

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Welcome to worship at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, where everybody belongs!

We are so glad you're here.

This service is live streamed on our YouTube channel.

**Children of all ages are welcome in worship.** We also have childcare available in our fellowship hall for children under 4 years old. Feel free to ask a greeter for help and directions.

Children in PreK through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited to join our volunteers for Children's Church downstairs after the Word with Children and can be picked up after the conclusion of the service.

**All are invited to gather in Fellowship Hall after the service for coffee hour and snacks.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Sermon Series – Inspired |** This winter we're beginning a new sermon series exploring the stories, questions, and surprising beauty of the Bible through Rachel Held Evans' book *Inspired*. Together, we'll look at Scripture with fresh eyes-- engaging our doubts, our hopes, and our imagination as we seek a faith that is honest, courageous, and life-giving. Whether church is a weekly rhythm or an occasional visit, you're invited. There's a place for your questions, your curiosity, and your story. **Join us January 11 - February 15.**

**MLK March and Celebration |** The MLK Diversity-Engagement Foundation is holding their 35th annual MLK March and Celebration on January 19th at the Leesburg Courthouse at 10am. If you're interested in joining Pastor Amanda and other SAPC community members for the event, email Pastor Amanda ([amanda@standrew-pres.org](mailto:amanda@standrew-pres.org)).

**Save the Date - Congregational Meeting and Chili Cookoff |** On **Feb 1st** we will be hosting a congregational meeting after worship, which will include approving the 2026 budget and voting on a new church logo. The meeting will be followed by our annual chili cookoff! Are you interested in becoming a member of SAPC so you can vote on these important topics? Email Amanda for more information - [amanda@standrew-pres.org](mailto:amanda@standrew-pres.org)

## CALENDAR

January 11	10:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Children's Church (Minis)
	1:00 pm	LHR Facility Tour
January 18	10:00 am	Worship
	10:15 am	Children's Church (Minis)
January 19	10:00 am	MLK March and Celebration



**Scan the QR code to access our LinkTree.**

Here you'll find the link to give financially to St. Andrew. You will also find all the information you need as you engage with our community, including volunteer opportunities and links to sign up for our e-news and monthly newsletter.

LITURGY WRITTEN AND CURATED BY AMANDA KEMERY BASED ON INSPIRED, BOOK AND RESOURCES BY RACHEL HELD EVANS  
ART | MOYERS, MIKE. ISRAEL, FROM ART IN THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION, A PROJECT OF THE VANDERBILT DIVINITY LIBRARY, NASHVILLE, TN.

# SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

711 W MAIN STREET • PURCELLVILLE, VA

[WWW.STANDREW-PRES.ORG](http://WWW.STANDREW-PRES.ORG)

INSPIRED: ORIGIN STORIES

JANUARY 11, 2026

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather as a people who remember.

**All: We remember the God who breathed life into the dust.**

One: We gather as a people who wrestle.

**All: We wrestle with the mysteries of faith.**

One: We gather as a people who seek a blessing.

**All: For our origin story is goodness, and our identity is love.**

One: Let us worship the God of our ancestors and the God of our future.

**All: Let us worship God together!**

\*HYMN 26

Earth and All Stars

EARTH AND ALL STARS

INVITATION TO THE CONFESSION

MITCH SEIPT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we confess that we often prefer easy answers to honest questions. We have tried to domesticate your Word, turning it into a weapon of literalism or a relic of history. We forget that our origin story begins with your goodness and ends with your love. Forgive us when we lose our place in your story. Forgive us when we stop wrestling and settle for a safe, shallow faith. Reach into our darkness, hold us in the struggle, and remind us of who we are: your beloved, your own. Amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: The sun rises on our struggles, and though we may walk with a limp, we walk as people who are blessed. In Jesus Christ, the Great Storyteller, the narrative of our lives is rewritten by grace. Hear the Good News: You are forgiven, you are known, and you are loved.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

GLORIA

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.**

**Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD

THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MITCH SEIPT

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 32:22-30

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, and for the Word of God within us...

All: We give thanks to God.

SERMON

Once Upon a Time...

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

READING

“Remember” by Rachel Held Evans

Read by Catherine Gendall, Mitch Seipt, Debbie Stafford, and Mark Stafford

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

MITCH SEIPT

We trust in the one true God, who is known to us through the witness of Scripture. We acknowledge that the Bible is the word of God written by the hands of people, conditioned by the language, thought forms, and literary fashions of the places and times in which they lived. Yet through these ancient stories, God continues to speak to us today.

We believe that our origin story is written in the heart of the Creator: that we were made in goodness, that we are held in love, and that no struggle—however dark or long—can separate us from our identity as God’s own children. We are called to receive these words with curiosity and courage, wrestling with the mystery of the text until, like our ancestors, we receive the blessing God has prepared for us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

One: God of our story...

All: Hear our prayer.

OFFERING OURSELVES, OUR TIME, AND OUR TALENTS

ANTHEM

"For Where Love Is, There Is God"

DOUGLAS WAGNER

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MITCH SEIPT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

CHARGE AND BLESSING

REV. AMANDA KEMERY

POSTLUDE



"AFTER THE MATCH WAS OVER, JACOB WAS GIVEN THE NAME "ISRAEL," WHICH MEANS "GOD WRESTLER." THIS PAINTING IS INTENDED TO REMIND US OF OUR TENDENCY TO STRUGGLE AND WRESTLE WITH GOD’S CALLING, MYSTERY, AND SOVEREIGNTY."  
- ISRAEL BY MIKE MOYERS