

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship. 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost,  
November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

This Service will also be posted on our webpage at “andrewchapelumc.org”

Here is the Order of Worship for our online worship experience.

*Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take  
up their cross and follow me.”*

Matthew 16:24

### ***Greeting and Welcome***

### ***Prelude Music***

### ***Call to Worship***

Leader: We have been blessed by the Eternal God, who has been faithful to us.

**People: As thankful stewards, we will remain faithful to God.**

Leader: The mystery that has been hidden through the ages...is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**People: As redeemed stewards, we will remain faithful to Christ.**

Leader: God has empowered us with the Holy Spirit to be our Comforter and Guide, our  
unfailing source of strength.

**People: As Spirit-filled stewards, we will remain faithful to Christ.**

***Opening Hymn of Praise*** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” UMH 140. Words: Thomas O. Chisholm,  
1923. Music: William H. Runyan, 1923. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-  
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1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not,  
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:* Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

***Honoring Our Veterans - A Responsive Reading***

Leader: For all who have served in the armed forces to ensure our freedom,

**All: We honor you.**

Leader: For the families who kept the home fires burning and provided continuous support for their soldier(s),

**All: We thank you.**

Leader: For the wounds you have suffered at the hands of war

**All: For the times of loneliness, you have felt on the battlefields of life**

Leader: For the sacrifices you have made

**All: For the times you were not thanked**

Leader: For the times you chose courage in the face of fear

**All: For the times you were not shown compassion**

Leader: For the difficult decisions you had to make

**All: For the losses you have suffered**

Leader: We thank you now

**All: We honor you now. Your sacrifice will not be forgotten!**

**Prayer: Loving God, let every veteran of our nation's armed forces feel truly and appropriately honored by the attention and appreciation of their fellow citizens. Let no one feel forgotten or neglected. Let every man and woman, young or old, feel the deep and enduring gratitude of our nation and its inhabitants. Amen.**

***Sung Response*** "America the Beautiful" UMH #696 Text: Katharine Lee Bates, 1859-1929

Music: Samuel A. Ward, 1847-1903. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303.*

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1. O beautiful for spacious skies,  
for amber waves of grain;  
for purple mountain majesties  
above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood  
from sea to shining sea.

2. O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
till all success be nobleness,  
and every gain divine.

3. O beautiful for patriot dream  
that sees beyond the years

thine alabaster cities gleam,  
undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control,  
thy liberty in law.

***Children's Moment*** Trevor Sribar

***Gospel Reading*** Matthew 26:6-13 (NRSV)

<sup>6</sup> Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>7</sup> a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. <sup>8</sup> But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, "Why this waste? <sup>9</sup> For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor." <sup>10</sup> But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. <sup>11</sup> For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup> By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. <sup>13</sup> Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Sermon*** "The Courageous Gift" Rev. Matthew B. Sergent

***Prayers of the People***

***Stewardship Moment - The Courageous Gift***

***Prayer of Dedication and Commitment***

Pastor: Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.

**All: You have entrusted us with gifts—time, talent, energy, money—and asked us to use them to build your kingdom. With thanks and praise we respond to your call.**

Pastor: We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity.

**All: We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours with these courageous gifts. We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.**

Pastor: We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to grow in our faith and follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

**All: Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love.**

***Blessing Prayer Over the Gifts Offered by the Pastor***

**Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #94 UMH Words: Thomas Ken 1674, adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978. Music: Geistlichee Kirchengesange, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holly Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Hymn** "We All Are One in Mission" TFWS #2243 Words: Rusty Edwards. Music: LANCASHIRE 76.76D (To the Tune of Lead On, O King Eternal #580). Words © 1986 Hope Publishing Company. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united  
by Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
compels us from above  
to plan and work together  
that all may know Christ's love.

2. We all are called for service,  
to witness in God's name.  
Our ministries are different,  
our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others  
by God's surprising grace,  
so every folk and nation  
may feel God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united,  
and let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
for God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission;  
we all are one in call,  
our varied gifts united

by Christ, the Lord of all.

***Benediction***

As God's extravagant love has been poured out for you and on you, go now into God's world offering healing hope and love to all, building bridges of peace wherever you go.

***Postlude***