



# St. Andrew's

Episcopal Church

## Morning Prayer

Wednesday, April 24th

### Psalm 119:49-72

49 Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope.

**50 This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life.**

51 The arrogant utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law.

**52 When I think of your ordinances from of old, I take comfort, O Lord.**

53 Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, those who forsake your law.

**54 Your statutes have been my songs wherever I make my home.**

55 I remember your name in the night, O Lord, and keep your law.

**56 This blessing has fallen to me, for I have kept your precepts.**

57 The Lord is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

**58 I implore your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.**

59 When I think of your ways, I turn my feet to your decrees;

**60 I hurry and do not delay to keep your commandments.**

61 Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law.

**62 At midnight I rise to praise you, because of your righteous ordinances.**

63 I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts.

**64 The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes.**

65 You have dealt well with your servant, O Lord, according to your word.

**66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.**

67 Before I was humbled I went astray, but now I keep your word.

**68 You are good and do good; teach me your statutes.**

69 The arrogant smear me with lies, but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.

**70 Their hearts are thick like fat, but I delight in your law.**

71 It is good for me that I was humbled, so that I might learn your statutes.

**72 The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.**

**A reading from the first letter to the Thessa-  
lonians** (*1 Thessalonians 2:1-12*)

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**A reading from the Gospel of Matthew**  
(*Matthew 5:17-20*)

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*