

THE LORD'S DAY

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026



St. Andrew

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Community

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Worshipping together, through Christ,
we are made one with God.*

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Hargrave, Worship Leader

PRELUDE

*UNITY HYMN (**stand as we are able*)

AURELIA

In Unity, we gather to worship and rejoice.

From our own faith traditions, we pray with one strong voice:

**Lord, help us love each other and serve all those in need,
and live as your disciples – in heart and word and deed.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you and praise your name,

For in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things,

Things planned long ago.

You have been a refuge for the poor,

A refuge for the needy in their distress,

A shelter from the storm

And a shade from the heat. (*continues on next page*)

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,

From everlasting to everlasting.

Let all the people say, "Amen!"

Praise the Lord.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! The Lord is near.

The Lord leads you beside still waters; He restores your soul.

Rejoice, The Lord is near.

The Lord guides you along the right paths.

Rejoice, the Lord is near.

Even in the darkest valley, the Lord is with you.

Rejoice, even here; the Lord is near.

Goodness and love follow you all your days.

Rejoice, the Lord is near.

You will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Rejoice, the Lord is near.

Rejoice in the Lord always. Rejoice, our Lord is near!

On this weekend to End Homelessness, we remember our neighbors without safe shelter. Our love for our neighbors flows from our secure attachment to our good Shepherd, who is Love.

*HYMN ***O God, You Give Welcome***

CAROLYN WINFREY GILLETTE

(Tune: "Away in a Manger")

O God, you give welcome; you care and provide.
You cherish each person with love reaching wide.
We're made in your image and so hear your call
To humbly reach out with a welcome to all.

Yet near us are families with no place to stay
And children who won't have a good meal today.
Your will is for justice where everyone thrives;
May we build communities, strengthening lives.

Bless children who wish for a permanent place
And youth who are longing to have their own space.
Bless parents who feel that they're struggling alone;
May we share their journey to find a new home. *(continues on next page)*

Bless houses of worship we use a new way,
As classrooms are turned into places to stay.
Bless kitchens where suppers are gladly prepared
And each sacred space where your welcome is shared.

***OPENING PRAYER**

O Lord, you are a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress; by your Spirit awaken in us the compassion of Jesus, that we may be shelter and shade for our neighbors experiencing homelessness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

***CALL & PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned.
I will confess my sins to the Lord, I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

**We have not loved our unhoused neighbors as ourselves,
forfeiting the chance to know you through them.**

**We have spoken of our neighbors as numbers and statistics,
rather than learning their names and hearing their stories.**

**We have judged the causes of suffering we do not understand,
rather than acting justly and loving mercy.**

**We have been averse to discomfort, hardening our hearts - avoiding contact,
crossing the street, adding to the isolation of those already alone.**

**We have stayed silent when policies and systems left our neighbors without
shelter, believing our actions too small, too futile to matter.**

God forgives and heals us.

**We need Your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance. Some sins are
plain to us; some escape us; some we cannot face. Forgive us; set us free to hear
your words of healing to us; set us free to serve you.**

God forgives you.

Forgive others; forgive yourself.

Through Christ, God has put away your sin: approach your God in peace.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Beloved, hear the good news: Jesus Christ came to stand in the breach to reconcile us to God. We are forgiven and freed!

RESPONSE – No. 581 GTG *Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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

And also, with you.

(As a forgiven people, greet one another and share the Peace of Christ)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kathy Loy, Reader

Holy Spirit of God, shine your light upon this Word and into our hearts that we may be enlightened with fresh understanding. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:1-9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN – No. 840 GTG *When Peace Like a River

VILLE DU HAVRE

When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say, it is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain: It is well, with my soul. It is well; it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed his own blood for my soul.

He lives; O the bliss of this glorious thought. My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul.

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend, even so it is well with my soul.

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:1-14**

Reverend Stanley Larson

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

*AFFIRMATION: Pg. 35 GTG *Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen**

*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Beloved, do not worry about anything, but in everything let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.

In the assurance of this promise, let us confidently offer ourselves to God, knowing that God has already provided all that we need.

(Please place tithes and offerings in the designated offering plates.)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Creator God, you are our provider. We offer all that we have and all that we are to you, because we belong to you. Bless these gifts, and empower us, your Church, that through the work of your Spirit, we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm, and a shade from the heat. Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. **Amen**

DOXOLOGY – No. 606 GTG *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.**

THANKSGIVING

*HYMN *Blessed are the Poor Among You*

CAROLYN WINFREY GILLETTE

(Tune: "Standing on the Promises")

Blessed are the poor among you, Jesus said.
Blessed are you hungry ones who long for bread.
Blessed are you mournful when your tears abound.
God is turning everything around.

Hear the good news! God is giving you the kingdom and the laughter.
God will fill you... And you will know the joy that overflows.

Blessed are you, weary who are long oppressed,
All because you follow God in faithfulness.
Leap for joy, for God will give you life anew.
Long ago, the prophets struggled, too!

Hear the good news! God is giving you the kingdom and the laughter.
God will fill you... And you will know the joy that overflows.

Woe to all you rich who live with blinders on,
Feasting at your tables till the food is gone.
Woe to you who laugh and live without a care,
Woe! when people praise you everywhere. (*continues on next page*)

God has spoken: You have all received your joy and consolation.
I was hungry... But did you share what God had given you?

God, your way of working is a great surprise!
Help us all to see your world through faithful eyes.
Only in your kingdom is our true joy found.
By your Spirit, turn our lives around!

Yours is good news! You have offered us the kingdom and the laughter.
Please, God, fill us, and we will know the joy that overflows.

***CHARGE & BLESSING**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to elect officers for Class of 2029

***POSTLUDE**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome friends! May the welcome you feel here be worthy of the gracious God that we serve. In this service, an asterisk (*) invites you to stand as health allows. Material printed in **bold** is for the congregation to sing or say. Let us worship God!

The **Wednesday Night Live** menu on October 14th features **King Ranch Chicken**, side salad, dessert, and a beverage. Adults pay \$10, with reduced prices for children. Please RSVP by 11:30 a.m. on Monday. Sign up on Sundays using the link in the e-newsletter, the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or by contacting the church office at 903-758-4952.

A congregational meeting follows today's service. We will be voting for Session Ruling Elders, Trustee, and Nominating Committee (Classes of 2029).

Ministry Group & Committee meetings this month:

Building & Grounds MG – Wednesday, October 14 @ 5:30 p.m.

Mission Outreach MG – Wednesday, October 14 @ 5:30 p.m.

Personnel – Thursday, October 15 @ 5 p.m.

Worship & Music MG – Sunday, October 18 after service

Budget, Finance, and Stewardship – Tuesday, October 20 @ 3 p.m.

Session – Tuesday, October 20 @ 4 p.m.

Feeding our Firefighters: Once a month, we feed all three of the 7-person crews at Station 6 on McCann Rd. Our October theme is Main Dishes! We need afternoon deliveries on Mon. 10/19, Wed. 10/21 & Fri. 10/23. Please contact Rose Briggs (903-238-6463 rosebriggs07@gmail.com) or Katy Manck (903-918-1154 katyroo@gmail.com) to sign up or ask questions.

Scrabble with Friends is being held on October 20th from 6 pm to 8:30 pm at East Texas Builders Association. We will reserve a table for 8 for anyone interested. For questions or to sign up, please contact Kay Seager or Quita Russell.

Resisting Islamophobia: An Evening of Conversation and Shared Witness

This hybrid event is on October 22, 2026, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. For anyone interested in learning more about rising Islamophobia and efforts to combat it. Registration includes a halal dinner. Any questions, please ask Steve Crane. Register here to attend virtually <https://gracepresbytery.org/event/resisting-islamophobia-an-evening-of-conversation-and-shared-witness/>

Rev. Ted V. Foote Jr. will be joining the East Texas Pastors Cohort for lunch on October 22, 2026 at the Longview United Presbyterian Church, 301 N. Center St., Longview. If you would like to attend, please contact Michele Goff at michele@gracepresbytery.org or call her at 918.232.6422.

LCM Touch a Truck – Feed a Family event is on Saturday, October 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Film Alley, 3070 N. Eastman Rd., Longview, TX. This unique, community-wide event is designed for children and adults to see, touch, learn about, and interact with dozens of fascinating vehicles. Admission is free, but non-perishable canned food for LCM's food pantry or monetary donation of choice would be gratefully accepted.

Election Reminder – November 3, 2026 General Election

October 19-30 – Early Voting

October 23 – Mail Ballot Application Deadline

November 3 – Election Day, 7 am to 7 pm.

CCLI Music use license # 1820630

2500 McCann Road, Longview, TX 75605 (903)758-4952
The Reverend Stanley Larson, Interim Pastor