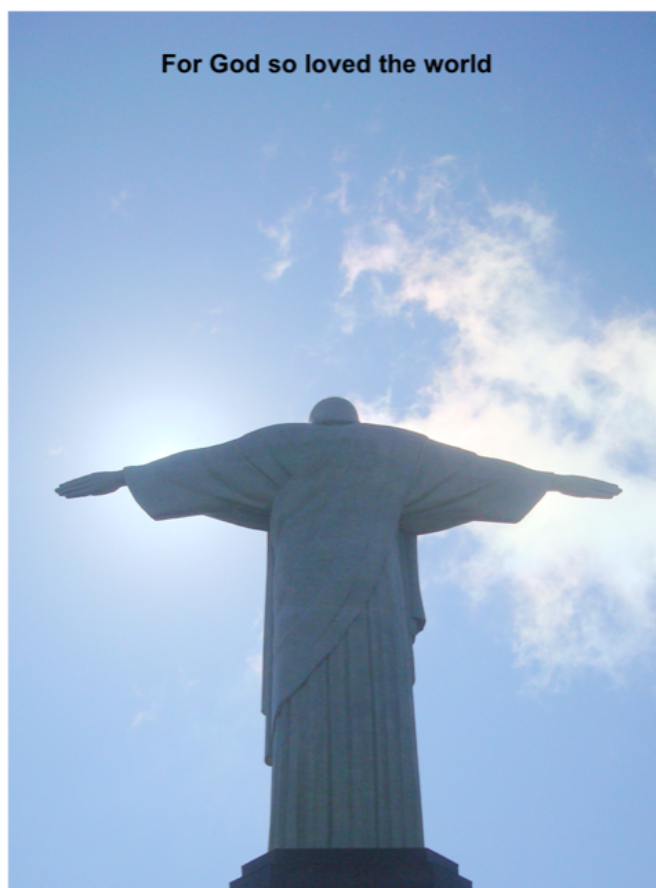


**St Andrew's and St George's West
Order of Service, 14 March 2021**

Fourth Sunday in Lent



Piano Music

Nocturne in E flat, Op 9 No 2

Frédéric Chopin

Welcome and Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

Give thanks to God for God is good;
God's love endures forever.
Let all who know God tell of their story
**from east and west and north and south,
we will tell our story.**
When we cried to God in our trouble,
God saved us from our distress;
God sent out the Word and healed us.
Let us give thanks for God's unfailing love
and tell of God's works
with songs of joy in worship

Hymn 484 God your love has called us here (vv1,2,5)

Great God, your love has called us here,
as we, by love for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,

though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains,
by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined
yet seeking hope for humankind.

Great God, in Christ you set us free
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.

Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

God of hope,
your steadfast love endures forever.
We give you thanks that, time after time,
you break into our world and our lives with signs of your everlasting love.
On this Mothering Sunday
we thank you for all who have played a nurturing role in our lives.
Where we have not felt nurtured,
we remember your everlasting mothering care.

In every sadness, O God,
you are here,
holding out comfort.
In every fear, O God,
you are here,
holding out hope.
In everything, O God,
you are here,
holding out love.

When we don't know where to go...
When we fear what lies ahead...
When we long for what we knew...
May we see you,
ahead of us, leading us,
behind us, nudging us,
beside us, accompanying us through it all.

Forgive us, O God when we forget your love for everyone
and think your love only extends to people who think, and feel, and look,
and love, like us.

(Silence)

Bring us back to you time after time
stop us in our tracks and confound us with love
God of our salvation.

Hear us as we pray together our Saviour's prayer:

**Our Father in heaven.
Hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Introduction to Psalm 107

Psalm 107 (vv1-3,21,22)

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.
And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

Hymn 801 Ubi caritas

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas,
Deus ibi est.

(Where there is charity and love, God is there.)

New Testament Reading John 3:14-21 (NRSV)

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

Reflection

Anthem God so loved the world

God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten son,
that whoso believeth in him
should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his son into the world
to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.

Music: John Stainer (1840-1901)

Reflective Prayer

For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son:
our world,
our angry world,
our fearful world,
our unequal world,
our hurtful world,
our poor world,
our rich world,
our joyless world,
our joyful world.
For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him
shall not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son
into the world to condemn the world:
our world,
our world of sorrow,
our world of pain,
our world of crying,
our world of laughing,
our world of war,
our world of peace,
our world of greed,
our world of charity.

For God did not send his Son
into the world to condemn the world,
but to save the world through him.

Hymn 622 We sing a love that sets all people free (vv1-3)

We sing a love that sets all people free,
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,
enfolds the earth, springs up like water clear:
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love that seeks another's good,
that longs to serve and not to count the cost,
a love that, yielding, finds itself made new:
come, caring love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed:
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

Prayers of the People

For God so loved

As one body we come before you with prayers for the world you love so much.

For God so loved the world

We pray for the world around us: for people and nations close by and far away.

... for those in need of healing, in body and in mind.

... for those who are angry and fearful.

... for those for whom injustice is a daily reality.

... for nations in turmoil, Yemen, Syria, Myanmar and others we name silently before you.

... for those who are tired or hurting and those who pray for them.

For God so loved the world that God gave

God may we give of ourselves to fulfil the mission you have set before us.

We pray for every church in every place. Those of us who have freedom to worship

hold before you those who would be persecuted for publicly praying with us.

Give those who feel powerless and voiceless the strength and opportunity to speak out.

May the world listen with a willingness to be influenced and to care better

for both people and planet.

For God so loved the world that God gave God's only begotten Son

We pray for those who feel forgotten or worthless. You love each person

beyond measure. So much so you gave of your very self.

... that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

We pray for those who mourn loss of any kind. We pray in the name of the

Source of abundant life before death, and eternal life beyond death. Amen.

Hymn 622 We sing a love that sets all people free (vv4,5)

We sing a love, that, wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a burning, fiery, Holy Ghost
that seeks out shades of ancient bitterness,
transfiguring these, as Christ in every heart:
come, joyful love, live in our hearts today.

Blessing

The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.
Live in that steadfast love wherever you go
knowing that God so loved the world.

And the blessing of God who created you,
Christ who redeems you
and the Spirit who sustains you
go with you always. Amen.

Organ Music Plein Jeu et Fugue (Messe pour les Couvents)

François Couperin

Worship Leaders: The Reverend Dr Rosie Magee, Jocelyn and Michael Cunliffe
Scripture Reader: Amy Marcham
Reflective Prayer: Pat McKerrow
Director of Music: Brigitte Harris
Vocal ensemble: Eleanor Cozens, Eleanor Wilson, Drew Crichton, Andrew Carvel, Caitlin McGillivray
Pianist: Drew Crichton
Technical team: Alison Bruce, Andrew Carvel, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott
Digital Coordinator: Andrew Carvel

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Image: Michael Cunliffe

Reflective Prayer: Spill the Beans issue 38 ©2021 Spill the Beans Resource Team

Blessing: Rev Liz Crumlish, Weekly Worship, www.churchofscotland.org.uk

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