



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION
And Stewardship

The firstfruits of hope

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

FEAST OF SAINT ANDREW

Wednesday 27 Nov 2024 9:30 AM



From [Wikipedia the free encyclopedia](#)

Andrew the Apostle (Koinē Greek: Ἀνδρέας, romanized: *Andréas* [anˈdre.aːs]; Latin: *Andreas* [änˈdreː.äːs]; Aramaic: ܐܢܕܪܝܐ Classical Syriac : romanized: *ʿAndʿra ʿwās*^[3]), also called **Saint Andrew**, was an [apostle of Jesus](#). According to the [New Testament](#), he was a [fisherman](#) and one of the Twelve Apostles chosen by Jesus. The title **First-Called** (Πρωτόκλητος, *Prōtoklētos*) stems from the [Gospel of John](#), where Andrew, initially a disciple of [John the Baptist](#), follows Jesus and, recognizing him as the [Messiah](#), introduces his brother [Simon Peter](#) to him.^[6]

According to Eastern Orthodox tradition, the [apostolic successor](#) to Andrew is the [Patriarch of Constantinople](#).^[7]

Life

Early life

The name "[Andrew](#)" (meaning *manly, brave*, from [See Tfd](#) Greek: ἀνδρεία, [translit.](#) *andreía*, [lit.](#) "manhood, valor"), like other Greek names,

[Continued Pg 11](#)

The Psalmist declares,

*“The Almighty God, the Lord, speaks; he calls to the whole earth from east to west.
(Psalm 50:1)*

The people stand as they are able.

Presider: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People: The Holy One’s love is new every morning.

Invitatory Collect: Sioux Prayer

All: Great Spirit, Great Mystery, teach me how to trust my heart, my mind, my intuition, my inner knowing, my senses of my body, the blessings of my Spirit; teach me to trust these things, so that I may enter my Sacred Space and love beyond my fear and thus walk in balance with the passing of each glorious Sun. Amen.

Gloria: Venite

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! Amen.

Presider: God our Creator be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect:

All: Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons: *(Please be seated for the reading of the lessons)*

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:11-14:

Moses said to the people of Israel, “Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?’ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Psalm:

Psalm 19:1-6

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.**
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,**
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.**
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.**
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-18:

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have; for
“Their voice has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson:

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew (4:18-22:)

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

Profession of Faith: *(Please stand as you are able)*

We have faith in one God, one Source of all life, one Ground of the whole Earth, who created all things good.

And we have faith in Christ, in whom we have been shown the special role of humanity to bear God's likeness in working and caring for Creation, in seeking to understand her mysteries and powers, in working with these powers for the wellbeing of life on Earth.

And we have faith in God's Spirit who leads us to a meek, unselfish and compassionate lifestyle. So that the Earth is inherited in peace, her life is transformed for all creatures and her bounty shared justly.

So be it. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader: Creator, we pray for all Creation and the Holy Assemblies of all faithful people.

People: **That we all may be one.**

Leader: Grant that every creature and all Creation may truly and humbly serve you and one another

People: **That your Glory may be known by all creatures.**

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, deacons, and all spiritual leaders

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments in all Creation.**

Leader: We pray for all who lead and hold responsibility in the nations and organizations of the human world.

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader: Give us grace to do your joyful desire in all that we do and refrain from doing.

People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: Have compassion on all your creatures who suffer from any grief or trouble.

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: Give to all departed creatures eternal rest.

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of all Creation.

People: *(Add any other concerns you wish to lift up in prayer at this time)*

Presider: Almighty Creator and Eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors, and all Creation.
(Short Silence may be kept.)

All: Triune God, Creator of all, We praise you for your goodness, visible in all the diversity that you have created, making us a cosmic family living in a common home. Through the Earth you created, we experience love and nourishment, home and protection.

We confess that we do not relate to the Earth as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator. Our selfishness, greed, neglect, and abuse have caused the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, human suffering as well as the suffering of all our fellow creatures. We confess that we have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth, the groans of all creatures, and the groans of the Spirit of hope and justice that lives within us.

May your Creator Spirit help us in our weakness, so that we may know the redeeming power of Christ and the hope found in him. May the groans of the Spirit birth in us a willingness to serve you faithfully, so that we may hear and heal Creation, to hope and act together with her, so that the first fruits of hope may blossom.

Loving and Creator God, we pray that you will make us sensitive to these groans and enable us to have the same compassion as that of Jesus, the redeeming Lord. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth, and with one another, as creatures that are made in your image.

In the name of the one who came to proclaim the good news to all Creation, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us forgive us all our sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Doxology: (*Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving - *New Zealand Book of Common Prayer*

Presider The Spirit of God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift your hearts to heaven

People **Where Christ in glory reigns.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise**

Presider

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God.

For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life.

We thank you that you made us in your image and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

God's love is shown to us: in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord.

You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, the true and living God. Through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you and your mercy, for you alone judge all people, living and departed.

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and say:

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy:
God of mercy, giver of life;
earth and sea and sky
and all that lives,
declare your presence and your glory.**

The Presider continues

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

“Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you, and for many, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.”

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will. Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit (+), feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ (+) with all who share your gifts of love.

Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. AMEN.

Presider: Let us pray together the New Zealand form of the Lord’s Prayer:

All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the

hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem (insert G#806)

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev-er be hun-gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. We have gluten free bread and real wine. To intinct/dip your bread into the wine, please go to the left altar rail. To sip wine from the cup please come to the right altar rail. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing instead.)

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayer, Travelers, Gratitude Sharing

Post Communion Prayer *The people stand as they are able.*

Presider Let us Pray

All: O God, the author of peace and lover of concord; to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants in every stress and danger, that we may trust in your defense and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Benediction/Blessing:

Presider: God the Creator, who loves us and gave this world to be our home, God the Redeemer, who loves us and by dying and rising again leads the way to freedom, God the Sanctifier, who spreads the divine love in our hearts, God the three in one and one in three, bless you and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal:

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: *Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Please, join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall after worship.

Continued from front:

appears to have been common among the [Jews](#) and other [Hellenized](#) people since the second or third century B.C.^[8] No [Hebrew](#) or [Aramaic](#) name is recorded for him.

Andrew the Apostle was born between 5 and 10 AD^[9] in [Bethsaida](#), in [Galilee](#).^[10] The [New Testament](#) states that Andrew was the brother of [Simon Peter](#),^[11] and likewise a son of Jonah. "The first striking characteristic of Andrew is his name: it is not Hebrew, as might have been expected, but Greek, indicative of a certain cultural openness in his family that cannot be ignored. We are in Galilee, where the Greek language and culture are quite present."^[12]

[The Calling of Saints Peter and Andrew](#) by [Caravaggio](#) (1603–1606)

With Jesus

Both he and his brother Peter were fishermen by trade and also Simon Peter who became a "fisher of men", hence the tradition that [Jesus](#) called them to be his [disciples](#) by saying that he will make them "[fishers of men](#)" (See [TfdGreek](#): ἀλιεῖς ἀνθρώπων, [translit.](#) *halieis anthrōpōn*).^[13] According to Mark 1:29, at the beginning of Jesus' public life, they occupied the same house at [Capernaum](#).^[8]

In the [Gospel of Matthew](#)^[14] and in the [Gospel of Mark](#)^[15] Simon Peter and Andrew were both called together to become disciples of Jesus and "fishers of men". These narratives record that Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, observed Simon and Andrew fishing, and called them to discipleship.

In the parallel incident in the [Gospel of Luke](#)^[16] Andrew is not named, nor is reference made to Simon having a brother. In this narrative, Jesus initially used a boat, solely described as being Simon's, as a platform for preaching to the multitudes on the shore and then as a means to achieving a huge trawl of fish on a night which had hitherto proved fruitless. The narrative indicates that Simon was not the only fisherman in the boat (*they signalled to their partners in the other boat ...*)^[17] but it is not until the next chapter^[18] that Andrew is named as Simon's brother. However, it is generally understood that Andrew was fishing with Simon on the night in question. [Matthew Poole](#), in his *Annotations on the Holy Bible*, stressed that 'Luke denies not that Andrew was there'.^[19]

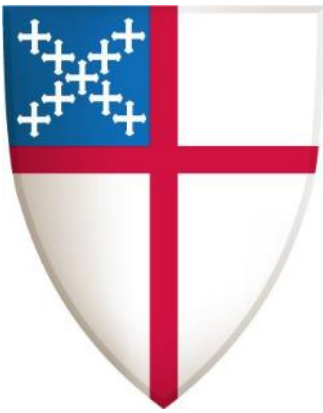
The [Gospel of John](#) states that Andrew was a disciple of [John the Baptist](#), whose testimony first led him, and another unnamed disciple of John the Baptist, to follow Jesus.^[20] Andrew at once recognized Jesus as the Messiah, and hastened to introduce him to his brother.^[21] The Byzantine Church honours him with the name *Protokletos*, which means "the first called".^[12] Thenceforth, the two brothers were disciples of Christ. On a subsequent occasion, prior to the final call to the [apostolate](#), they were called to a closer companionship, and then they left all things to follow Jesus.^[8]

Subsequently, in the gospels, Andrew is referred to as being present on some important occasions as one of the disciples more closely attached to Jesus.^[a] Andrew told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes,^[12] and when certain Greeks went to see Jesus, they came to Philip, but Philip then had recourse to Andrew.^[22] Andrew was present at the [Last Supper](#). Andrew was one of the four disciples who came to Jesus on the [Mount of Olives](#) to ask about the signs of [Jesus' return](#) at the "end of the age".^[23]

After Jesus

[Eusebius](#) in his [Church History](#) 3.1 (4th century) quoted [Origen](#) (c. 185 – c. 253) as saying that Andrew preached in [Scythia](#). The

[Continued online](#)



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

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