

WELCOME!

We are a friendly, active congregation, and you will find many ways to serve and grow here. **Please sign the register found in your seat so that we may have a record of your presence.** If you would like the church to contact you, please let a greeter know, or fill out a guest card and drop it in the offering plate.

DID YOU KNOW...

the Prelude to our service is meticulously chosen and carefully prepared to enhance our worship experience? This special time of music allows you time to prepare your heart for the worship of Almighty God!

SERVICE NOTES

Parents: To comply with our Safe Sanctuaries Policies, we ask that you accompany your children if they need to leave the Sanctuary for any reason.

A safe, loving, and fully staffed nursery for children age 3 and under is available in the Family Life Center, Room 1.

After the Children's Message, children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to Children's Church. One of our capable volunteers will escort children to the room. At the conclusion of our worship service, please pick up your child(ren) from the Family Life Center, Room 5.

Large print hymnals are available for your convenience.

Assistive listening devices are available at the sound booth.

Please ask an usher or greeter for any needed assistance.

Saint Andrews United Methodist Church
1201 Maxwell Drive – Raleigh, NC 27603

919-772-4410 CCLI #1701151

churchoffice@saintandrewsumc.org

www.saintandrewsumc.org

Rev. Elizabeth A. Gaines, Pastor

Dr. Jeanie Wozencraft-Ornellas, Choir Director

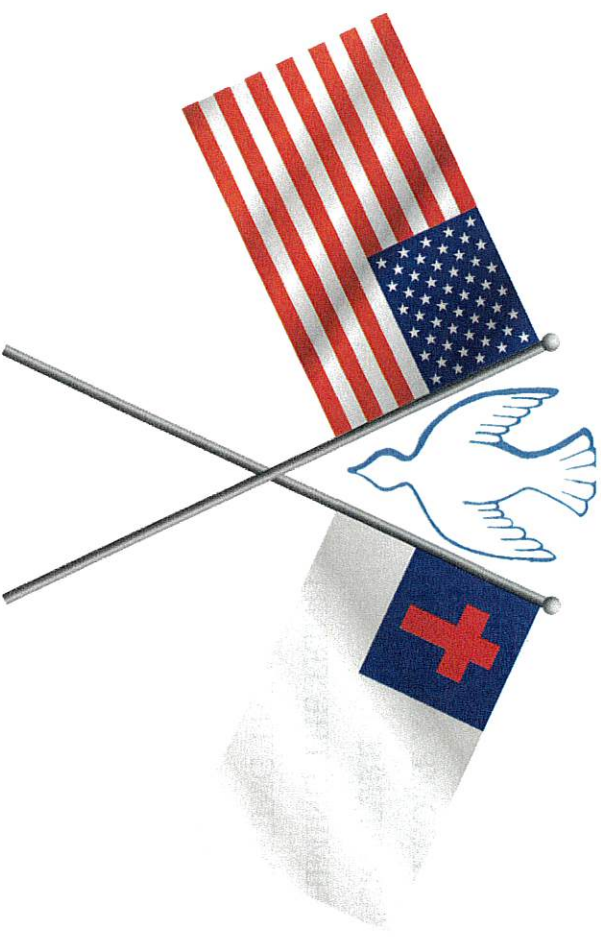
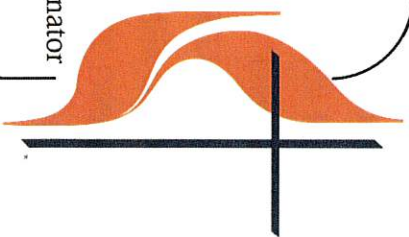
Ms. Ela Gabitov, Accompanist

Mrs. Trisha Keen, Nursery Care

Ms. Stacey Byrd, Youth and Children Ministries Coordinator

We are all ministers of the Gospel!

Resources used from uncdiscipleship.com, re:worship.com, ministrymatters.com, and UM Book of Worship.



Saint Andrews

United Methodist Church

1201 Maxwell Drive – Raleigh, NC 27603

**Enter to Worship.
Depart to Serve.**

Sunday, June 29, 2025

11:00 a.m. Worship

**3rd Sunday after
Pentecost**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

* = You are invited to stand. **Bold** = All voices.

PRELUDE #717

Battle Hymn of the Republic

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

*CHIMING THE TRINITY

*BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO OUR MIDST

*CHORAL CALL

Freely, Freely

verse 1

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Christ has set us free!

Follow Christ and know God's love for great is our God and greatly to be praised!

The whole earth reflects God's power and might.

When we recall the wonders of God's creation,

We rejoice at the awesome complexity of it all.

Lord, you have brought us up from fear to hope.

Let us worship and praise God for all God's faithfulness!

*OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we want to follow you wherever you lead. Reach out to us this day, stirring our souls and spirits with the winds of your power. Help us always to be devoted and dependable as your disciples. During this week when we celebrate the birth of our nation, bless our land, our leadership and our faithfulness. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN #698

God of the Ages

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of All Power, open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts with a spirit of wisdom and revelation. Help us to hear your voice, to see your ways, and to receive with joy your truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

NRSVue

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

I Pledge Allegiance

see insert

ANTHEM

America the Beautiful

see insert

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:51-62

NRSVue

SERMON

Should I Stay or Should I Go?

*INDEPENDENCE DAY LITANY

see insert

*GLORIA PATRI #70

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN #437

This Is Our Song

SHARING OUR CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

CELEBRATING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY (Spiritual)

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

art. Burtleigh

*DOXOLOGY #95

*OFFERING PRAYER

from Galatians 5

Liberating God, who calls us to true freedom, we offer these gifts as signs of our commitment to live by the Spirit's leading. May our generosity reflect your love that is joyful, peaceful, patient, and kind. Through your grace, may we sow seeds of compassion and justice, nurturing the fruit of the Spirit in our lives and the world. Guide us to use our freedom not for ourselves but for service, so that we may build communities of faith and hope. With thankful hearts, we dedicate ourselves to your transforming work. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN #593

Here I Am, Lord

*BLESSING

*CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Freely, Freely

verse 2

*CHIMING THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE #697

America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)

We pray you have a blessed and sage holiday week.



1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of
2. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing
grain; for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a -
strife, who more than self their coun - try loved, and
bove the fruit - ed plain! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!
mer - cy more than life! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!
God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with
God mend thine ev - ery flaw, con - firm thy soul in
broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

WORDS: Katharine Lee Bates, 1904
MUSIC: Samuel A. Ward, 1888

MATENA
C&M

Independence Day Litany



God of love and mercy, you have lavished your creative might on this land, giving us an abundance of natural beauty and resources.

Lord, may we always remember that this earth is yours and we are its caretakers. Guide us that we may use what you have given us with care and thanksgiving.

God of love and mercy, you shower us with mercy not condemnation, with love not hate, with acceptance not fear.

Lord, may we always remember that justice is more than law. Give us the wisdom to see injustice disguised as "protection," and the courage and knowledge to challenge such laws.

God of love and mercy, you have blessed this land of ours with more riches than most of the world can comprehend, and with an energy and vitality that can produce wonders and marvels.

Lord, may we always act to share our wealth, taking the gifts you have given us to the world, reaching out to friend and foe, alike.

God of love and mercy, you have blessed this land, making it a great and wonderful place to live and work and play.

Instill in us the humility which comes from the knowledge that we have done nothing to deserve the blessings we have. Sensitize us to the dignity of all people that we may respect their individuality of culture and spirituality. Lead us to understand their needs within the context of their lives. Supply us with the wisdom to assist them without imposing our customs upon them. Continue to direct and enlighten us that we may be servants to the world and all peoples. We ask this in Jesus' name, who is God yet servant to us all. Amen.

*I pledge allegiance to the flag
of the United States of America,
and to the republic for which it stands,
one nation under God,
indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.*

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in August 1892 by the socialist minister Francis Bellamy (1855-1931). It was originally published in The Youth's Companion on September 8, 1892. Bellamy had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country.

In its original form it read:

"I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. At this time it read:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. Bellamy's daughter objected to this alteration. Today it reads:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Section 4 of the Flag Code states:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.", should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute."

Excerpts from <https://www.ushistory.org/documents/pledge>

*I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag,
and to the Savior
for whose Kingdom it stands;
one brotherhood,
uniting all true Christians,
in service and in love.*

The Christian Flag is an ecumenical flag designed in the late 19th century to represent Christianity and Christendom. Since its adoption by the United States Federal Council of Churches in 1942, it has had varied usage by congregations of many Christian traditions, including Anglican, Baptist, Congregationalist, Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist, Moravian, Presbyterian, and Reformed, among others.

With regard to the Christian symbolism of the Christian Flag:

The ground is white, representing purity. In the upper corner is a blue square, the color of the waters of baptism, emblematic of heaven, the home of the Christian; also a symbol of faith and trust. In the center of the blue is the cross, the ensign and chosen symbol of Christianity. The cross is red, typical of Christ's blood.

The ecumenical organization, Federal Council of Churches (now succeeded by the National Council of Churches and Christian Churches Together) adopted the flag on 23 January 1942, 45 years after unofficial use since 1897. Mainline Protestant denominations in the United States accepted the flag first, and by the 1980s many institutions had described policies for displaying it inside churches. The Federal Council of Churches recommended that if the Christian Flag is to be used alongside a national flag, that the Christian Flag should receive the place of honor.

Some churches and organizations in the USA practice a "pledge of allegiance" or "affirmation of loyalty" to the Christian Flag, which is similar to the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

The first pledge was written by Lynn Harold Hough, a Methodist minister who had heard Ralph Diefendorfer, secretary to the Methodist Young People's Missionary Movement, promoting the Christian flag at a rally.

For the Christian Flag Pledge, it is customary to stand with the right hand over the heart.

Excerpts from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Flag

June 29, 2025

Saint Andrews United Methodist Church

www.SaintAndrewsUMC.org ~ 919-772-4410

SUPPORTING THE CHURCH

When we join the church, we are asked: Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, and uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness? Here's how we are doing that!

By our prayers

Frances Austin	Alex Graham	Carol Reid	It's Senzig
Mary Ellen Creech	Charles Long	Ed Reid	Ed Sheffield
Ann Deese	Dennis Marlowe	Debra Riggsbee	Jackie Sheffield
Bob Deese	Mary Marlowe	Estes Riggsbee	Karin Stocks
David Felts	Linda Morrow	Sandy Rutledge	Mose Stocks
Melinda Felts	Ron Morrow	Anne Safrit	LaRena Thornton
Karin Garner	Polly O'Quinn	Ardys Sandell	Linda Wiggs
Linda Garrison	Tom O'Quinn	Rebekah Sandell	

New Additions to the Prayer List are in BOLD

By our presence Sunday, June 22 Total Worship Attendance..... 118

By our gifts Your gifts may be placed in the offering plates, mailed, brought to the church office, or at: <https://abundant.co/saintandrewsumc/give>

By our service and witness

TODAY			
Activity/Meeting	Time	Location	
Worship Service	9:00am	FLC Great Room	
Sunday School Classes	9:45am	Various Classrooms	
Worship Service	11:00am	Sanctuary	
Children's Worship	11:15am	Meeting Center	
Youth Group	5:00pm	The Balcony	

ONGOING GATHERINGS

Group	Meeting Date	Time	Location
Women's Basketball	Mondays	6:30-8:00pm	FLC Great Room
Pickleball and Walking	Tuesdays	7-8:30pm	FLC Great Room
Walking in Grace	<i>Not meeting regularly during the summer</i>		
Stretch Classes	Wednesdays	9:30am/10:45am	FLC Great Room
Choir Practice	Wednesdays	6:30pm	Sanctuary
Praise Team Practice	Thursdays	6:30pm	FLC Great Room

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

27	Victor Ngong	3	Merlin Young	8	Vicki Graham
27	John Carey	4	Richard Garrett	8	Carolyn Byrd
30	Rick Lemley	5	Tyler Gillespy	9	Matt Matthews
1	Brian Pontius	8	Ben Garner	9	Bill Fuller

Is your birthday missing? Contact the church office to add your special day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

VBS: July 27-31 – Flyers are available at the church to hand out, please help get the word out! **Registration Link:** <https://bit.ly/SAUMCVBS2025>

Back to School Bash – We are now collecting school supplies!

Most needed items are: binders, colored pencils & crayons, markers, dry erase markers, glue sticks, pencil pouches, scissors, Ticonderoga pencils, composition and spiral notebooks, and index cards. Every little bit helps, they anticipate 1,200 students to attend! *Flyers are also available on the table in the Narthex.*

Garner Area Ministries

– Now that school is out, the need is even greater than before. Here are some ideas that are helpful and needed now:

- Peanut Butter & Alternative Nut Butters
- Instant Oatmeal Packets
- Canned Proteins – Chicken, salmon, tuna, and sardines.
- Canned Vegetables & Fruits
- Cereal or Cereal Bars – Whole grain cereals with lower sugar content are an excellent option and easy for older children to prepare at home.

GARNER AREA MINISTRIES FOOD BANK

GAM needs to stock up for the kids home from school for the summer, everything helps!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR TODAY

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

UPCOMING MEETINGS & CLASSES

Date	Activity/Meeting	Time	Location
June 30	Trustee Meeting	7:00pm	Meeting Center
July 4	Church Office Closed		
July 7	Wesleyan Well Wishers	10:00am	Meeting Center
July 14	United Women in Faith	10:00am	Meeting Center