

When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified. "It's a ghost!" they said, and cried out in fear.

Immediately Jesus spoke to them.

**"Have courage!
It is I.
Don't be afraid."**

Matthew 14:26-27

**12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026**

**SERVICE THEME:
Trust God When All Seems Lost**



12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church

SERVICE THEME: Trust God When All Seems Lost

WELCOME — We're so glad that you've joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if you need any assistance while you're here.

OUR MISSION — The mission of St. Andrew Lutheran Church is to guide people **to know** Jesus as their Savior, **to grow** in their faith, and **to show** Jesus to others.

OUR BELIEF — We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only source of all Christian doctrine and teaching. We believe that the only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that we are saved not by anything we do, but only through faith in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our sins. We will be happy to tell you more about what we believe!

OUR HISTORY — St. Andrew Lutheran Church was established in 1888 and is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a confessional Lutheran church body with over 1,200 congregations in North America and with more than 30 sister church bodies worldwide.

Church Office: 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago, IL 60609 (next door to church)

Website: www.standrewchicago.org **Office Phone:** 773-376-5370

Office Email: churchsecretary@standrewchicago.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/standrewchicago/

Pastor: Adam Gawel, cell: 773-217-8132, pastor@standrewchicago.org

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Wherever faith clings to the promises of God, doubt is always lingering. Doubt asks the devil's question from Eden, "Did God really say?" People doubt God's care, God's promises, or God's providence.

The answer to doubt is not found in loud, dramatic demonstrations. The true answer to doubt is found in the still small voice of our Savior-God whispering to us in his Word. Through Word and Sacrament, Jesus reaches out to us with nail-scarred hands, proof of his great love. He gently says, "Why did you doubt?" Our faith is restored. Christians answer doubt with faith.

Communicant members are encouraged to prepare for the Lord's Supper using the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on p. 156 in the front part of the hymnal (the red book in the pew rack).

TRUST

433

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me O - ver life's tem -
 2 As a moth - er stills her child, Thou canst hush the
 3 When at last I near the shore And the fear - ful

pes - tuous sea; Un - known waves be - fore me roll,
 o - cean wild. Bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy will
 break - ers roar 'Twixt me and the peace - ful rest,

Hid - ing rock and treach'rous shoal. Chart and com - pass
 When thou say'st to them, "Be still!" Won - drous Sov - 'reign
 Then, while lean - ing on thy breast, May I hear thee

come from thee: Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
 say to me, "Fear not! I will pi - lot thee."

Text: Edward Hopper, 1818-88, abr.

Tune: PILOT (77 77 77) John E. Gould, 1822-75.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION 召喚，认罪及赦罪

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



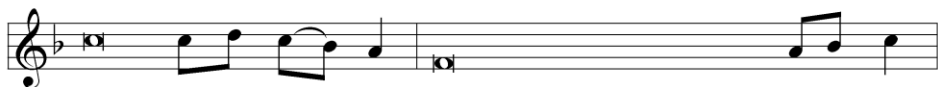
C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



PRAYER OF THE DAY 本日共祷文

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING – 1 Kings 19:1-18 (EHV) – 列王纪上 19:1-18

Then Ahab told Jezebel everything that Elijah had done, including the fact that he had killed all their prophets with the sword. ²So Jezebel sent a messenger to say to Elijah, “May the gods punish me severely and even double it, if by this time tomorrow I have not made your life like one of theirs.”

³Elijah was afraid, and he ran for his life. He went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and he left his servant there. ⁴But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. There he sat down under a broom tree, where he prayed that he would die. He said, “I’ve had enough, LORD. Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers.” ⁵Then he lay down and went to sleep under the broom tree.

Suddenly an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."

⁶Then he looked around, and near his head there was a loaf of bread baking on coals and a jar of water, so he ate and drank, and then he lay down again.

⁷Then the angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, because the journey is too much for you."

⁸So he got up and ate and drank. Then, with the strength gained from that food, he walked for forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God. ⁹He came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD suddenly came to him, saying, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life."

¹¹Then the LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is passing by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains and shattered rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

After the wind came an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

¹²After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

After the fire there was a soft, whispering voice.

¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak, and he went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. Then a voice came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁴He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life."

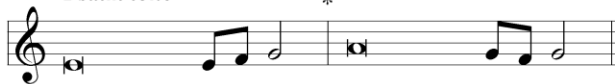
¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. ¹⁸But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him."

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 73 – CW93 p. 94 (NIV84) – 诗篇 73

Refrain



Psalm tone



Refrain

I am always with you, O LORD;*
you hold me by my right hand.

You guide me with your counsel,*
and afterward you will take me into glory.

Whom have I in heaven but you?*

And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

My flesh and my heart may fail,*
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Jack Noble White. © 1976 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp., (admin. Alfred Publishing Co.). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND READING – Romans 8:28-39 (EHV) – 罗马书 8:28-39

²⁸We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose, ²⁹because those God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers.

³⁰And those he predestined, he also called. Those he called, he also justified. And those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

³³Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus,^b who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written:

For your sake we are being put to death all day long.

We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.^c

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors^d through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

VERSE OF THE DAY 备福音词及哈利路亚

M: Alleluia. Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Alleluia. (*Hebrews 11:1*)



GOSPEL – Matthew 14:22-33 (EHV) – 马太福音 14:22-33

^b Some witnesses to the text omit *Jesus*.

^c Psalm 44:22

^d Or *we are completely victorious*

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

²²Immediately Jesus urged the disciples to get into the boat and to go ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³After he had dismissed the crowd, he went up onto the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. ²⁴By then the boat was quite a distance from shore, being pounded by the waves because the wind was against it. ²⁵In the fourth watch of the night,^a Jesus came toward them, walking on the sea. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and cried out in fear, "It's a ghost!" ²⁷But Jesus spoke to them at once, saying, "Take heart! It is I! Do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

²⁹Jesus said, "Come!"

Peter stepped down from the boat, walked on the water, and went toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid. As he began to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. ³³Those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God!"

After the reading of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED 尼西亚信经

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through

^a Between 3 AM and 6 AM

him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

439 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For you, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that you will strength - en My steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
And noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Text: Julie K. von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, Minneapolis, 1978. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Tune: SO NIMM DENN MEINE HÄNDE (74 74 D) P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860.

**SERMON – Matthew 14:22-33 – Trust God When All Seems Lost – 讲
道：基于 马太福音 14:22-33**

420

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

1 God moves in a mys - te - rious way His
2 Judge not the Lord by fee - ble sense, But
3 Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And
4 You fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take; The

won - ders to per - form; He plants his foot - steps
trust him for his grace; Be - hind a frown - ing
scan his work in vain; God is his own in -
clouds you so much dread Are big with mer - cy

in the sea And rides up - on the storm.
prov - i - dence He has a smil - ing face.
ter - pret - er, And he will make it plain.
and will break In bless - ing on your head.

Text: William Cowper, 1731–1800, abr., alt.
Tune: DUNDEE (CM) *The CL Psalms of David*, Edinburgh, 1615.

OFFERING 奉献

Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church use this time to respond to God's goodness with gifts of thanks and love. Our giving is guided by God's Word: "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9); "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, EHV).

Feel free also to make use of online giving options: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the "Giving"

tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address (links to the app & more info on p. 24).



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH 教会公祷

M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

C: **Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.**

M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: **Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.**

M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and Sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

C: **Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow, including the following special prayer:

for the Ukrainian Lutheran Church:

Lord Jesus, have mercy on the people of Ukraine who continue to suffer through war, loss, disruption, and fear. Strengthen the pastors and members of the Ukrainian Lutheran Church as they share your love through acts of mercy and the comfort of your saving Word and sacraments. Use the generosity and prayers of fellow believers to provide for physical needs and to open doors for the gospel. Keep your people steadfast in faith, bring hope to the anxious and grieving, and lead many more to the peace found only in you. Amen.

Additional special prayers may be included.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER 主祷文

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.

THE SACRAMENT 圣餐礼

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy Supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of

our faith. In this Supper, we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Following the teaching of the Bible (1 Corinthians 10:17; 11:27-29; etc.), our church practices closed communion. We ask that only those who are current communicant members of this church or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) partake of the sacrament today. If you are not a current member of this church or one of our sister churches, our pastor would be happy to speak with you about receiving the Lord's Supper with us in the future. Please mention it to him after the service.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

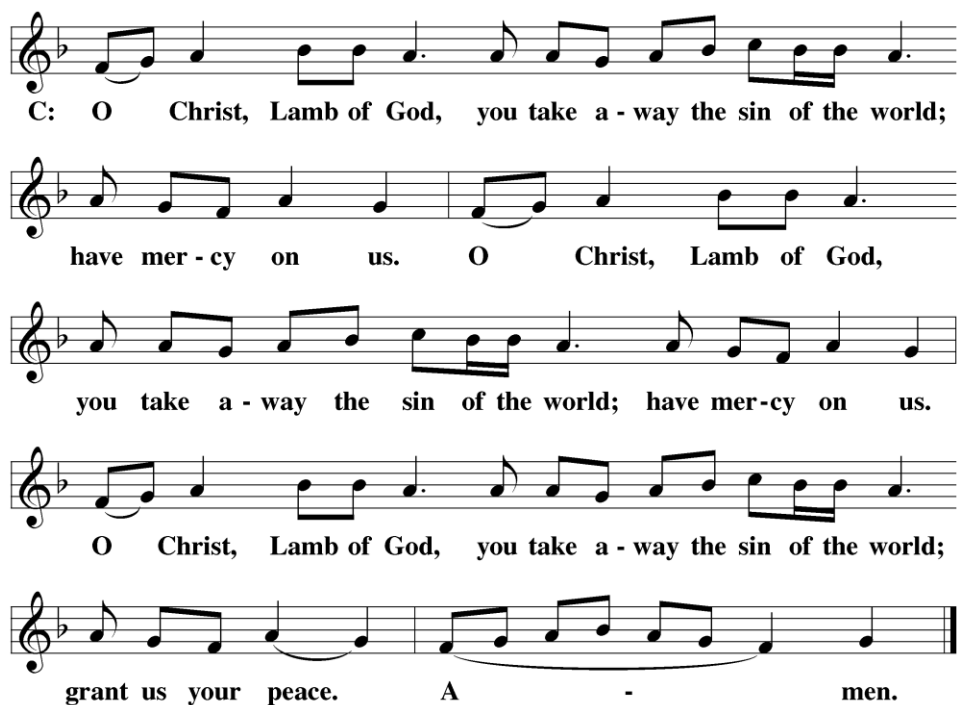
WORDS OF INSTITUTION 耶稣设立圣餐的话

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



DISTRIBUTION 分发圣餐 – 只邀请已经受坚信礼的本会成员来领受
At the direction of the usher, current communicant members of St. Andrew and our sister churches in the WELS and ELS may come forward down the center aisle, then wait until directed by an usher to go to the communion rail. Communicants may kneel or stay standing. Please hold out your hand to receive the bread. If you wish to partake of the common cup, do not take an individual cup when the assistant comes by with the tray. If you take an individual cup, you may wait to drink it until the minister comes by and speaks the words of distribution. Those who need to receive grape juice instead of wine may take the purple individual cups in the center of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak with the pastor or an usher to receive one.

After the distribution, the congregation sings: – 分发圣餐后，会众齐唱：

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER and BLESSING 祷告及祝福

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **And his mercy endures forever.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN – Be Still My Soul – CW93 #415 – printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul, though dear - est friends de - part
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 To guide the fu - ture as he has the past.
 And all is dark - ened in the vale of tears;
 When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



Leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide;
 Your hope, your con - fi - dence, let noth - ing shake;
 Then you will bet - ter know his love, his heart,
 When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main.
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your fears.
 Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.



Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend
 Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while he lived be - low.
 From his own full - ness all he takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY THIS WEEK
August 16-23, 2026

Today	9:30 AM	Worship Service w. Lord's Supper
	11:00 AM	Adult Bible study & Sunday School
Saturday	7:45 PM	中文聚会 (Chinese Ministry)
Sunday (8/23)	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Adult Bible study & Sunday School

The paraments are green for the Sundays after Pentecost. Green represents growth. The Sundays after Pentecost emphasize the growth in faith and godly living that the Holy Spirit works in us through the Word of God.

WELCOME, GUESTS! – We're glad to have you worship with us today! Please sign the guest book in the center church entryway so that we have a record of your visit. Our pastor, Adam Gawel, would be happy to speak with you if you would like; please contact him (773-217-8132 / pastor@standrewchicago.org). Please join us again soon!

MEMORIAL— In loving memory of Roger Hartig, who passed away August 17, 2025, by Debbie Hartig.

RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS – WELS Campus Ministry app; weekly online Bible study starting Sept. 3

Stay connected to God's Word, your church, and fellow WELS college students, wherever life takes you. The **free WELS Campus Ministry app** gives you access to Bible studies, devotions, ministry resources, connections to other WELS students, and more, all in one place. Available now on iOS and Android, it's designed to support you throughout your college years. ... This fall, WELS Campus Ministry Online will begin offering a **weekly online Bible study, with the first study scheduled for September 3, 2026**. Additional information will be shared through the app. Search for "WELS Campus Ministry" wherever you get your apps and download today!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: “Let’s Go” – Sundays 11:00-11:45

Let’s Go is a video- and discussion-based Bible study series designed to encourage and equip Christians to connect unchurched people in their lives to the gospel of Jesus Christ. God’s people want to tell others about the peace, joy, and forgiveness they have in Jesus, but many Christians are unsure how to do this. Join us as we learn some simple, practical ways to reach out to the lost souls God has brought into our lives. We hope you’ll be able to join us on Sundays after worship (about 11:00-11:45) for this Bible study! If you’re not able to join us, you can also go through it yourself using the videos and study guides here:

<https://welscongregationalservices.net/lets-go/>

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 11:00 / after worship on Sundays

Sunday school is held after the worship service, either in the church basement or in the ministry center (next-door to church). Sunday school is open to children from age 3 through 8th grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

Videos available online from apologetics conference on AI

At the 2026 Apologetics and Worldview Conference on June 24 & 25, Rev. Jonathan Conner, Rev. Dr. Adam Brasich, and Dr. Brandon Steenbock did an excellent job of explaining different aspects of Artificial Intelligence, what AI can do and cannot do, its benefits and dangers to our humanity and a liberal arts education, and the truths and worldview Christians need to bring with them to judge its value and usefulness. All three presentations, along with the panel discussions and questions from the audience, can be viewed here:

<https://apologeticscenter.org/events/2026-conference/>

“An Evening with Martin Luther” – Sept. 20 (Sun.), 4:00pm, Zion, Crete

You’re invited to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1610 S. Main St., Crete, IL, on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2026, at 4p.m., to watch Dr. Dwight Johnson play Martin Luther. God, through this 16th-century reformer, effected dramatic change around the world, sparking a completely new category of Christianity, Protestantism, and changing the politics and policies of countries that still impact us today. A light reception will follow the performance. Zion Crete OWLS is pleased to host the event, and all proceeds will be donated to the performer’s chosen ministry, the Lutheran Military Support Group. You can donate electronically at

www.zioncrete.org/donations . If you have any questions about the event, contact Sandy Parker by email at events@parkerlings.com .

Men of His Word conference – Oct. 17 (Sat.), Milwaukee

The 3rd annual Milwaukee Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel on **Saturday, Oct. 17th, 2026**. Registration is open now: <https://mohwmke.zohobackstage.com/2026> . This year's theme, *Courage Under Fire*, is based on Isaiah 43:1-2 - *"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine... When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."* Courage is especially needed when under fire. Marriage is hard. Parenting is hard. Work is hard. Life is hard. Where will we find strength? How will we gather the courage needed to live as godly men? In Isaiah 43:1-2, God promises strength, especially when passing through the fire. Join us Oct. 17 to grow in God's Word!

Bus tour to Ark Encounter & Creation Museum – sign up by Nov. 14

Zion Crete OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) has organized a 5-day, 4-night bus tour to see the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter and other attractions in northern Kentucky and Cincinnati. Scheduled for April 12-16, 2027, the trip includes coach travel, hotel accommodation, continental breakfast, 4 dinners, all admissions and gratuities, and costs \$725 per person if sharing a room. A \$100 deposit per person is required by Sun., Nov. 14, 2026. Checks may be made payable to Zion Crete OWLS and sent to Sandy Parker c/o Zion Ev. Lutheran Church, 1610 S. Main St., Crete, IL 60417. If you have any questions, contact Sandy Parker (708) 672-8096, or by email at events@parkerlings.com .

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

This class is open to anyone who is interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches and what our church believes – and for those who would like a review. At the conclusion of the class, those who are in agreement in faith are invited to join our church, though this is not a requirement for taking the class. Pastor Gawel is able to teach the class in English and Mandarin Chinese, and we have class materials in Spanish available as well. If you or someone you know are interested in starting Bible information class, please contact Pastor Gawel, and we can schedule the class at a time and place that's convenient for you.

PASTORAL COUNSELING; PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling on the basis of God's Word, and for private confession and absolution. Please feel free to make an appointment to see him. (You may call or text Pastor Gawel on his cell phone: 773-217-8132.)

SATURDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY 周六晚上7:45中文圣经学习

Chinese ministry is held on Saturday evenings at 7:45pm in our ministry center (the house next-door to church), which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer, all in Mandarin Chinese. New friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation.

每周六晚上 7:45, 圣安得烈基督教路德宗教会有成人中文圣经学习。欢迎您参加! 我们在教会的事工中心(教堂旁边的房子)现场聚会; 地址是 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago。如果你想了解更多, 请联系高乐仁牧师: 手机: 773-217-8132。欢迎!

FREE BIBLE APP “YouVersion” INCLUDES AUDIO BIBLE RECORDINGS & TIME OF GRACE DEVOTIONS AND VIDEOS

The free YouVersion Bible app includes dozens of English Bible versions (I recommend the NIV, CSB, or EHV), many of which have audio recordings available – and many other languages (Spanish, Chinese, etc). Download the YouVersion Bible app from your phone's app store (eg: Google Play), or click this link:

<https://www.bible.com/app> , or scan this QR code. ...

When you open the app, tap the “Bible” icon at the bottom of the screen to read or listen to the Bible.

Then select version (eg, NIV) and Bible-book, chapter, and verse at the top. You can also find WELS-affiliated ministry Time of Grace devotions and videos, by

searching “Time of Grace” in the “Plans” or “Discover” tabs at the bottom of the screen. Ask Pastor Gawel if you need any help. God bless you as you read/hear & meditate on his Word!



WELS DAILY DEVOTIONS – VIA WELS APP, EMAIL, ONLINE

Read or listen to WELS Daily Devotions on the WELS App (download here: <https://m.wels.net/>), or subscribe to receive them by email:

<https://wels.net/daily-devotions-subscription/> , or read them online.

These devotions are for a general adult audience. Family devotions,

teen devotions, and devotions for military service members are also available, on the app or here: <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/> , to subscribe to receive by email or read online.

WELS Family Devotions

Get your family into God's Word during the week! WELS has developed short devotions for the entire family to use. Each devotion comes complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Downloadable printable versions are also available. Find the family devotions at www.wels.net/family-devotions

Sign up today for Marriage Moments

Every marriage has its "moments." That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Watch a video introduction and subscribe to receive the videos directly to your e-mail at www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments

"made. known." WELS WEBSITE ON IDENTITY, GENDER, & SEXUALITY

Identity and human sexuality have become key spiritual concerns with numerous cultural pivots over time. Many people have questions about sexuality and gender in connection with their faith. This new WELS website, <https://madeknown.net/> , exists to walk with you in faith through identity, gender, and sexuality, so that together we can all see how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ (Ephesians 3:18). Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about these or any other matters.

CONQUERORS THROUGH CHRIST – resources supporting purity online

Conquerors Through Christ is a WELS ministry that exists to help people reject, resist, and recover from the wreckage of porn, with gospel motivation and practical encouragement. A number of resources are available at <https://conquerorsthroughchrist.net/> Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about this or any other matter.

WELS Together e-newsletter

Check out the WELS *Together* e-newsletter to get updates, information, and resources about the mission and ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Go to www.wels.net/together to read online or subscribe to receive by email.

ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION

There are a number of ways to give to St. Andrew online: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the “Giving” tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our church’s invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address. You can download the Vanco Mobile app from the [Apple App Store](#) for iOS devices or the [Google Play Store](#) for Android devices. Please contact St. Andrew’s elder for stewardship, Sam DeLaurentis deLaurentis.sam@gmail.com with any questions.



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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in July
\$17,500.67	\$6,852.04

Offerings received last week: \$1,477.65

(budgeted need each week: \$4,038.62)

Total offerings received so far this month: \$2,300.83

Ministry Attendance Last Week

Worship attendance last Sunday in church: 24 (17 adults, 7 children)

Live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 6

Last weekend’s Saturday Chinese ministry: n/a

Adult Bible study attendance: 15 (Sun.: 5; Tue.: 2, 2; Wed.: 4, 2)

Sunday school: 6

God bless you this week as you share the love of Jesus with others!