things are needed — indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beautiful Things (ACS 920, vs. 3, repeated once)

All a - round hope is spring-ing up from this old ground. Out of cha-os,
life is be-ing found in you. You make beau-ti-ful things,
you make beau-ti-ful things out of the dust. You make beau-ti-ful things,
you make beau-ti-ful things out of us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (handshake, hug, peace sign, etc.). Placing your hands together in a praying position will signal to those around you that you prefer not to physically touch others.

The congregation is seated.

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Siblings in Christ, we believe in a God who journeys with us through the wilderness of our lives. As we offer our gifts today, we remember God's sustaining presence. I invite you to lift up an offering today as a sign of hope and an act of compassion that reflects the love of Christ.

Contributions to St. Andrew Lutheran Church may be placed in the offering plate or made online (standrewlutheran.com/give). Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERING

O Lamm Gottes unschuldig (versus 1)
Susan Werner Reiser, organ

J. S. Bach

The congregation may stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

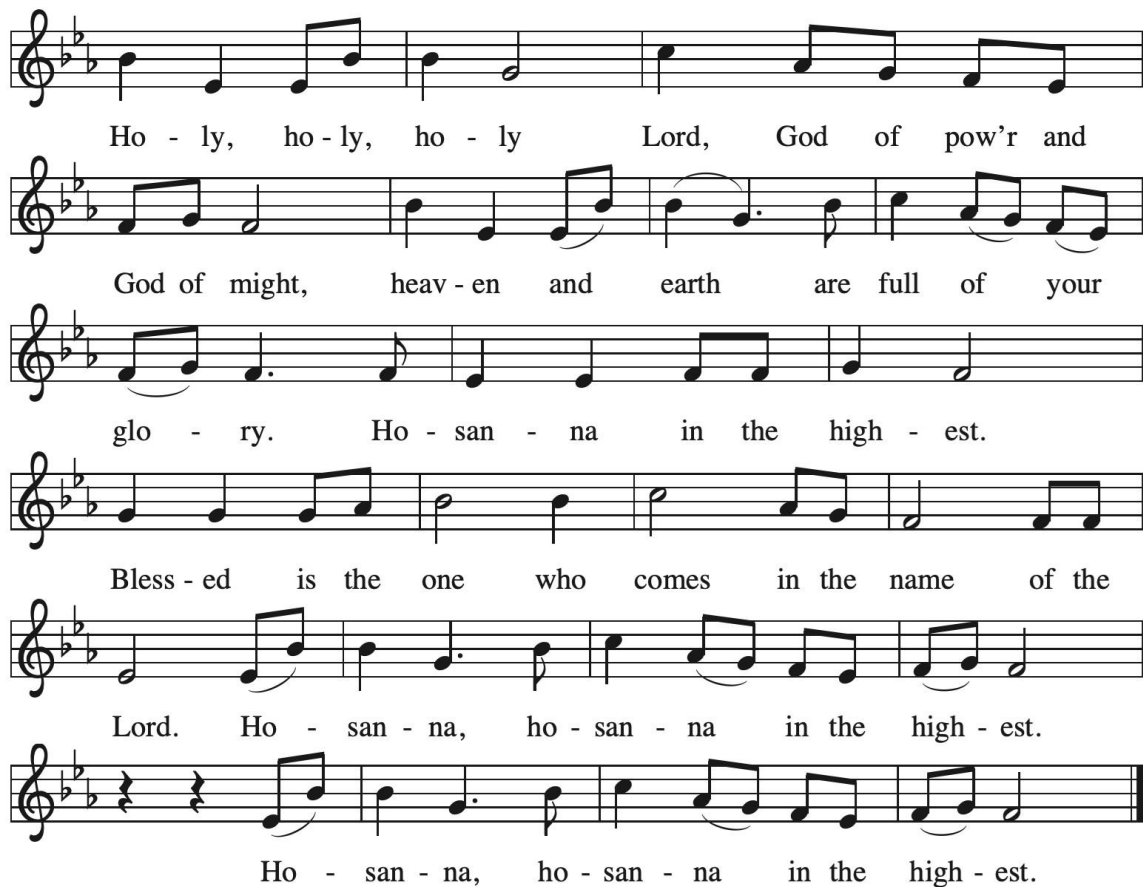
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

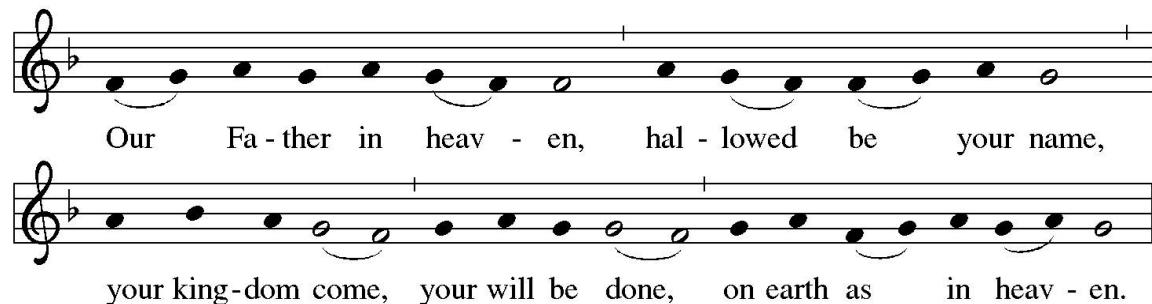
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The congregation is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

All are invited to commune without exception! At the direction of an usher, those wishing to commune may proceed down the center aisle. A piece of gluten-free bread will be placed in your hands. You may dip the bread in the cup of wine (red chalice) or the cup of grape juice (light-colored chalice), or you may choose to partake of the bread only. If you prefer not to receive communion but would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please alert an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery (ELW 334)
stanzas 1-3, Lent 2, and General

The congregation may stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Eternal God, whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Christ: Bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our absent siblings. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

BLESSING

As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle. May you know that the world is bigger than two sides. May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes. May you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone. God the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Guide My Feet (ACS 987)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

O Lamm Gottes unschuldig (versus 2 & 3)
Susan Werner Reiser, organ

J. S. Bach

Serving in Worship

Presider: Pr. Allison Bengfort

Preacher:

Assisting Minister: Tom Mehlhorn

Acolyte:

Altar Flowers: Susan Werner Reiser

Altar Guild: Patty Jones

Communion Assistant:

Greeter: Patty Jones

Lector: Robert Hawthorne

Musician: Susan Werner Reiser

Nursery Attendants: Casey Tkacz

Bells of Grace: Pat Christiansen,

Liz Hardy, Lindsey Lane,

Tammy Piscitelli, John Reiser,

Lynn Santelmann, Casey Tkacz,

Janet Vorvick

Tech Team: Chase Isaacson

Ushers: Ed & Linda Fransen

Worship Coordinator: Pat Christiansen

Zoom Host: Marlan Bell

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Susan Werner Reiser in honor of church musicians.

Cover art: "Mary & Martha," digital painting by Lauren Wright Pittman

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