



SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

306 N. Division Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 • (734) 663-0518 • www.standrewsaa.org

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Morning Prayer • Proper 16

Watch this service on YouTube

Sunday, August 23
at 10:00 am

SERVICE LINK:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkK2En-nuhP_EECpxvjO_zw

Then join us for Coffee Hour on Zoom!

Sunday, August 23
at 10:45 am

Log-in information for this Zoom meeting can be found in the Saturday 'Service Links' email or you can send an email to Fr. Alan: agibson@standrewsaa.org.

We look forward to seeing you online!

 standrewsaa.org

 [@standrewsaa](https://www.instagram.com/standrewsaa)

 St. Andrew's YouTube Channel

Dear friends:

The universe is the primary revelation of the divine, the primary scripture, the primary focus of divine-human communion.

- Fr. Thomas Berry

When the tomatoes start getting really good (you know what I have been having for dinner lately), then I know it won't be long before summer starts giving way to fall. Along with the local cherries, peaches and blueberries, these delicious gifts of nature will soon be gone for another year. They will be missed, but fresh apples possess their own delights.

It will come as no surprise to many of you that I think a lot about food, and recently more so since, like you, I have been at home much more than usual. Preparing food to share and enjoy with others is something I have missed over the past several months. (Jesus spent a lot of time feeding and being fed by others, so I feel I'm in good company.) It's always fascinating to me to watch a counter laid out with various ingredients when combined together, with the help of some heat and time, turn into something brand new and, dare I say, good. It's not quite the spectacular event described in Genesis as the creation of our universe. But for me, in my kitchen, it does offer a glimpse of the divine. All of those wonderful things on the counter are gifts from God for which I am very grateful (as I am for the labor of those who grew and harvested them).

In creating and placing us in this wonderful universe, God has given us the capacity to enter into communion with the divine. That can be done in a multitude of ways; our tastes, affinities and passions give us a starting point. When we nurture those qualities with an openness to the divine, we can find gifts all around us in the things we do and experience every day. Jesus used images from common life – a seed, figs, sheep, a lost coin, a pearl, bread, wine – to show us a glimpse of the kingdom of God. It doesn't require a deep insight, just a willing awareness. God has made a universe where the divine is all around us and leaves it up to us to simply receive it as the gift it is.

God bless, *Fr. Alan*

Announcements

Help Food Gatherers fight hunger in our community!

Food Gatherers has seen food insecurity increase dramatically during the coronavirus pandemic. According to Food Gatherers, **40% of the people they are now providing with food had never before imagined needing help from a food bank.**

In lieu of our traditional fall food drive, St. Andrew's invites you to contribute to Food Gatherers via a much needed financial donation. **Up to \$2,000 of our gifts will be matched by a couple from the parish so please be sure to put St. Andrew's on your memo line or use the following link!**

TO DONATE ONLINE:

give.foodgatherers.org/ge/standrews

TO CONTRIBUTE BY CHECK:

Make checks out to Food Gatherers with "St. Andrew's" on the memo line and send to:



Food Gatherers
PO Box 131037
Ann Arbor, MI 48113

Breakfast Donation Changes

Friends: **Please investigate a different place to donate your pop cans, clothing, shoes, blankets, calendars, stationary etc.** We kindly ask that you do not bring any unsolicited items to the building at this time.

Due to the limited volunteer presence and current take-out environment of the Breakfast, **we do not have the space or ability to distribute them to guests at this time.**

Thank you!
Morgan Battle and Kathy McPherson

Give Online with WeShare

Did you know you can pay your pledge or give a general offering to St. Andrew's online? Visit <https://standrewsaa.weshareonline.org> to set up recurring or one-time donations!

Navigating this Service

A "full text" pdf of St. Andrew's Morning Prayer is available [HERE](#) or you can follow along with the service using the Book of Common Prayer, starting with page 75.

Prelude: *Allemande (Partita in a minor, BWV 1013)*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

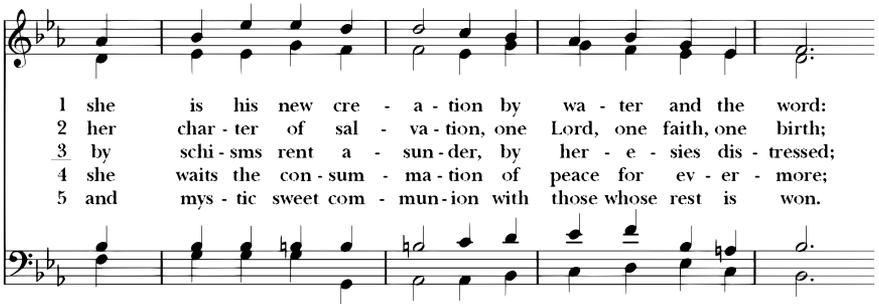
Amy Porter, Flute

Opening Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*

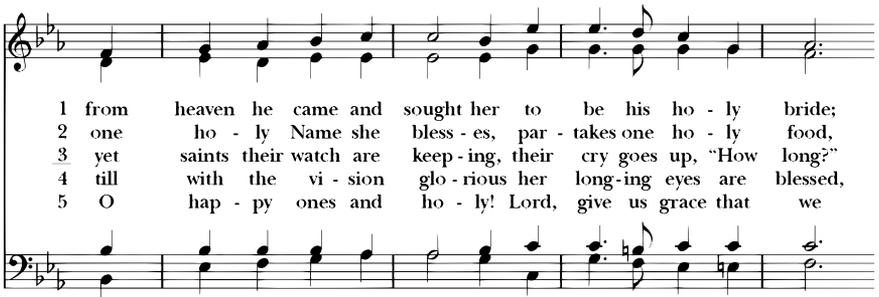
Hymnal, no. 525



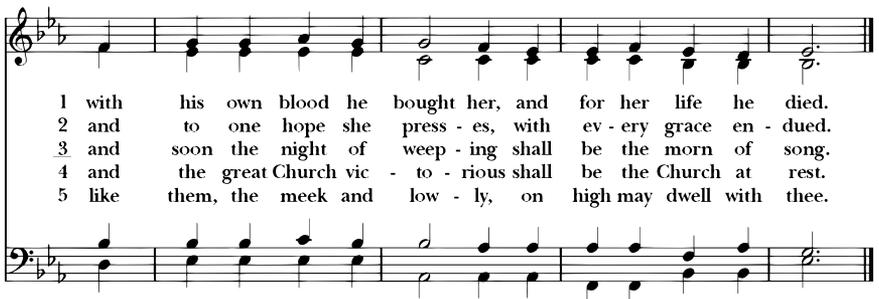
1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,



1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Opening Sentences	Book of Common Prayer, pg. 78
Confession	Book of Common Prayer, pg. 79
Preces	Hymnal, no. S-33 Book of Common Prayer, pg. 80
Invitatory	Book of Common Prayer, pg. 80
Venite	Hymnal, no. S-34 Book of Common Prayer, pg. 82

Psalm 138

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.
- 5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- 7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- 8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- 9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Old Testament: Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he

was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Canticle: *A Song of Creation*

Hymnal, no. S-228

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 88

The Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Sermon

Fr. Alan Gibson

In the Name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Some years ago, there was a credit card commercial that began with a vaguely familiar face flashed onto the screen. After a few seconds, the face would say, “Do you know who I am?” The face would then go on to promise all sorts of good things that would come your way by using this credit card. The greatest benefit was that no matter where you are, at home or abroad, you would be immediately recognized as someone important. Then, the person’s name would appear in close-up on the card, and we, the viewers would say, “Oh yeah, that’s who that is.”

Jesus didn't have a credit card, or apparently much cash. He would never have been recognized as a fashionable traveler in his day or ours. The gospels tell us that Jesus was surrounded by people who generally went unnoticed in his day, an odd assortment of fishermen and women and their households. There were also a few tax collectors, and the occasional notorious sinner – people who were noticed but certainly avoided by polite society. And for a preacher, Jesus took great pains to deflect attention away from himself, despite his words and his actions. All those miracles were not meant to reflect on him, but were punctuation marks to a greater message.

On the approach to the important Roman city of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asks his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” Had this itinerant Galilean preacher suddenly developed a concern for public opinion? That would be a safe guess, if that's all he asked. Giving no response to the disciple's various answers to his first question, Jesus then asks them, “But who do you say that I am?” Now it gets personal.

So much had been asked of them already. They'd given up jobs, lived without any place to call home, endured the ridicule of the religious establishment. They even followed their teacher to a city that symbolized the power of a vast empire that stood for everything they opposed. They'd proven their devotion. But Jesus still wants to know: What do you believe? After this much time you would think each of them could jump up and deliver some sort of testament of their convictions.

Yet only one speaks, and he is told his answer is not his own. God reveals Jesus' true identity to Peter through a gift of faith. But this wasn't really such a big leap of faith. It's not too tough to recognize Christ when he walks on water, heals the sick, speaks beautiful words, and feeds the hungry. Those are the things we would expect from the Son of God. Those are things we look for and use as markers to identify God's presence with us.

But let's face it, we are confronted with a very different picture. There's a lot of sickness, a lot of hunger, a lot of people saying unattractive things, all around us. I've never seen anyone walk on water. Where is the Son of God in the world you and I see everyday? Or how about the world that's not so grim? The neighborhoods and homes in which we live, or the plans we're making for these last few days of summer, toned down as they may be? Where is the Son of God in all of that?

It's one thing to speak of faith when the power of God is buzzing around our ears. And at those other times, when things are really bad, faith can, at the very least, sustain hope. But are those the only occasions we look

for, or recognize the Son of God in our lives? What about all that time in between, where most of us spend most of our days? Who do we say Jesus is then, when there is no crisis or mountain top experience, but just life and its daily routines? Who do we say that Jesus is, then?

Chances are, like the other eleven disciples, we say nothing. We're not looking for the Son of God in the check-out line at Meijer's, anymore than the disciples expected to recognize him as they traveled far from home in pagan territory. We tend to look for God in the expected places, like at church, or when life's circumstances weigh heavily on us. Which means we probably spend a good deal of our lives not seeing God around us, or with us, or in each other. We each have our reasons for that. It's nothing sinister. If we don't see God, it may be because we often don't think to look.

When we hear Jesus ask, 'do you know who I am?' do our lives give an answer that he's someone we think about only on Sundays and in case of an emergency? Or does our faith lead us to say, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God"? Do we see Christ each day of our lives? Or is he, like the vaguely familiar face on a television commercial, someone we have to be reminded of? As with all of Christ's questions, our answer tells us something about him, but it tells far more about us.

Apostles Creed

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 96

The Prayers

Collect of the Day

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Voluntary: *Sarabande (Partita in a minor, BWV 1013)* arr. J.S. Bach

Amy Porter, Flute

General Thanksgiving

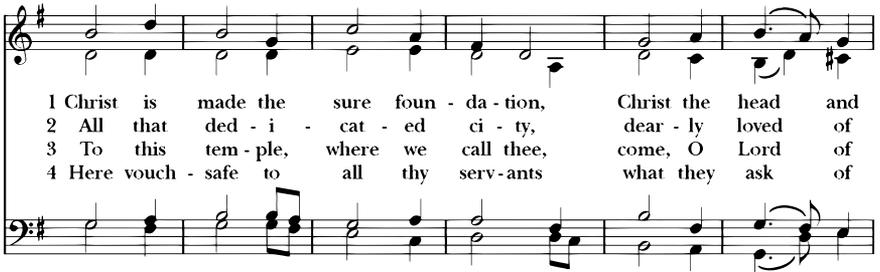
Book of Common Prayer, pg. 101

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

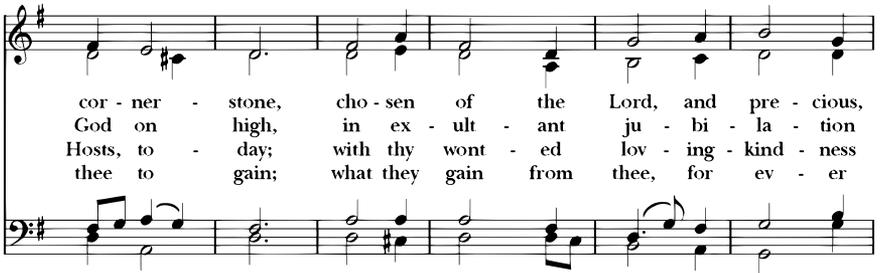
Concluding Versicle

Hymnal, no. S-54

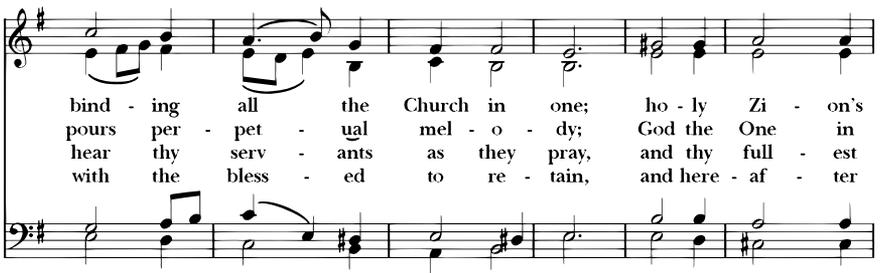
Closing Hymn: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* Hymnal, no. 518



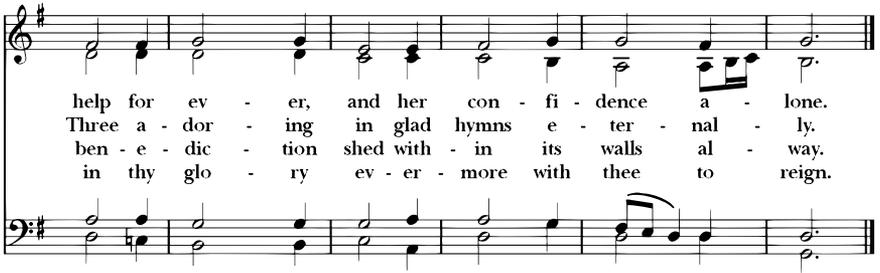
1 Christ is made the sure founda - tion, Christ the head and
2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er



bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter



help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Postlude: *Courante (Suite no. 5, BWV 816)* J.S. Bach