

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

November 8, 2026

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, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, 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 understand that being truly welcoming involves actively working against racism, heteronormativity, sexism, transphobia, ageism, ableism, classism, and other forces that seek to divide and oppress. We commit to continuing 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. An all-gender, ADA-compliant restroom will be found to your left, near the door to the kitchen.

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 | 9:30 AM

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory – the marriage feast of the Lamb.

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN My Lord, What a Morning | ELW 438

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.
O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Liberator and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pr. Allison Bengfort

Elementary-aged children (grades K-5) are invited to attend The Roots Children's Church, led by trained St. Andrew volunteers and located in the Children's Library downstairs. Parents are welcome to observe. The children will return to worship in time to receive communion.

FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

A reading from Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house
and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 70

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me
turn back because of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"

[5]But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

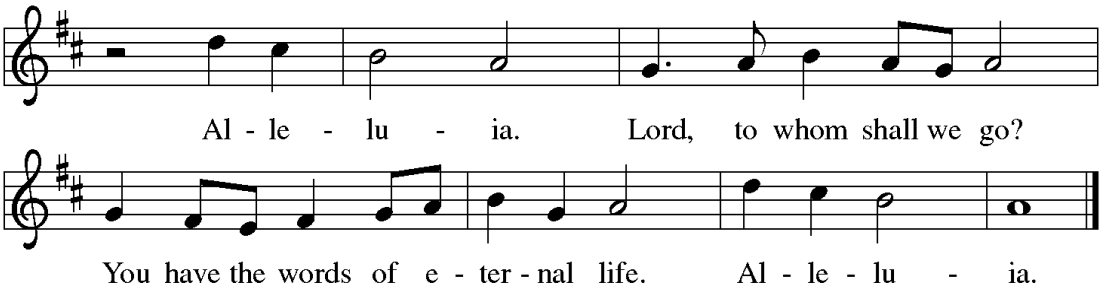
A reading from 1st Thessalonians.

[13]We do not want you to be uninformed, siblings, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Jesus those who have died. [15]For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. [16]For the Lord, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: [1]"Then the realm of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8]The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10]And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11]Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13]Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

SERMON Pr. Allison Bengfort

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY Deep River | ACS 951

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The congregation assumes a posture of prayer. You may kneel, sit, or stand; fold your hands or turn them upward; close your eyes or look to the altar.

God, in your mercy,
hear 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

During this time of offering, we join Christ in turning the values of the world upside down. The world tells us that our money is ours alone, but we know that our wealth comes from God and is meant for the flourishing of the whole community. Therefore, we choose to be generous, sharing our resources with one another.

Contributions to St. Andrew Lutheran Church may be placed in the offering plate or made online by scanning the QR code to the right. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERING — *Keep Your Lamps*, Victor C. Johnson
Sanctuary Choir, directed by John Gladen

Keep your lamps
Trimmed and burning!

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary
'til your work is done.
Soon this journey will be over,
The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary,
Oh, children, don't get weary
'til your work is done.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh,
The time is drawing nigh!

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.
Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more,
all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Liberator and Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Our Creator is here.
God is here, among us and within us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them with all creation.

Let us give thanks to God, our Maker.
With every living thing, we give God thanks and praise.

Before there was a word for God, there was light.
Before there was a name for creation, there was water moving over the deep.
You spoke, and the world became. You breathed, and life began.
You called creation good and called us to belong to it.
For the gift of life, we give you thanks.

Yet we have forgotten our belonging. We have imagined ourselves separate from the soil beneath us, the water within us, the creatures beside us.
We have mistaken ownership for belonging and consumption for abundance.
Still, your grace flows: like rain on dry ground, like rivers finding their way to the sea, like seeds breaking open in darkness.
Grace upon grace. Gift upon gift. Life upon life.

Then you came among us. Not as an idea, but as flesh. Skin and bone.
Blood and breath. Dust and divinity. Jesus walked the earth, watched birds and flowers, scattered stories like seeds, welcomed strangers, touched bodies, and wept. He entered our violence and carried it to the cross.
And when we thought love had been buried, you showed us what creation already knows: The seed must break open. Winter does not last forever.
Life can rise from a grave.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

So we proclaim with all creation, with morning light, rivers and forests, salmon swimming upstream, birds crossing continents,
and oceans breathing with the moon:
Holy, holy, holy! Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna in the highest!

And now you meet us in things we can touch:
grain, grapes, water, hands, bodies, breath.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread and said: "This is my body, given for you." And he took the cup: "This is my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin." Do this for the remembrance of me.
We remember.

Holy Spirit, wind of God, breath within breath, move among us. Move through this bread and wine. Move through our bodies, our grief and our hope. Open our hands. Loosen our grip. Teach us to receive, to share, and to notice the sacredness of what is ordinary.
Breath in us, Spirit of God.

Make us people who know that no one is disposable.
No neighbor. No stranger. No creature. No river. No forest.
Everything belongs to you. And everything belongs together.

When we leave this table, send us back into the world not as owners, but as guests; not as conquerors, but as companions; not as people who have all the answers, but as people willing to listen.

And when we forget,
remind us.

When we become afraid,
remind us.

When we become cynical,
remind us of resurrection.

For you are the God who creates, the Christ who enters creation,
and the Spirit who renews it. All that we are, all that lives,
and all that is yet to be belongs to you.
And so we give you thanks—
with our bodies, with our voices, with our lives, and will all creation,

now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 wine (red chalice) or the grape juice (light-colored chalice), or you may choose to partake of bread only. If you prefer 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN When Peace like a River | ELW 785

The congregation may stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

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

BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Creator, ☩ Christ, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Soon and Very Soon | ELW 439

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Serving Today in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pr. Allison Bengfort
Preacher: Pr. Allison Bengfort
Assisting Minister: LuAnn Staul
Altar Guild: Patty Jones
Children's Church:
Communion Assistants:
Greeters: Patty Jones,
Kim Taylor-Blakemore
Lector: Gretchen Bancroft
Musicians: Karl Gustafson, accompanist;
John Gladen, Minister of Music
Nursery Assistant: Sonja Ackman
Tech Team: Janet Vorvick
Ushers: Diane & Ken Reiner
Worship Coordinator: Liz Hardy
Zoom Host:

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