



Seventh Sunday after Epiphany February 23, 2025

9:00 am

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

San Mateo, CA

www.standrews.org (650) 345-1625

"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, gender, 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. Andrew's has a statement of welcome for the LGBTQ+ community.

St. Andrew's sits on the traditional land of the Ohlone, Ramaytush and Muwekma tribes.

Prelude

Welcome

Pastor John Kuehner

Call to Worship

Unity Choir and/or Mission Bells

Gathering Hymn –

All Creatures, Worship God Most High! ELW 835

Apostolic Greeting

**P: The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

C: and also with you.

Hymn of Praise –

Blessed Unity

Oregon Catholic Press

Prayer of the Day

Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Call and Response Reading: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart’s desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do.⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.** ⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes. ⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.** ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land. ¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.** ¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. ³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.** ⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven. ⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation- Alleluia

The Holy Gospel

The holy gospel according to Luke

Luke 6:27-38

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

You may be seated

Hymn of the Day

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726

Apostle’s Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our and others' actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care especially those we now name aloud or in the peace of our hearts.

Pause . . .

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen**

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: Peace of the God be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us share that peace with one another.

Please stand as you are able

Offering Song

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Offering Prayer

Let us pray . . .

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Preface

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.

Although our road has been stony going, you have given us the power to stand firm
in the face of division and to rejoice in triumph over fear of death and the grave.
And so, with the multitude from east and west, from north and south, with angels
and archangels and all the company of heaven, we lift our voices in the unending
hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

Words of Institution

Communion Dialogue

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Amen**

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.

All are welcomed to come forward for communion as directed by the usher.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. . .

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen**

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 637

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**