



Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church Smithtown, New York 11787

Info@standrewsofsmithtown.org

Nicholas Suminski, Organist and Music Director

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Family Worship with Holy Communion
September 17, 2023 ✝ 10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The assembly stands as they are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG #531 The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing**

(Choir Only)

1. The trumpets sound, the angels sing,
the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heav'n are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

Refrain

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.
Come and revel in heaven's love and light.
Take your place at the table of the King.
The feast is ready to begin;
the feast is ready to begin.

(Congregation Sings)

- 1. The trumpets sound, the angels sing,
the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heav'n are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.**

Refrain

**Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.
Come and revel in heaven's love and light.
Take your place at the table of the King.
The feast is ready to begin;
the feast is ready to begin.**

- 2. Tables are laden with good things;
oh, taste the peace and joy he brings.
He'll fill you up with love divine;
he'll turn your water into wine. *Refrain***
- 3. The hungry heart he satisfies,
offers the poor his paradise.
Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud
the amazing goodness of the Lord. *Refrain***

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

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing
your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

WORD

Duet: Oh Living Breath of God

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (p.205)**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to **Matthew.**

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Dear God,
as we start another year at school and work,
we ask your blessing on these backpacks and other tools we use each day,
and especially on these people – kids and adults - who will use them.

As they do their very important work of learning,
bless them with:

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

eagerness to learn, so that their world may grow large;
respect for teachers and students, so that they may form healthy relationships;
love for nature, so that they may take good care of your creation;
happiness when learning is easy and stick-to-it-iveness when it is hard;
faith in Jesus as their best teacher and closest friend.

We ask that you protect these people, your own children.
Watch over them and keep them safe
as they travel to and from work and school.

As they learn, help them also to discover
the different gifts that you have given each one of them
to be used in your work in the world.

As they hear the many voices that will fill their days,
help them to listen most carefully of all for your voice,
the voice that tells them you will love them always,
no matter what.

We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY - He is the Light

He Is the Light

Oh! Oh!

Oh! Oh!

Jesus is the one who lights our way.

Oh!

He gives us hope for each new day.

Oh!

When the world feels dark and lonely,

His love illuminates.

He's the one I trust, and I will follow him.

He is the light that breaks through the darkness.

Follow his lead and light it up, light it up.

Jesus will guide us through every dark time.

Follow his lead and light it up, light up the world.

Jesus is the one who lights our way.

Oh!

He gives us hope for each new day

Oh!

When the world feels dark and lonely,

His love illuminates.

He's the one I trust, and I will follow him.

He is the light that breaks through the darkness.

Follow his lead and light it up, light it up.

Jesus will guide us through every dark time.

Follow his lead and light it up, light up the world.

Light up the world.

Light up the world.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We see the love of God in God's own son. As brothers and sisters of Jesus, let us bring our prayers to God, saying, "Lord, hear your children's prayer."

For the Church of God, that we follow Jesus, who taught us that whoever would be first must be the servant of all, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

For the earth, that you help us to take good care of your creation and to work for the wellbeing of the whole human family. In the spirit of Earth Day we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

For world leaders, that they may think about how their actions make a difference to people who most need help in their countries; that we build up safe and joyful communities for all people; for peaceful transitions of power; that war might end and peace return to Ukraine, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

For the people of the world, especially children and families who do not have money for food and lodging; for people suffering from injustice; for all who are sick and suffering; we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

For ourselves and our community; that we recognize your face in every child and that we love and bless all children as Jesus welcomed them; for all students, teachers and school staff, we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

For our congregation, family and friends; that we might take steps to change our own lives and the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world. For blessings on all who lead us in worship and contribute to our worship life; we pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear your children's prayer.

(Pastor) Christ Jesus, fill us with your love and mercy and show us how to make a difference to the lives of our neighbors. Hear the prayers we offer in confidence and faith. **Amen.**

PEACE

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous financial support of the ministries of Saint Andrew's, you may give in person, by mail or by visiting our website for online giving. Donations: standrewsofsmithtown.org/donate

OFFERTORY HYMN #184 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

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.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (p.207)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Pastor & children will lead the congregation)

Our Father, 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table.
Come, eat and live.

LAMB OF GOD (p.208)

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

COMMUNION HYMN #488 Soul Adorn Yourself with Gladness

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
come into the daylight's splendor,
there with joy your praises render.
Bless the one whose grace unbounded
this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet him,
eagerly and gladly greet him.
There he stands already knocking;
quickly, now, your gate unlocking,
open wide the fast-closed portal,
saying to the Lord immortal:
"Come, and leave your loved one never;
dwell within my heart forever."**
- 3 Now in faith I humbly ponder
over this surpassing wonder
that the bread of life is boundless
though the souls it feeds are countless;
with the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
pledge and seal of my salvation.**
- 4 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
truest friend, and dearest treasure,
peace beyond all understanding,
joy into all life expanding:**

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

**humbly now, I bow before you,
love incarnate, I adore you;
worthily let me receive you,
and, so favored, never leave you.**

#471 Let Us Break Bread Together

**1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.**

Refrain

**When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain***

**3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain***

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of glory,
✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN – Awesome God

**Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r and love
our God is an awesome God! *Repeat 3 times***

Last time

**Our God is an awesome God!
Our God is an awesome God!**

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

This morning we welcome Pastor Bruce Kaifler.

Please join us for coffee hour immediately following worship. Thank you to Donna and Frank Meystrik, our hosts this week.

The food pantry is currently in need of basic non-perishable foods, such as:

Laundry detergent, cereal, peanut butter, mac and cheese, tomato sauce, tuna fish, canned chicken

We thank you for any donations.

Pastor Paul Downing of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Port Jefferson

Station serves as our coverage pastor. He can be reached anytime for pastoral care and emergencies at cell# 347-423-3623. If he is unable to answer, please leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible. He can also be reached by email at pastorpauldowning@yahoo.com. Questions about meetings and day to day activities at St. Andrew's should still be directed to the office at 631.265.2288 or info@standrewsofsmithtown.org.

Pastor Paul Downing invites you to join him and the St. Paul's community for weekly Bible Study and/or Prayer Group.

Bible Study : 9:30am Wednesday mornings on Zoom (meeting ID 977-887-967)

Bible Study : 10:30am Wednesday mornings In Person at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port Jefferson Station

Prayer Group: 10:30am Friday mornings In Person and via Zoom (meeting ID 800-555-016) at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

St. Thomas of Canterbury would like to invite our congregation to Wednesday evening ***Contemplative Night Prayer*** at 7 p.m., beginning September 6th and continuing the first Wednesday of each month through December 2023.

This is a liturgy of prayer, meditation, and sacred silence.

90 Edgewater Ave. Smithtown, NY 11787

Phone 631-265-4520

E-mail: stthomasofcan@optonline.net

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER (17 September 2023)

THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING:

Jeff Taylor [requested by Fred Swanson]
Richard Angelo, Rocky Cinque [requested by Marianne Spagna]
Lucy Harris and her family, Sara Larson [requested by the Francis family]
Jennifer Meisenkothen, Rachel Boccio Chris Kelly, John Sullivan [requested by Dorothy & Jim Clavell]
Carolyn Bennett [requested Jill Spage]
Arthur Schaeffler [requested by the Poulos Family]
Mary Ellen Sconzo [requested by Gabrielle Sconzo]
Margie Costello and the brother of Joe Costello [requested by Joe Costello & family]
Brett D, Bill Michalski, father in law of Jessica Davis Michalski [requested by Cindy Davis]
Robert & Pat Richards [requested by Mary Fjellstad]
Bob Blagriff, Bill Davey [requested by Tom & Pat Pernice]
Barbara McCanlis, Patty DeGoveia [requested by Jill Breimann]
Ellen Bell [requested by Dorothy Graf]
Gavin Lahann [requested by Grandmother Violet Lahann]
Emilie Diehl [requested by daughters Cyndie & Kathy]
Ron and Linda Overton, Andrew Madarasz, Gerard Tuohy [requested by Leslee & Steve Mathieson]
Valerie Ruckert, Chris Peck, Bob Widmer, Carmine Colasanto, Richard & George Mengert [requested by Carolyn Gabelman]
Tracey Parisi, Margo Naranjo, John Hochuli [requested by Barbara English]
Marilyn Havighorst [requested by Martha Hahn]
Kerri Swanson [requested by Linda & Jud Taylor]
Andy Hazin & the Hazin family, Ilse Gunther [requested by the Hoffman family]
David Travis [requested by Richard Travis]
The family of Elaine Robinson [requested by Deborah Cella]
Viola Giovinco [requested by Liz DeLuca]

THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE:

Sgt Eric Hodosky
Captain Zachary Hinsch [nephew of Judy & John Hinsch]
Major Lenore Livingston [daughter of Helen & Art Fortin]
Corporal August Detting
Major William Fortin

(Please advise the office of any updates in your prayer requests.)

*Asterisk indicates where the assembly is invited to stand as they are able.