

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. -Micah 6:8



Joan Baker
2026

Worship Bulletin

Sunday, September 20th, 2026

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Minute for Mission: CROP Walk

Anna Wilkinson

Call to Worship

Liturgist, Brittany Bishop

Leader: We come today with a question: Where do we encounter God?

People: Maybe in places we expect. Maybe in places we don't.

Leader: God is not far away, waiting for us to figure out the right place to look.

People: God is already here.

Leader: In Scripture. In creation. In interactions with each other. In the ordinary moments of our lives.

People: And in Jesus, God comes close.

Leader: So let's slow down and pay attention. Let's open our hearts to the God who is always reaching toward us.

People: We are here. We are listening. We are ready to abide in Christ.

All: Come, let us worship the living God.

Opening Prayer

**Hymn #301 - All Are Welcome*

Prayer of Confession

God of all places and all people, we confess that we sometimes act as though you are hard to find. We look for you in the extraordinary, in the big moments, but we overlook the many other ways you surround us.

You are present in the people around us, but sometimes we're too busy to notice. You are present in the beauty of creation, but sometimes we rush right past it. You speak through Scripture, but sometimes we're too impatient to listen.

Living God, we confess that sometimes we want an experience of you more than we want a relationship with you.

We want to feel close to you without making time to know you. We want your presence without changing our lives. We want the fruit without staying connected to the vine.

Forgive us. And slow us down.

(Time for silent prayer and confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Passing the Peace

Leader: God makes peace within us.

People: **Let us claim it.**

Leader: God makes peace between us.

People: **Let us share it.**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you!**

Please share signs of peace (ex. a wave, handshake, or high five) with each other.

A Word for God's Children

Erica Russell

Anthem

Lead Me Lord

St. Andrew Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture – Acts 17:22-28

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they

would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

Scripture – John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Jacqueline Decker Vanderpol

A Moment for Silent Reflection

Hymn #370 - *This Is My Father’s World (sung twice)

***Affirmation of Faith**

Leader: What do we believe about God?

People: **We believe in the living God, who created us, knows us, and loves us.**

Leader: Where do we encounter God?

People: **We encounter God in more places than we expect—in Scripture, in creation, in interactions with each other, and in the ordinary moments of our lives.**

Leader: And what do we believe about Jesus?

People: **We believe that in Jesus Christ, God has come close to us. Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. Our life is rooted in him.**

Leader: What does God ask of us?

People: **To abide. To remain. To stay connected to Christ and let his love shape the way we live.**

Leader: And what do we trust?

People: **We trust that we do not have to search for God as if God were far away. God is already here, inviting us into a deeper relationship.**

All: **We belong to God. We are rooted in Christ. We are held by the Spirit. And we are made for a life of meaning, love, and purpose. Amen.**

Offering our Gifts and Gratitude

To give electronically, please visit standrewboulder.org/giving

***Song of Dedication #606 - Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our loving God, who is in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen!

***Hymn #12 - Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

Benediction

Postlude

***Stand as able**

Special thanks to Joan Baker for providing the photo used on the cover of this bulletin.

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Worship Leaders

Pastor

The Rev. Jacqueline Decker Vanderpol
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Sound Team

Gene Harano,
Basil Miller, Steve Niessner

Zoom Techs

Evaristo Ramirez-Aguilar, Norah Vanderpol, Samuel Martin, and Gillian Johnson

St. Andrew At-A-Glance

- **September 20** - 5th-12th Grade Youth Group, In-Between Young Adults Dinner and Worship
- **September 23** - Noon Prayer Service
- **September 26** - HomeAhead Open Donation Hours
- **September 27** - Hybrid Worship, Nursery, Choir Rehearsal, Adult Education, Youth Group, Reversing the Aging Process Using Movement and Activity Workshop, Potluck for Families with Children and Youth at the Vanderpol Home, In-Between Young Adults Dinner and Worship
- **September 30** - Noon Prayer Service
- **October 1** - Women's Crafts and Conversation
- **October 3** - Presbytery Meeting at Harmony Presbyterian Church, HomeAhead Open Donation Hours
- **October 4** - Hybrid Worship - World Communion Worship in Parish Hall, All-Church Lunch, Nursery, Choir Rehearsal, Adult Education, PK-4th Grade Sunday School, 5th-12th Grade Youth Group, In-Between Young Adults Dinner and Worship

MADE FOR MORE

SERMON SERIES

Finding Meaning in an Age of Emptiness

10:30AM

SEPT 27

Who am I called to love?

John 15:9–17,
1 Cor 13:4–8, 13

OCT 11

**Out of shame and
into purpose**

Exodus 4:10–12, Isaiah 6:1–8,
Matthew 28:16–20

OCT 4

**How does creation awaken
me to God's presence?**

Psalms 104:1–2, 14–24,
Job 38:4, Romans 1:20

OCT 18

**What is my purpose
in daily life?**

Colossians 3:23–24,
Ephesians 2:10,
Genesis 1:26–31

OCT 25

**Can life still have
meaning when it hurts?**

2 Cor 4:7–11, Romans 8:18–27



