

Online Worship – July 12, 2020

**Service to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Women’s Ordination in the ELCA
30th Anniversary of Black Women’s Ordination
10th Anniversary of Lesbian Women’s Ordination**

Welcome to St. Andrews Lutheran Church in San Mateo, CA and our online worship service. Please feel free to pause this video, you may want to have a lit candle in front of you. Materials you may want to have: small bowl of water, a small bit of olive or cooking oil, bread/cracker/tortilla, and wine/juice. Feel share this bulletin and this worship service with friends, family, or neighbors.

Prelude

Welcome

“We welcome all people as children of God and invite them to participate fully in the life and ministry at St. Andrew’s regardless of age, race, education, ethnic origin, marital or family status, cultural heritage, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic reality or diversity of ability. We resolve to be a church with open hearts, open minds, open doors and seeking to be reconciled to God and one another.” St. Andrews voted to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation that has a special welcome for the LGBTQ+ community.

**Service in Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Women’s Ordination
30th Anniversary of Black Women’s Ordination
10th Anniversary of Lesbian Women’s Ordination**

This is a significant time in our church as we celebrate the anniversary of the vote to ordain women as clergy. We are grateful for all the people who helped work to lift up the ministry of women. We are thankful for the work of the Holy Spirit in calling women to the ministry of Word and Sacrament and to the ministry of Word and Service in our church. Thanks be to God!!

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Gathering Hymn

Lyrics of “God Who Writes All People’s Story”
Music of ELW #705 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

God who writes all people’s story
Yours the glory in this hour;
In the Spirit’s inventory,
Women can hold preaching pow’r.
Ours the dancing, ours the singing
 for rejoicing in this hour,
 for rejoicing in this hour.

In this world, you love our siblings.
Found in every race and clan.
Jesus shown in many faces,
Word for all since time began.
Male and female, male and female,
One in Christ to share in God’s love,
One in Christ to share in God’s love.

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Creator, the Redeemer and the
 Sustainer. **AMEN**

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: We come before God celebrating women in ministry. With this celebration there is also our corporate need to acknowledge the ways in which we have not supported women in ministry, overtly and covertly, knowingly and unknowingly. *(Please respond to each petition with: “Hear our Prayer.”)*

O God, as we give thanks for the ministry of ordained women throughout the decades, we also acknowledge and name the ways in which we have not been faithful supporters of women in ministry.

For women who have been excluded from ministry because they were women,
God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

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For women who were dismissed from positions, they held, those who quietly or not so quietly disappeared with little warning or explanation, God of mercy . . .

Hear our Prayer

For women who have been bullied, harassed, mistreated or abused by ministers and laypeople in this church, God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

For women who have voluntarily left positions they held because they could no longer withstand the pressures and stresses placed upon them by impossible expectations, God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

For female pastors of color who have had to deal with microaggressions, insults and injuries, and for female pastors who had to wait many years for a call and those who never received a call, God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

For women who not only are targeted by sexism but also deal with intersecting burdens of racism, heterosexism, ableism and socioeconomic inequality, God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

For female pastors whose commitment to motherhood has been questioned or judged, and for female pastors whose singleness has been questioned or judged, God of mercy . . . **Hear our Prayer**

For women who were passed over for positions of leadership because they were women; for women whose gifts were rejected or never acknowledged because they were women. For the thoughts, words and deeds we have participated in that have excluded women; and for the work that is left undone, God of mercy . . .

Hear our Prayer

Receive our confession, God of mercy, and give us strength to commit anew to the full inclusion of women at all levels of work and ministry in this church and throughout the world. AMEN

Absolution

Pastor: In God's love we are forgiven of all of our sins. We now continue in our life as followers of Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. **AMEN**

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Apostolic Greeting

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise O Happy Day by Edwin Hawkins

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

Prayer of the Day

O God, you know our whole truth, and you give us refuge in the shadow of your wings. Continue to raise up girls and women to serve Christ's church and strengthen all in the vocations to which you call us. AMEN

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First Reading Ezra 4:1-6

When the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the returned exiles were building a temple to the Lord, the God of Israel, ² they approached Zerubbabel and the heads of families and said to them, “Let us build with you, for we worship your God as you do, and we have been sacrificing to him ever since the days of King Esar-haddon of Assyria who brought us here.” ³ But Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of families in Israel said to them, “You shall have no part with us in building a house to our God; but we alone will build to the Lord, the God of Israel, as King Cyrus of Persia has commanded us.”

⁴ Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah, and made them afraid to build, ⁵ and they bribed officials to frustrate their plan throughout the reign of King Cyrus of Persia and until the reign of King Darius of Persia.

⁶ In the reign of Ahasuerus, in his accession year, they wrote an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 9:1-6, 11-14 (Read responsively)

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

² I will be glad and exult in you;

I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

³ When my enemies turned back,

they stumbled and perished before you.

⁴ For you have maintained my just cause;

you have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.

⁵ You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked;

you have blotted out their name forever and ever.

⁶ The enemies have vanished in everlasting ruins;

their cities you have rooted out;

the very memory of them has perished.

¹¹ Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion.

Declare his deeds among the peoples.

¹² For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;

he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

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¹³ Be gracious to me, O LORD.

**See what I suffer from those who hate me;
you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,**

¹⁴ so that I may recount all your praises,
**and, in the gates of daughter Zion,
rejoice in your deliverance.**

This is the word of the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:38-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; ⁴⁰ and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; ⁴¹ and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. ⁴² Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This the Gospel of the Lord.

Glory to you, O God.

Sermon

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Hymn of the Day

ELW #482, "I Come with Joy", verses 1-2



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

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Apostle's 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.

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Prayers of the People (Please respond after Lord in Your mercy with **Hear Our Prayer**)

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. A brief silence.

For the women who faithfully serve as bishops, pastors, and deacons; for those first to be ordained and those most recently ordained [especially ... in our synod]. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the visible unity of the church, and for ongoing dialogue between church bodies that do not agree on the ordination of women. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For laypeople, who do vital work through church ministries of hospitality, outreach, teaching, music and dance. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For women and girls around the world who are ostracized from their communities for any reason, or treated as less than children of God. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those whose hard work is rarely praised, and whose names are forgotten though their work lives on. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer from bleeding disorders; for children who are too sick or weak to get up; for all who continue to pray for healing in their bodies [especially ...]. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the women who nurtured us in faith, whether in our family of birth or in the family of God. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. For what else do we pray? [Silence.] Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most high God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting that your steadfast love is greater than the heavens and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

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Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: Peace of the Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share that peace with one another. (PEACE SIGN, BOW)

Offering

*I invite you to donate your offering to St. Andrews by sending in a check. You can also donate by PayPal or through our website. Click on the heart on the page. Or you can contact our administrative assistant, Marjorie Goodwin, at the office to setup one-time and recurring contributions through our vendor – Vanco, using your checking or savings account.

Offering Prayer

Creator God, there is nothing we have that you have not given us.

All we have and all we are belong to you.

Our culture spends selfishly and doesn't follow your ways of giving to the point of sacrifice and generosity.

God of love, help us to increase our generosity until it can be said that there is no needy person among us.

Help us to trust you as we make decisions about our time, talents and money so that we can know that you will take care of us with the true riches of this earth.

Help us, God, to be generous as you are generous. As we follow your way of hospitality, this shows the world that we are followers of Jesus.

AMEN (Church Fuel & CWE)

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts

People: We list them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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Eucharistic Prayer

In every place, in every moment, God is present with us. God was present with Abraham and Sarah when God created a covenant with them. God was with Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Leah and Rachel as they traveled their journey of faith. God was with Moses when the Israelites left Egypt and journeyed in the desert. God was with Esther when she saved her people. God came to live among us, to heal us, teach us and love us. Jesus died and rose again to us that death is not the last word—that God brings life everlasting

Words of Institution

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 in 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 sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

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.

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

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Holy Communion

Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you in God's grace.

Post Communion Prayer

Thank you, God, for being present at our tables today. You are the "Bread of Life" for us and all people. You are the one who keeps our plants and animals going so that we have water and food. This meal allows us to keep walking the path of faith and to look forward to this week with joy and hope. Thank you for your blessings. AMEN (CWE)

Sending Hymn ELW #479 "We Come to the Hungry Feast", verses 1-2



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

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Benediction

May the joy of God's freedom cause your spirit to dance; May the presence of God's peace bring wholeness to your body and mind. May God give you blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. In the name of God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: Go in peace. Share the Good News that God is a great healer!

Congregation: **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Postlude

The ELCA is grateful to Miriam Schmidt and Julia Seymour for the preparation of these materials. The additional litanies were written for the Women's Ordination Anniversary Banquet at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly by J. Elise Brown and Heather Dean.

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Womens_50th_Worship_Resources.pdf